

UNIT 3

Articles/This-That-These-Those

The Indefinite Article "A/An"

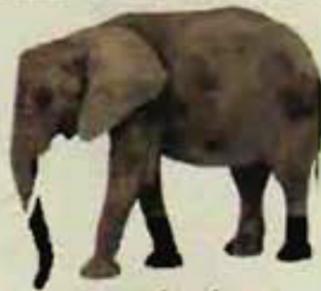
The indefinite article **a/an** is used before singular countable nouns. We use **a** before nouns which begin with a consonant sound and **an** before nouns which begin with a vowel sound.



a dolphin

a university (consonant sound)

a house (consonant sound)



an elephant

an umbrella (vowel sound)

an hour (h is silent)

We use a/an

- with singular countable nouns when we want to say what somebody/something is or what someone's job is.



It is a dog.



She is a doctor.

We don't use a/an

- with uncountable or plural nouns. We can use **some** instead.

some chocolate

some eggs

- in front of an adjective when there is no noun after it. But when there is a noun after the adjective, we use **a** for adjectives which begin with a consonant sound and **an** for adjectives which begin with a vowel sound.



*It is a car. It is fast.
It is a fast car.
It is also an expensive car.*

1

First say, then write **a** or **an**.



1 ...*a*... leopard



2 astronaut



3 rabbit



4 old house



5 helicopter



6 owl



7 aeroplane



8 pineapple

ORAL Activity

First make sure you know the names of the things in the pictures. Then, look at the pictures for one minute. Finally, close your book and name as many things as possible using **a/an**.



The Definite Article "The"



Dogs are clever animals.
Dogs run fast.



The dog in the picture is big.
The dog's name is Buddy.

The definite article **the** is used with singular or plural nouns. e.g. *the girl, the men, the house*

We use *the*

- with nouns when we are talking about something specific, for example when the noun is mentioned for a second time or is already known. In other words, when we can answer the question "Who?" or "Which?".



I can see a car. **The** car is red. (Which car? The specific car which we see in the picture.)

- with nouns which are unique.

the earth, the sky, the sun, the Parthenon, the Taj Mahal

- before the names of rivers, seas/oceans, mountain ranges, deserts and groups of islands/states.

the Nile, the Mediterranean, the Atlantic, the Alps, the Sahara, the Bahamas, the USA

- before the names of musical instruments.

the piano, the guitar, the violin

- before nationalities and names of families.

the Chinese, the Italians, the Smiths, the Browns

- before the words morning, afternoon, evening.

I go to school in the morning.

We don't use *the*

- with plural nouns when we talk about them in general.

Lions are wild animals. (Which lions? All lions in general.)

- before proper nouns.



This is Jane.

- before names of meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner, etc.) and games/sports (golf, tennis, basketball, etc.).



Tennis is an exciting sport.

- with the words *this/that/these/those*.

this car, those bicycles NOT: This ~~the~~ car

- with the words school, church, bed, hospital, prison, home when we refer to the purpose for which they exist.

John goes to school at 8:30 in the morning. (=John is a student.)

Pronunciation

The is pronounced /ðə/ before words which begin with a consonant sound (*the glass, the baby*).

The is pronounced /ði/ before words which begin with a vowel sound (*the egg, the apple*).

2 First put the nouns in the correct box, then read them out.

car, roof, onion, girl, book, ox, actress, bus, key, apple, orange, elephant, knife, umbrella, watch, owl

The /ðə/		The /ði/	
...car...onion...
.....
.....
.....

3 Write the where necessary.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1 ...the... Amazon | 6 earth |
| 2 guitar | 7 Pacific |
| 3 Turks | 8 sky |
| 4 tennis | 9 lunch |
| 5 Sahara | 10 USA |

4 Write the where necessary.

- 1 ...The... book in the picture is red.
- 2 sea is blue.
- 3 Mike is a good student.
- 4 Mississippi is a long river in America.
- 5 basketball is a nice game.

5 Fill in: a, an or the where necessary.

- 1 ...The... Acropolis is in Athens.
- 2 I have got umbrella.
- 3 Sophia is from Italy. Italians are nice people.
- 4 Mr Smith is teacher. He is in classroom now.
- 5 Sally is actress. She is good actress.
- 6 New York is in USA.

6 Correct the mistakes.

- 1 Jane is an painter.
- 2 I have got an uniform.
- 3 Helen isn't at the home.
- 4 The Pyramids are in the Egypt.
- 5 It is a hourglass.
- 6 The Mark is a student.
- 7 I have got a milk.
- 8 It is an house.
- 9 An earth is a planet.
- 10 They have got a old car.

