+49 511 4739339
james@englisch-lehrer.com · www.englisch-lehrer.com

A2 · ARTICLES · ≈ 27 MIN

A, An, The, or Nothing — *practice on paper*

You have built the lesson — now lock in the three article zones, brick by brick. New examples, same question: specific or general?

Ask yourself: do I mean something **specific** ? **the** = both know which · **a/an** = one of many (by sound) · general = no article

NAME _____ DATE _____

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

BRICK 1 · SORT: SPECIFIC OR GENERAL? · APPROX. 4 MIN ●○○

Decide for each item: does it take **the** because it is unique (or a superlative or ordinal)? Then write it with **the** in the left column. Or is it meant in general? Then write it with **no article** in the right column.

sun · music · best candidate · feedback · first slide · dinner · world · coffee · biggest client · Berlin

THE + SPECIFIC / UNIQUE	NO ARTICLE + GENERAL

BRICK 2 · FILL IN A, AN, THE, OR NOTHING · APPROX. 6 MIN ●●○

Fill in **a**, **an** or **the** — or write **—** if no article is needed. Ask yourself each time: is it specific? is it a job title? is it general?

01 She works as _____ accountant at our Berlin office.

02 She has ten years of experience in _____ sales.

03 Could you send me _____ report we talked about?

04 We need _____ new printer for the meeting room.

05 This is _____ urgent matter — can we talk today?

06 In our team, _____ honesty matters more than speed.

07 It was _____ longest meeting of my life.

08 Let's continue this over _____ lunch tomorrow.

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 article mistake — a wrong one, a missing one, or one too many. Underline it and write the whole sentence correctly.

01 My new colleague is accountant.

02 The feedback is important for our team.

03 The workshop lasts a hour.

04 She gave me an information about the client.

05 It was best meeting of the week.

06 She speaks the English very well.

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

Write one sentence for each prompt. For every noun, check: specific, one of many — or general with no article?

01 Your role: "I work as a/an …" — name your job and mind the sound.

02 Your routine: "I check the … before every meeting." — one thing that is clearly specific for you and your team.

03 Your praise: "The best thing about my job is …"

04 Your fuel: "… keeps me going at work." — start with something general (e.g. "coffee" or "music") — no article!

MINI-CHECK – CAN I DO THIS YET?

- [ ] I know the three zones: a/an for one of many, the for something specific, no article for general things.
- [ ] I choose a or an by sound, not by spelling: "an hour" but "a university".
- [ ] With a singular job title I use a/an: "She's an engineer."
- [ ] In general statements, uncountables and plurals I drop the article: "Music helps."

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 **the** sun
There is only one sun — unique, so the.

02 **—** music
Uncountable and meant in general — no article.

03 **the** best candidate
Superlative — only one can be the best.

04 **—** feedback
Uncountable, general — no article.

05 **the** first slide
Ordinal number — clearly identified.

06 **—** dinner
Meals take no article.

07 **the** world
There is only one world — unique.

08 **—** coffee
Uncountable, general — no article.

09 **the** biggest client
Superlative — only one biggest.

10 **—** Berlin
Proper names take no article.

BRICK 2 · FILL-IN

01 **an** accountant
A singular job title needs a/an; "accountant" starts with a vowel sound.

02 **—** sales
The field is meant in general — no article.

03 **the** report
Specific — both know which report is meant.

04 **a** new printer
One of many, first mention; "new" starts with /n/.

05 **an** urgent matter
"Urgent" starts with a vowel sound.

06 **—** honesty
A general statement about an uncountable noun — no article.

07 **the** longest meeting
Superlative — only one longest.

08 **—** lunch
Meals take no article: over lunch.

BRICK 3 · CORRECT

01 My new colleague is **an** accountant.
English needs a/an with a singular job title — unlike German; "accountant" starts with a vowel sound.

02 **Feedback** is important for our team.
A general statement — English drops the article here (unlike German "das Feedback").

03 The workshop lasts **an** hour.
Silent h — "hour" starts with a vowel sound.

04 She gave me **some** information about the client.
"Information" is uncountable in English and never takes a/an — use "some information" or no article at all.

05 It was **the** best meeting of the week.
Superlatives take the.

06 She speaks **English** very well.
Languages take no article.

BRICK 4 · WRITE

Your sentences may differ — just check that your article (or a deliberate none) fits the zone: specific, one of many, or general.

01 "I work as **a** business analyst."
Job title with a/an; "business" starts with /b/. With a vowel sound: "I work as an office manager."

02 "I check **the** sales figures before every meeting."
Specific — those exact figures, known to the team.

03 "**The** best thing about my job is the team."
Superlative: "the best" — there is only one best thing.

04 "**Coffee** keeps me going at work."
Uncountable and general — the sentence starts with no article at all.

NEXT BRICKS — KEEP BUILDING FREE ONLINE

PAIR WITH THIS
Some, Any, Much, Many
englisch-lehrer.com/en/lessons/some-any-much-many

NEXT STEP
Present Simple
englisch-lehrer.com/en/lessons/present-simple

ALL LESSONS
45+ free lessons
englisch-lehrer.com/en/lessons

HANOVER
Schaufelder Straße 11 · 30167
englisch-lehrer.com/hannover

BERLIN
Kurfürstendamm 30 · 10719
englisch-lehrer.com/berlin

ONLINE COURSES
englisch-lehrer.com/online
worldwide on Zoom

CONTACT
+49 511 4739339
james@englisch-lehrer.com