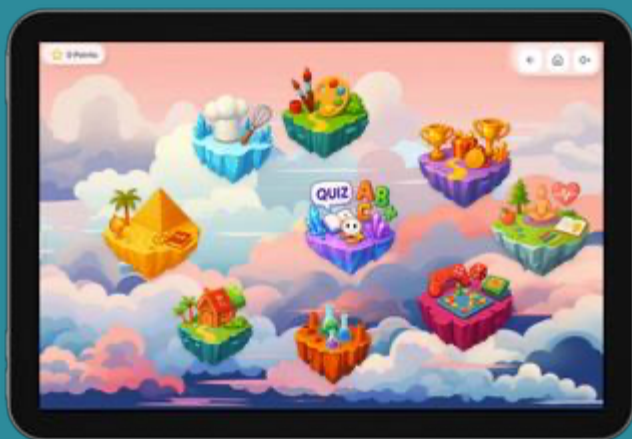




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Articles - Year 4

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ARTICLES AT A GLANCE

Articles come before nouns and help a reader know which one.

A

one non-specific thing

.....
Use before a consonant sound.



a lantern

AN

one non-specific thing

.....
Use before a vowel sound.



an octopus

THE

a specific or already-known thing

.....



the lantern by the tent

Listen for the sound. Think about the meaning.

SOUND BEFORE SPELLING

Choose **a** or **an** from the first sound you hear,
not the first letter you see.



A UNICORN

starts with a /y/ sound



AN HOUR

the h is silent



A ONE-WAY STREET

starts with a /w/ sound



AN HONEST ANSWER

the h is silent



Say it aloud. Then choose.

ARTICLE CHOICE REFERENCE CARDS

A

one non-specific thing

Use before a
consonant sound.



a useful tool

AN

one non-specific thing

Use before a
vowel sound.



an orange

THE

a specific or
already-known thing



the tool
beside me

NO ARTICLE

some general
plurals and names



Dogs are
loyal.



Cut out the cards and keep them nearby.

ARTICLE TRAIL

How to play:

Roll a die. Move.

Complete the sentence on your space and explain your choice.

Correct = stay.

Incorrect = move back one.

First to FINISH wins.

Choose from
a, an, the
or no article.

START

11

— sandwich I packed

12

— European city

9

— one reply

10

— planets orbit stars

7

Explain: first member

8

— one-way street

6

— book beside Mia

7

— unicorn

1

— useful tool

2

— hour

3

— moon above us

4

— orange umbrella

FINISH

ONE WAY

ARTICLE SORT

Read each card aloud. Place it under the best heading. Be ready to explain.

A

consonant sound

AN

vowel sound

THE

specific or already known

NO ARTICLE

general plurals or names

PREVIEW



ARTICLE SORT CHALLENGE CARDS



___ useful
backpack

___ hour-long
wait

___ noisy
koala

___ honest
mistake

___ orange
umbrella

___ European
city

___ moon
above us

___ book
beside Mia

___ robot
we built

___ whales
are mammals

___ Adelaide
is in Australia

___ one-off
event

SOUND FIRST: A OR AN?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Say each phrase aloud. Write a or an based on the first sound you hear.



1. ____ apple

7. ____ orange

2. ____ unicorn

8. ____ European country

3. ____ hour

9. ____ umbrella

4. ____ one-way street

10. ____ university

5. ____ honest answer

11. ____ octopus

6. ____ useful tool

12. ____ yellow umbrella

PREVIEW

SOUND FIRST: A OR AN?

Name: ANSWERS

Date: _____

Say each phrase aloud. Write a or an based on the first sound you hear.



1. an apple

7. an orange

2. a unicorn

8. a European country

3. an hour

9. an umbrella

4. a one-way street

10. a university

5. an honest answer

11. an octopus

6. a useful tool

12. a yellow umbrella

A OR AN? EXPLAIN THE SOUND.

Name: _____

Date: _____

PART A – Cross out the incorrect article. Write the corrected phrase.

