

Articles

a, an, the or no article



a/an

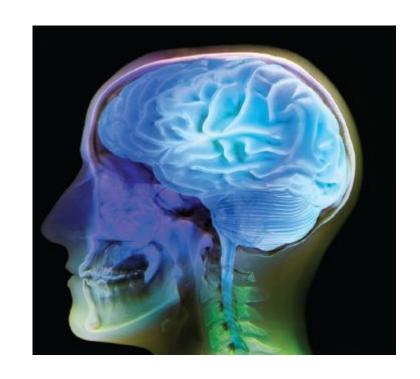
Everybody has a brain.

Harry is a good student.

Can I have an apple?

I've got a Maths exam tomorrow.

We've got an exam next week.





the

The bus is always late.

I thought the History test was easy.

Can I have the last apple?

Yesterday I went to the park.

You need to study before the History exam on Friday.





No article

You should drink more water.

Do you like playing football?

Those apples are really sweet.

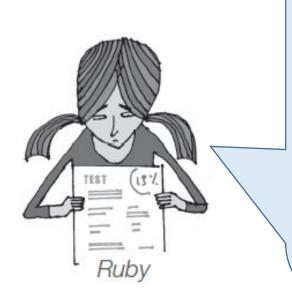
Lily really enjoys Geography lessons.

How many exams have you got?





Language in action



I really enjoy school, but I don't enjoy exams. Every year we have exams at the end of term. This week, I've got a Science exam and next week I've got an art exhibition and a Maths exam. The Science exam will be easy, but the Maths exam will be difficult because I'm not good at Maths. I'm looking forward to next month when I can relax and have good time with my friends!



GET IT RIGHT!

- Is there the a university in your town? (We don't know the university.)
- I like the Maths, but I don't like the English.

(We're talking about Maths and English in general.)

- I've got the an idea. Let's do our homework. (We don't know what the idea is.)
- I had a great time at Drama club.

(We use an article in some fixed expressions, e.g to have a great time, to have a terrible time etc.)



Can you remember the rules?

a/an

We use a or an with singular countable nouns:

- when the listener/reader doesn't know exactly which thing we are talking about.
- when we talk about something for the first time in a conversation.

You can have an apple or a banana.

Look! There's a horse in the garden.



the

 We use the before a noun when it is clear which thing(s) or person/ people we are talking about.

The apples in this pie are from our garden.

A: Look! There's a horse in the garden.

B: Oh yes! The horse is eating our apples.

No article

 We use no article before plural countable nouns and uncountable nouns, when we are talking about things in general.

Bananas are sweeter than apples. Chocolate isn't good for you.



Speaking

What did one Maths book say to the other?

'I've got _ problems.'

What subject did the snake get an A in? Hiss-story!

What sort of animals do you have to watch out for in __ exams? Cheetahs.

Why did the ant come top of the class in - Maths? Because he was an account-ant.

Teacher: Where are the Andes? Student: At the end of your wristies!

Teacher: Who broke *the*

window?

Lucy: It was Mia's fault – I

threw a banana at her

head and she moved!



Quiz time

- 1 The adult brain weighs nearly 3.5kg. □ 1.5kg
- 2 Spanish and Arabic are the hardest languages to learn. □ Chinese
- 3 Mathematical symbols were invented in <u>the</u> 16th century. Before this, they were written in words. ✓
- **4** Yawning is the body's way of cooling down <u>an</u> overheated brain. **<**
- **5** Children who learn English before the age of five have <u>a</u> different brain structure to children who learn only one language. □ two languages
- **6** Only $\frac{30.2\%}{10.2\%}$ of ___ people in the UK who take their driving test pass. $_{\Box}$ 50.2%
- 7 A brain produces enough energy to light <u>a</u> bulb. ✓
- 8 There are about 3,000 languages in the world. □ 7,000 languages

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