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A1 · ARTICLES · ≈ 27 MIN

A and An – *practice on paper*

You have built the lesson — now lock the rule in, brick by brick. New examples, same sound rule.

Listen for the first **sound**, not the first letter: **a** + consonant sound · **an** + vowel sound

NAME _____ DATE _____

YOUR BUILD: 1 · SORTING ○ | 2 · FILL-IN ○ | 3 · CORRECT ○ | 4 · WRITE ○

BRICK 1 · SORT BY SOUND · APPROX. 4 MIN ●○○

Say each phrase quietly. Consonant sound → write it with **a** in the left column. Vowel sound → write it with **an** in the right column. Careful: some words are spelling traps — the first letter lies!

honest opinion · uniform · HR department · one-day workshop · European partner · X-ray · USB stick · urgent email · new contract · invoice · quarterly report · SMS

A + CONSONANT SOUND	AN + VOWEL SOUND

BRICK 2 · FILL IN A OR AN · APPROX. 6 MIN ●●○

Fill in **a** or **an**. The word right after the gap decides — read the phrase quietly before you choose.

01 Please send me _____ updated price list before Friday.

02 There is _____ USB stick on my desk — is it yours?

03 She works as _____ accountant in our Frankfurt office.

04 We had _____ honest conversation about the budget.

05 He gave _____ one-word answer: just "No."

06 Could you print _____ second copy of the agenda?

07 Our team is looking for _____ HR assistant.

08 I'm _____ intern in the marketing team this summer.

YOUR BUILD

1 · SORTING ○ | 2 · FILL-IN ○ | 3 · CORRECT ○ | 4 · WRITE ○

BRICK 3 · FIND AND CORRECT THE MISTAKE · APPROX. 7 MIN ●●○

Each sentence hides exactly one mistake with a/an. Underline it and write the whole sentence correctly.

01 My brother is electrician in Munich.

02 We had an useful meeting this morning.

03 She sent me a SMS with the details.

04 I need an advice about the new contract.

05 It was a honest mistake.

06 We charge an one-time fee for the setup.

BRICK 4 · WRITE YOUR OWN SENTENCES · APPROX. 8 MIN ●●●

Write one sentence for each prompt. For every a/an, check the first sound of the next word.

01 Your dream job: "I'm a/an …" — name a job you would love to do.

02 Your desk: "There is a/an … on my desk."

03 Your role: "My name is …, and I'm a/an …"

04 Your week: "This week I used a/an … for the first time."

MINI-CHECK — CAN I DO THIS YET?

- ☐ I listen for the first sound, not the first letter.
- ☐ I say the phrase after the article quietly before choosing a or an.
- ☐ With a singular job title I use a or an: "I'm a designer."
- ☐ I spot the spelling traps: silent h ("honest"), /j/ ("European"), /w/ ("one"), letter names ("SMS").

Not every box ticked? Build the lesson once more and try this sheet again tomorrow.

Answer key

Check only when you have finished. Every answer comes with the **why** — the rule matters more than the result.

BRICK 1 · SORTING

01 **an** honest opinion
Silent h — the word starts with a vowel sound.

02 **a** uniform
Spoken /j/ as in "yes" — a consonant sound.

03 **an** HR department
Letter name H = /eɪtʃ/ — a vowel sound.

04 **a** one-day workshop
"One" starts with /w/ — a consonant sound.

05 **a** European partner
"European" is spoken with an initial /j/.

06 **an** X-ray
Letter name X = /eks/ — a vowel sound.

07 **a** USB stick
U = /juː/ — starts with /j/, a consonant sound.

08 **an** urgent email
"Urgent" starts with a vowel sound.

09 **a** new contract
"New" starts with /n/.

10 **an** invoice
"Invoice" starts with a vowel sound.

11 **a** quarterly report
"Quarterly" starts with /kw/.

12 **an** SMS
Letter name S = /es/ — a vowel sound.

BRICK 2 · FILL-IN

01 **an** updated price list
"Updated" starts with a vowel sound — the article belongs to the whole phrase.

02 **a** USB stick
/juː/ — the first sound /j/ is a consonant.

03 **an** accountant
A singular job title needs the article; vowel sound.

04 **an** honest conversation
Silent h — the first audible sound is a vowel.

05 **a** one-word answer
"One" starts with /w/.

06 **a** second copy
"Second" starts with /s/.

07 **an** HR assistant
Letter name H = /eɪtʃ/.

08 **an** intern
Singular job title; "intern" starts with a vowel sound.

BRICK 3 · CORRECT

01 My brother is **an** electrician in Munich.
English needs an article with a singular job title; "electrician" starts with a vowel sound.

02 We had **a** useful meeting this morning.
"Useful" starts with /j/ — a consonant sound.

03 She sent me **an** SMS with the details.
Letter name S = /es/ — a vowel sound.

04 I need **some** advice about the new contract.
"Advice" is uncountable and never takes a/an — use "some advice" or no article at all.

05 It was **an** honest mistake.
Silent h — the first sound is a vowel.

06 We charge **a** one-time fee for the setup.
"One" starts with /w/.

BRICK 4 · WRITE

Your sentences may differ — just check that your a/an matches the first sound of the next word.

01 "I'm **an** art director."
"Art" = vowel sound. With a consonant sound: "I'm a pilot."

02 "There is **a** notebook on my desk."
"Notebook" starts with /n/.

03 "… and I'm **a** project coordinator."
Singular job title; "project" starts with /p/.

04 "This week I used **an** online whiteboard …"
"Online" starts with a vowel sound.

NEXT BRICKS — KEEP BUILDING FREE ONLINE

PAIR WITH THIS
This, That, These, Those
englisch-lehrer.com/en/lessons/this-that-these-those

NEXT STEP
A, An, The, or Nothing
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