Articles



THE INDEFINITE ARTICLE 'A'/'AN'

Read this conversation.

Ron: Rohit, could you please lend me a sharpener?
Rohit: Sure, I have many. You can use this one.

Now, answer the question.

Q: Did Ron tell Rohit which sharpener he wanted? Did he tell him the colour, shape or size of the sharpener?

Ans: No, he did not. That is why Rohit gave Ron ***a sharpener***, **NOT** a definite or specific one.

'A' is an indefinite article.



THE INDEFINITE ARTICLE 'A' / 'AN'

We use **"a/an"** when we talk about a *non-specific* or *non-definite thing / member of a group.*

Example: I read a book.
Here, we are **NOT** talking about a ***specific*** book. We are talking about *any book*. There are many books, and I read *any* one of them.

Example: I picked up an umbrella.
Here, we are **NOT** talking about a ***specific*** umbrella. We are talking about *any* umbrella.

Remember: We use 'an' when we talk about a singular noun beginning with a vowel. Examples: ***an*** *elephant;* ***an*** *egg;* ***an*** *apple;* ***an*** *umbrella*



THE DEFINITE ARTICLE 'THE'

Read this conversation.

Ron: Rohit, could you please give me the sharpener that is lying on the table?

Rohit: Sure. Here it is.

Now, answer the question.

Q. Did Ron tell Rohit which sharpener he wanted?

Ans. Yes. Ron said he wanted ***the sharpener*** that was lying on the table. He asked for a definite sharpener, not just any sharpener.

'THE' is a definite article.



Underline the article for the nouns in Column B.

Column A	Column B
a /an / the	apple
a/ an / the	river
A / An / The	pink dress that is packed in my box.
A / An / The	blue sweater was knitted by my grandmother.
a /an / the	egg
A/An /The	toy we saw in the shop yesterday.

