

STD. VII ENGLISH

ENGLISH PRACTICE BOOK

LESSON : 1

ARTICLES

Grammar-Articles

Articles are a type of determiners. The term determiner covers several classes of words which includes Definite and Indefinite Articles, the Demonstratives and Adjectives of indefinite number and quantity, numerals and possessives. Determiners identify or specify a noun in various ways, for example, by making it definite (the child), indefinite (a child) or by indicating quantity or amount (many/three/some children) etc. Here we will discuss only the Definite and Indefinite Articles.

A, An and The are called articles. 'A' and 'An' are Indefinite articles as they are used indefinitely before countable common nouns singular numbers. 'A' is used with nouns beginning with consonants or consonant sound whereas 'An' is used with vowels or vowel sound.

Examples:

- a man an egg
- an hour (vowel sound) a union (consonant sound)
- 'The' is Definite article as it points out some particular person or thing.

Examples:

- That is the umbrella I want.
- This is the hotel where we stay.
- The cow gives us milk.
- The man whom I met was very helpful.

Use of 'A'

1. **It is used before a word beginning with a consonant; as**
a boy, a girl, a table, a year.
2. **It is used before a word beginning with a consonant; as**
a boy, a girl, a table, a year.
3. **It is used before the word 'one' that begins with the consonant sound of 'was';as**
a one-eyed man, a one-rupee note
4. **It is used before such 'u' when it sounds on yu;as**
a useful animal, a European, a university.

Use of 'An'

1. **It is used before words beginning with a vowel; as**
an aeroplane, an elephant, an inkpot, an orange, an umbrella.
2. **It is used before words beginning with a 'h' when it is silent; as**
an honest man, an hour.
3. **It is used before words beginning with consonants having vowel sound; as**
an M.P., an M.L.A., an F.I.R., an M. Sc., an x-ray.

Use Of 'The'

(i) It is used before a particular person or thing; as

- The students of this class are very punctual.
- Did Reeta get the job she applied for?
- This is the boy I met yesterday.
- Let us go to the park.

(ii) It is used to denote a whole class or kind; as

- The dog is a faithful animal.
- The horse runs fast.
- The tiger is young.

(iii) It is used before common nouns which are names of things unique of their kind; as

- The sun shines in the sky.
- The earth moves round the sun.
- The moon is round today.
- The world is beautiful.

(iv) It is used before the names of directions, the dates of months; as

- The sun rises in the east.
- The sun sets in the west.
- I joined my job on the 10th of November.

(v) It is used before the superlative degrees of an adjective; as

- Raman is the best boy in the class.
- Uttar Pradesh is the most populated state of India.

(vi) It is used before the names of oceans, rivers, gulfs, seas, mountain ranges and groups of islands; as

- Patna is situated on the bank of the Ganga.
- The Indian ocean is lying to the south of India.
- The Andamans lie in the east of India.
- The Persian Gulf countries have become wealthy.
- The Bay of Bengal lies in the west of India.

(vii) It is used before the names of races or nations; as

- The Indians are found in almost all the countries.
- The English exploited the Indians.
- The Muslims keep fast during the Ramzan.
- Holi is a festival of the Hindus.

(viii) It is used before the names of newspapers, religious books, famous buildings, ships, historical events; as

- I read the Times of India daily.
- The Ramayana is the holy book of the Hindus.
- The Taj is famous for its beauty. .
- The Titanic got its tragic end.

(ix) It is used before Proper nouns, Material nouns and Abstract nouns to make them Common nouns: as

- Kalidas is the Shakespeare of India.
- He is the Tagore of Hindi poetry.
- The water of this well is fresh.
- The gold of this ring is pure.

(x) It is used before the musical instruments; as

- Rehman plays the harmonium.
- Richa plays the violin.

(xi) It is used before the inventions; as

- The telephone is very useful.
- Who invented the radio?

(xii) It is used before the parts of the body; as

- He got injury in the head.
- The rod hit him in the back.

(xiii) It is used before the political parties; as

- The Congress Party, The Communist Party