7 Write the where necessary.

- 1 horses are lovely animals.
- 2 cheese is in fridge.
- 3 "We usually go to Spain for our summer holidays." "Really? We like to stay in England."
- 4 water is very dirty. You can't swim here.
- 5 "Where are children?" "They are playing in garden."

8 Fill in a, an or the where necessary.

- a Jim is from 1) Scotland. He's got 2) two brothers and 3) sister. They live with their mother and father in 4) big house in 5) countryside. Jim has lots of hobbies. He likes 6) football and he plays 7) guitar. He has 8) red bicycle. Every day he takes his dog for 9) walk in 10) park. His dog's name is 11) Spot.
- b Clare lives in 1) Liverpool. She is 2) secretary. She works in 3) office. She goes to work in 4) morning. She starts work at 9.00 and she goes 5) home at 5.00 in 6) evening. She likes her job because her boss is 7) kind man.



This/That/These/Those



A: **These flowers** are for you, Miss.
 B: Thank you, Tom.
 C: And **this apple** is for you, Miss.
 B: Oh, thanks, Kim.



A: What's **that**, Mum?
 B: It's a farmhouse.
 A: And what are **those**?
 B: They're cows. They give milk.

This/These are used to talk about/point to people, animals or things which are near us.

That/Those are used to talk about/point to people, animals or things which are far away from us.

Note: When we ask *What's this?/What are these?/What's that?/What are those?* we answer *It is (It's) or They are (They're)*.

e.g. *What's this/that? It's an umbrella.*

NOT: ~~This/That~~ is an umbrella.

What are these/those? They're hats.

NOT: ~~These/Those~~ are hats.

Short Answers

When we ask *Is this...?/Is that...?/Are these...?/Are those...?* we use short answers:

Yes, it is./No, it isn't./Yes, they are./No, they aren't.

NOT: ~~Yes, this/that is.~~ or ~~No, this/that isn't.~~ etc.

Is this a camera?	Yes, it is./No, it isn't.
Are these sunglasses?	Yes, they are./No, they aren't.
Is that a helicopter?	Yes, it is./No, it isn't.
Are those birds?	Yes, they are./No, they aren't.

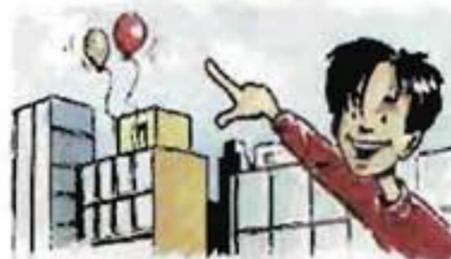
9 Fill in this is, that is, these are or those are.



1 **These are** my shoes.



2 an eagle.



3 balloons.



4 my hat.



5 palm trees.



6 my books.

10 Fill in the gaps with it's, they're or what's.



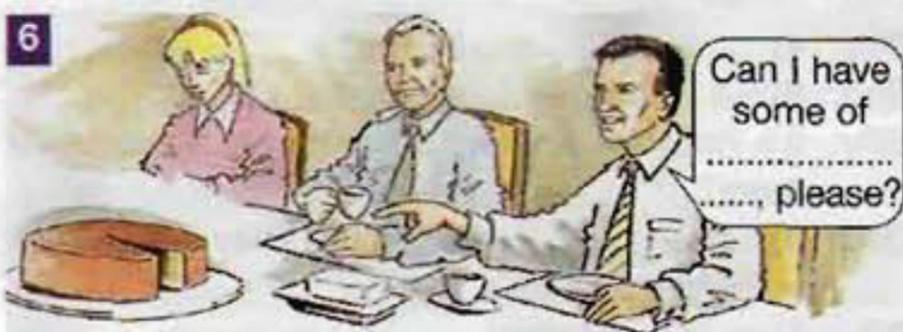
Billy: Look Dad! 1) ...*What's*... that?
 Dad: 2) a scorpion. Scorpions are very dangerous.
 Billy: And what are those?
 Dad: Those? 3) camels.
 Billy: 4) that?
 Dad: 5) a snake.
 Billy: It's horrible! And who are those people over there?
 Dad: 6) Bedouin. They live in tents in the desert.
 Billy: They look strange!

Articles/This-That-These-Those

11

Fill in the speech bubbles with *this*, *that*, *these* or *those* and one of the words from the list.

flowers, clock, man, cake, shoes, car



ORAL Activity

The Browns are showing photographs from their holidays round the world to a friend. In pairs, look at the pictures. Ask and answer questions using *What's this?/What are these?* as in the example.

e.g. SA: *What's this?*
SB: *It's the Colosseum.*



1 the Colosseum



2 the Eiffel Tower



3 the Statue of Liberty



4 gondolas



5 a castle



6 a windmill



7 palm trees



8 the Pyramids