

# Articles

4 rules to help

A An

A = 1 (not important which 1)

An = 1 (not important which 1)

A cat

A baseball

A hat

A trip

An apple

An orange

An elephant

An insect

When do I use A/An?

# Rule #1

## Can I count it?

1, 2, 3, 4, 5

*1 book / 3 books*

*1 possibility / 2 possibilities*

*1 cat / 4 cats*

*1 child / 2 children*

*1 person / 10 people*

*1 woman / 5 women*



**1 = A**



I can't count them!

# Rule #1

## Can I count it?

Cat

Baseball

Hat

Trip



A Cat

A Baseball

A Hat

A Trip

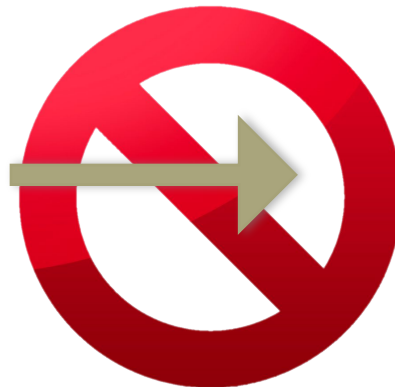
Water

Money

Coffee

Music

Happiness



Water

Money

Coffee

Music

Happiness

# Rule #1

## Can I count it?

Countable	Uncountable
dollar	money
song	music
bottle	wine
table	furniture
job	work

A dollar

A song

A bottle of wine

A table

A job

\_ money

\_ music

\_ wine

\_ furniture

\_ work

The



# The = specific (특정)

The car *you want*

The cars *you want*

The apple *you are eating*

The apples *you ate*

## The = 1 or many



Can you give me a pencil?



Can you give me **the** white pencil?



Can you give me all **the** blue pencils?



# A, An, or The?



Can you open **a** window?

# A, An, or The?



Can you open **the** window?

## Rule # 2

Is it unique? (유일한 명사)

Is it specific? (특정)

# Rule # 2

Is it unique? (유일한 명사)

Is it specific? (특정)

Unique or specific nouns  **The**

Regular nouns (if there is 1)  **A** or **An**



# Rule # 2

Is it unique? (유일한 명사)

Is it specific? (특정)

A: *Who's he?*

B: *He's **the** president of Korea. She's **the** winner of the contest. He's **the** mayor.*

A: *Who's she?*

B: *She's **a** member of parliament. She's **an** accountant. She's **a** pop star.*

## Rule # 3

Is this a new noun, or do I  
already know about it?

# Rule # 3

Is this a new noun, or do I already know about it?

*A dog bit me yesterday. Today, I saw **the** same dog in the park.*

*I see **a** monkey. **The** monkey is playing the drums.*

*I see **a** cat. **The** cat is swimming.*

# Rule # 3

Is this a new noun, or do I already know about it?

New nouns (if there is 1)  **A / An**

Old nouns I know about  **The**

## Rule # 3

Is this a new noun, or do I already know about it?

*I saw **a** cat. **The** cat was sitting on **a** fence. **The** fence was painted brown. **The** cat jumped off **the** fence when it saw **a** mouse. **The** mouse ran into **a** hole when it saw **the** cat, so **the** cat didn't catch **the** mouse.*

# Quick Test!

- I need \_\_\_\_\_ apple
- I want \_\_\_\_\_ cat
- I need \_\_\_\_\_ toothbrush
- I need \_\_\_\_\_ book
- I need \_\_\_\_\_ water
- I need \_\_\_\_\_ water bottle
- I need \_\_\_\_\_ cake for the party
- I will get \_\_\_\_\_ cake John bought for me

# Quick Test!

- I need \_\_\_\_\_ car
- I want \_\_\_\_\_ car that I saw yesterday
- I need \_\_\_\_\_ coffee
- I need \_\_\_\_\_ cup of coffee
- I like \_\_\_\_\_ music
- I will buy \_\_\_\_\_ song on the computer
- I will buy \_\_\_\_\_ song that you showed me yesterday
- I need to talk to \_\_\_\_\_ person that works here
- I need to talk to \_\_\_\_\_ owner of the store

# Rule # 4

Is this **always** true?

Is this **never** true?



# Rule # 4

Is this **always** true?

Is this **never** true?

Always or never true  \_\_\_\_\_ (no article)

# Rule # 4

Is this **always** true?

Is this **never** true?

*Rain falls from the sky (always)*

*I like **cold weather** (always)*

*I am wet because of **the** rain (now)*

*I like **the** cold weather (today)*

# Rule # 4

Is this **always** true?

Is this **never** true?

*I like **cookies**. (always)*

***Cookies** have lots of sugar (always)*

*I enjoy making **cookies**. (always)*

*I never eat **cookies** at night. (never)*

*I ate **a** cookie. (today)*

***The** cookie was delicious. (today)*

***The** cookies are on the table. (today)*