

Articles worksheet

Here are the basic rules for the use of articles.

Use a/an before a singular countable noun. Note that a singular countable noun requires an article or another determiner before it.

I saw a tiger behind the bushes. (NOT I saw tiger behind the bushes.)

She met a stranger on the road. (NOT She met stranger on road.)

I have always wanted to become an engineer. (NOT I have always wanted to become engineer.)

Plural and uncountable nouns can be used with or without an article or another determiner.

Use a/an when we use a noun for the first time. Use the when the same noun is used for the second time.

A man was walking down a street with a dog. The dog ran after a cat. (NOT A dog ran after a cat.)

We use a/an when we wish to express surprise, horror, joy, disgust etc.

What a lovely flower!

What a silly fellow!

What a nice guy!

We use the before a singular noun that is used to refer to a class of people, animals or things.

The red panda is a cute little creature that resembles a teddy bear.

The yak is found in Nepal and Ladakh.

We use the before an adjective that refers to a special class of people.

The government should do something for the poor.

Mother Teresa cared for the old and the infirm.

We use the before certain numbers like first and second.

I still remember the first time I met you.