

articles: *a / an, the*, no article*a / an*

- 1 I saw **an old man** with **a dog**. (2 17)))
- 2 It's **a nice house**. She's **a lawyer**.
- 3 What **an awful day**!
- 4 I have classes three times **a week**.

- We use *a / an* with singular countable nouns:
 - 1 the first time you mention a thing / person.
 - 2 when you say what something is or what somebody does.
 - 3 in exclamations with *What...!*
 - 4 in expressions of frequency.

the

- 1 I saw an old man with **a dog**. **The dog** was barking. (2 18)))
- 2 My father opened **the door**. **The children** are at school.
- 3 **The moon** goes round **the Earth**.
- 4 I'm going to **the cinema** tonight.
- 5 It's **the best** restaurant in town.

a Circle the correct answers.

I love weddings / *the weddings*!

- 1 Jess is *nurse* / *a nurse* in a hospital. *A hospital* / *The hospital* is a long way from her house.
- 2 What *a horrible day* / *horrible day*! We'll have to eat our picnic in *the car* / *a car*.
- 3 My wife likes *love stories* / *the love stories*, but I prefer *the war films* / *war films*.
- 4 We go to *theatre* / *the theatre* about *once a month* / *once the month*.
- 5 I'm having *dinner* / *the dinner* with some friends *the next Friday* / *next Friday*.
- 6 My boyfriend is *chef* / *a chef*. I think he's *the best cook* / *best cook* in the world.
- 7 I'm not sure if I closed *the windows* / *windows* before I left *the home* / *home* this morning.
- 8 In general, I like *dogs* / *the dogs*, but I don't like *dogs* / *the dogs* that live next door to me.
- 9 I got to *the school* / *school* late every day *the last week* / *last week*.
- 10 I think *happiness* / *the happiness* is more important than *success* / *the success*.

- We use *the*:
 - 1 when we talk about something we've already mentioned.
 - 2 when it's clear what you're referring to.
 - 3 when there's only one of something.
 - 4 with places in a town, e.g. *cinema* and *theatre*.
 - 5 with superlatives.

no article

- 1 **Women** usually talk more than **men**. **Love** is more important than **money**. (2 19)))
- 2 She's not **at home** today. I get back **from work** at 5.30.
- 3 I never have **breakfast**.
- 4 See you **next Friday**.

- We don't use an article:
 - 1 when we are speaking in general (with plural and uncountable nouns). Compare:
 - I love flowers.* (= flowers in general)
 - I love the flowers in my garden.* (= the specific flowers in my garden)
 - 2 with some nouns, (e.g. *home, work, school, church*) after *at / to / from*.
 - 3 before meals, days, and months.
 - 4 before *next / last* + day, week, etc.

b Complete with *a / an, the*, or – (= no article).

- A We're lost. Let's stop and buy *a* map.
 B No need. I'll put *the* address in *the* satnav.
- 1 A How often do you go to _____ gym?
 B About three times _____ week. But I never go on _____ Fridays.
 - 2 A What time does _____ train leave?
 B In ten minutes. Can you give me _____ lift to _____ station?
 - 3 A What _____ lovely dress!
 B Thanks. I bought it in _____ sales _____ last month.
 - 4 A What's _____ most interesting place to visit in your town?
 B Probably _____ castle. It's _____ oldest building in town.
 - 5 A What shall we do _____ next weekend?
 B Let's invite some friends for _____ lunch. We could eat outside in _____ garden.
 - 6 A Do you like _____ dogs?
 B Not really. I prefer _____ cats. I think they're _____ best pets.
 - 7 A Is your mum _____ housewife?
 B No, she's _____ teacher. She's always tired when she finishes _____ work.
 - 8 A Have you ever had _____ problem in your relationship?
 B Yes, but we got over _____ problem and we got married _____ last year.
 - 9 A When is _____ meeting?
 B They've changed _____ date. It's _____ next Tuesday now.