1. an uniform _____
2. a elephant _____
3. an one-off event _____
4. a hour _____
5. an useful idea _____
6. a honest person _____

PART B – Explain the first sound you hear in two corrected phrases.

1. _____

2. _____

PART C – Write one tricky *a* example and one tricky *an* example.

a: _____

an: _____

A OR AN? EXPLAIN THE SOUND.

ANSWERS

Date: _____

PART A — Cross out the incorrect article. Write the corrected phrase.

1. an uniform a uniform
2. a elephant an elephant
3. an one-off event a one-off event
4. a hour an hour
5. an useful idea a useful idea
6. a honest person an honest person

PART B — Explain the first sound you hear in two corrected phrases.

1. Uniform begins with the consonant /y/ sound.
Hour begins with a vowel sound because the h is silent.

2. One begins with the consonant /w/ sound.
Honest begins with a vowel sound because the h is silent.

PART C — Write one tricky *a* example and one tricky *an* example.

a: a useful idea

an: an honest answer

SPECIFIC OR GENERAL?

Name: _____ Date: _____

Write a, an, the, or Ø for no article.

1. We saw _____ echidna near the path.
2. _____ echidna curled into a ball.
3. I packed _____ sandwich for lunch.
4. Please pass me _____ sandwich beside your bottle.
5. _____ whales are mammals.
6. Our class watched _____ documentary yesterday.
7. _____ documentary explained migration.
8. Maya found _____ old coin.
9. _____ Sun provides light and heat.
10. _____ Melbourne is a city in Australia.

Circle two sentences that refer to something specific.



SPECIFIC OR GENERAL?

Name: ANSWERS

Date: _____

Write a, an, the, or Ø for no article.

1. We saw an echidna near the path.
2. The echidna curled into a ball.
3. I packed a sandwich for lunch.
4. Please pass me the sandwich beside your bottle.
5. Ø whales are mammals.
6. Our class watched a documentary yesterday.
7. The documentary explained migration.
8. Maya found an old coin.
9. The Sun provides light and heat.
10. Ø Melbourne is a city in Australia.

Specific examples include 2, 4, 7 and 9.

Circle two sentences that refer to something specific.



CHANGE THE MEANING

Name: _____

Date: _____

PART A — Compare the noun groups.

Underline each noun group. Explain how the article changes the meaning.

1. I need a pencil.

I need the pencil on your desk.

2. We watched a bird.

We watched the bird with the red wings.

PART B — Rewrite or explain.

1. A dog barked. Make the dog specific.

2. The book on my chair is mine. Make the book non-specific.

3. Tigers are powerful animals. Explain why no article is needed.

4. Mia visited Canberra. Explain why no article is needed before Canberra.

CHANGE THE MEANING

Name: ANSWERS

Date: _____

PART A — Compare the noun groups.

Underline each noun group. Explain how the article changes the meaning.

1. I need a pencil.

I need the pencil on your desk.

a pencil = any suitable pencil; the pencil on your desk = one particular pencil.

2. We watched a bird.

We watched the bird with the red wing.

a bird = any one bird; the bird with the red wing = one identified bird.

PART B — Rewrite or explain.

1. A dog barked. Make the dog specific.

The dog barked.

2. The book on my chair is mine. Make the book non-specific.

A book is on my chair.

3. Tigers are powerful animals. Explain why no article is needed.

The plural noun tigers refers to tigers in general.

4. Mia visited Canberra. Explain why no article is needed before Canberra.

Canberra is a proper place name, so it usually needs no article.

ARTICLE DETECTIVE



Name: _____

Date: _____

Find five article errors. Circle them, then rewrite the paragraph correctly.

On Saturday, I visited a museum with my cousin. At entrance, we met an uniformed guide. She handed us a map and pointed to a ancient vase. Later, we heard a unusual sound near the dinosaur hall. The sound came from an one-eyed robot in a science display. A robot waved, and then the lights flashed.

Corrected paragraph:

PRIVACY

ARTICLE DETECTIVE



Name: ANSWERS

Date: _____

Find five article errors. Circle them, then rewrite the paragraph correctly.

