

Report the statements, questions and imperatives.

- 1 'Our bus left two hours ago,' they told us.
They told us _____.
- 2 'Are you from this part of town?' the stranger asked Greg.
The stranger asked Greg _____.
- 3 'Do you like going to the cinema?' asked Pauline.
Pauline asked me _____.
- 4 'Please don't play in the kitchen,' Barbara told the children.
Barbara told the children _____.
- 5 'You need to get the assignment back to me by 4.00 p.m. tomorrow,' said Mr Roberts.
Mr Roberts said _____.
- 6 'Please get some of my special toothpaste from the chemist's,' Sylvia told me.
Sylvia asked me _____.
- 7 'I have never bought anything because of an advertisement,' said Robert.
Robert said _____.

0.6 Articles

Indefinite article (a/an)

We use **a/an** with singular countable nouns:

- when we mention something for the first time:
*There is **a** piano in the school hall.*
- when we refer to one of many things:
*I need **a** new laptop.*
- when we talk about someone's job:
*Brad is **an** actor.*
- in expressions with the verb *have* (e.g. *have a chat/a walk/a sleep/a talk/a think*):
*Let's have **a** look around.*
- in expressions about time, frequency, speed and price per amount:
*twice **a** year*
*100 miles **an** hour*
*£1.50 **a** kilo*

Definite article (the)

We use **the** with singular and plural nouns and uncountable nouns:

- to refer to something that we have mentioned before:
*There is **a** piano in the school hall. **The** piano is very old.*
- to refer to something that both the speaker and the listener know:
*Let's go to **the** restaurant we went to last week.*
- to refer to something unique or one of a kind:
***The** sun sets at 7 p.m.*
*Who is **the** music director of La Scala?*
- with *theatre, cinema* and *radio*:
*I love going to **the** theatre.*
*I heard it on **the** radio today.*
- with *morning, afternoon, evening* (but not *noon*):
*Let's watch a DVD in **the** evening.*

- with musical instruments, when referring to someone playing them.
*Jane plays **the** flute and **the** trumpet.*
- with the superlative form of adjectives:
***the** most famous*
- with ordinal numbers:
***the** third*
- with certain names of countries (if the name is in plural form or includes a common noun):
***the** Netherlands*
***the** United States*
***the** United Kingdom*
***the** Czech Republic*
- with mountain ranges, rivers, seas, oceans, archipelagos and deserts:
***the** Himalayas*
***the** Thames*
***the** Red Sea*
***the** Bahamas*
***the** Sahara*

Zero article

We do not use an article:

- with uncountable nouns or plural countable nouns when we are talking about something in general:
***Music** is very important in my life.*
*Pete loves **ice cream**.*
***Pop stars** are often demanding and self-centered.*
- with meals:
*Let's have **dinner**.*
- with the names of continents, most countries, cities (exception: *the Hague*), lakes, islands and mountains:
Europe
Great Britain
Manchester
Lake Superior
Easter Island
Mount Everest

Complete the sentences with a/an, the or Ø (no article).

- 1 I'm going to _____ cinema tomorrow. Would you like to come?
- 2 Did you know that _____ place with _____ longest name is in _____ New Zealand? It's a hill called Taumatawhakatangihangakoauauotamatea-turipukakapiki-maungahoronukupokaiwhenuakitanatahu.
- 3 I just saw _____ cat with really short, silvery fur. Is that what they call a Russian Blue?
- 4 What time do you want to have _____ lunch?
- 5 I've decided I'm going to have _____ haircut. I'm tired of having long hair.
- 6 Isn't he _____ actor who's in that new soap opera?
- 7 Did you know that _____ capital of _____ Syria is Damascus?