On Saturday, I visited a museum with my cousin. At entrance, we met an uniformed guide. She handed us a map and pointed to a ancient vase. Later we heard a unusual sound near the dinosaur hall. The sound came from an one-eyed robot in a science display. A robot waved, and then the lights flashed.

Corrected paragraph:

On Saturday, I visited a museum with my cousin. At the entrance, we met a uniformed guide. She handed us a map and pointed to an ancient vase. Later, we heard an unusual sound near the dinosaur hall. The sound came from a one-eyed robot in a science display. The robot waved, and then the lights flashed.

FIRST MENTION, THEN THE

Name: _____

Date: _____

Complete each pair. Use a or an in the first sentence, then the in the second.

1. Lena found ____ shell. ____ shell was striped.
2. We heard ____ owl. ____ owl called twice.
3. I opened ____ parcel. ____ parcel contained a book.
4. Noah spotted ____ unusual insect. ____ insect had silver wings.
5. Mum borrowed ____ umbrella. ____ umbrella was still wet.
6. Our class built ____ model. ____ model showed the solar system.

YOUR TURN

Write your own two-sentence pair.

FIRST MENTION, THEN THE

ANSWERS

Date: _____

Complete each pair. Use a or an in the first sentence, then the in the second.

1. Lena found a shell. The shell was striped.
2. We heard an owl. The owl called twice.
3. I opened a parcel. The parcel contained a book.
4. Noah spotted an unusual insect. The insect had silver wings.
5. Mum borrowed an umbrella. The umbrella was still wet.
6. Our class built a model. The model showed the solar system.

YOUR TURN

Write your own two-sentence pair.

I found a key beside an old box.

The key opened the box.

REWRITE FOR MEANING

Name: _____

Date: _____

Rewrite each sentence so it matches the meaning in brackets.

1. I borrowed a book you recommended. (one specific book)

2. Please shut a window beside the sink. (one specific window)

3. We watched moon through telescope. (the shared moon, any telescope)

4. She is an university student. (correct the sound choice)

5. He waited a hour. (correct the sound choice)

6. The tigers are powerful animals. (tigers in general)

MINI-STORY

Write four sentences. Introduce two nouns with a or an.
Refer to each one later with the.



REWRITE FOR MEANING

Name: **ANSWERS**

Date: _____

Rewrite each sentence so it matches the meaning in brackets.

1. I borrowed a book you recommended. (one specific book)

I borrowed the book you recommended.

2. Please shut a window beside the sink. (one specific window)

Please shut the window beside the sink.

3. We watched moon through telescope. (the shared moon and telescope)

We watched the moon through a telescope.

4. She is an university student. (correct the sound choice)

She is a university student.

5. He waited a hour. (correct time and choice)

He waited an hour.

6. The tigers are powerful animals. (tigers in general)

Tigers are powerful animals.

MINI-STORY



Write four sentences. Introduce two nouns with a or an.
Refer to each one later with the.

I found a key beside an old box. The key opened the box.

Inside, I saw a note. The note named a secret place.

ARTICLES IN CONTEXT ASSESSMENT – PART A

Name: _____

Date: _____

SECTION A

Write a, an, the, or Ø for no article.

1. Aria packed ____ magnifying glass.
2. She also brought ____ orange notebook.
3. ____ notebook had a waterproof cover.
4. Our group studied ____ insects near the pond.
5. We watched ____ ant carry a leaf.
6. ____ ant disappeared beneath a stone.
7. Ben found ____ unusual feather.
8. It took ____ hour to label our samples.
9. ____ Sun was warm above us.
10. ____ science club meets on Thursdays.
11. ____ Melbourne has many parks.
12. We recorded ____ honest observation.

SECTION B – EXPLAIN

Choose one answer above. Explain why that article, or no article, is correct.

ARTICLES IN CONTEXT ASSESSMENT – PART A

Name: ANSWERS

Date: _____

SECTION A

Write a, an, the, or Ø for no article.

1. Aria packed a magnifying glass.
2. She also brought an orange notebook.
3. The notebook had a waterproof cover.
4. Our group studied Ø insects near the pond.
5. We watched an ant carry a leaf.
6. The ant disappeared beneath a stone.
7. Ben found an unusual feather.
8. It took an hour to label our samples.
9. The Sun was shining above us.
10. The science club meets on Thursdays.
11. Ø Melbourne has many parks.
12. We recorded an honest observation.

SECTION B – EXPLAIN

Choose one answer above. Explain why that article, or no article, is correct.

Example: an hour is correct because hour begins with a vowel sound; the h is silent.

ARTICLES IN CONTEXT ASSESSMENT — PART B

Name: _____

Date: _____

SECTION A — EDITING

Find six article errors. Rewrite the paragraph correctly.

During a excursion, we followed an uniformed ranger along a track. The ranger showed us a echidna burrow and an one-way gate. After a hour, we reached lookout. A lookout had the clearest view of the valley.

Corrected paragraph:

SECTION B — WRITING

Write four or five sentences. Introduce an object or animal with a or an. Use the later. Include one general plural with no article. Underline your article choices and explain one.

My explanation: _____

ARTICLES IN CONTEXT ASSESSMENT — PART B

Name: ANSWERS

Date: _____

SECTION A — EDITING

Find six article errors. Rewrite the paragraph correctly.

During a excursion, we followed an uniformed ranger along a track. The ranger showed us a echidna burrow and an one-way gate. After a hour, we reached lookout. A lookout had the clearest view of the valley.

Corrected paragraph:

During an excursion, we followed a uniformed ranger along a track. The ranger showed us an echidna burrow and a one-way gate. After an hour, we reached the lookout. The lookout had the clearest view of the valley.

SECTION B — WRITING

Write four or five sentences. Introduce an object or animal with a or an. Use the later. Include one general plural with no article. Underline your article choices and explain one.

I spotted an owl in a gum tree.

The owl watched me quietly.

A possum climbed onto a branch.

The possum disappeared at dusk.

Nocturnal animals are active at night.

My explanation: An is used before owl because owl begins with a vowel sound.

ARTICLES IN CONTEXT RUBRIC

Student: _____ Date: _____

CRITERION	BEGINNING	DEVELOPING	ACHIEVING	CONFIDENT	EXCEEDING
1. Identifies articles	Limited or incorrect identification of articles in sentences or texts.	Some correct use of identification of articles with support.	Mostly accurate identification of articles independently.	Accurate identification of articles and explained.	Precise, flexible and insightful identification of articles.
2. Uses <i>a</i> and <i>an</i> by sound	Limited or incorrect use of <i>a</i> and <i>an</i> based on initial sound.	Some correct use of <i>a</i> and <i>an</i> by sound with support.	Mostly accurate use of <i>a</i> and <i>an</i> by sound independently.	Accurate use of <i>a</i> and <i>an</i> by sound and explained.	Precise, flexible and insightful use of <i>a</i> and <i>an</i> by sound.
3. Uses <i>the</i> for specific reference	Limited or incorrect use of <i>the</i> for specific reference.	Some correct use of <i>the</i> for specific reference with support.	Mostly accurate use of <i>the</i> for specific reference independently.	Accurate use of <i>the</i> for specific reference and explained.	Precise, flexible and insightful use of <i>the</i> for specific reference.
4. Edits articles in context	Limited or incorrect editing of articles in context.	Some correct editing of articles in context with support.	Mostly accurate editing of articles in context independently.	Accurate editing of articles in context and explained.	Precise, flexible and insightful editing of articles in context.
5. Explains choices and writes clearly	Limited or incorrect explanation of choices; writing unclear.	Some explanation of choices with support; writing sometimes clear.	Mostly accurate explanation of choices; writing clear.	Accurate explanation of choices; writing clear and well-structured.	Precise, flexible and insightful explanation of choices; writing clear and engaging.

Teacher comment: _____



PREVIEW

Articles



Articles Quiz

