Articles

In this activity, you will test your knowledge of articles and when to use them.

Before you begin, let’s review. The three articles are ‘the’, ‘a’ and ‘an’. Most nouns appear with an article. Some types of nouns appear without articles. For example:

- The river (the)
- An apple (an)
- A tree (a)
- Ontario (no article)

Quiz

1. Which article should go in the blank space in the following sentence. “Alex flew across (blank) Atlantic Ocean.”
   Answer: ‘the’. ‘Atlantic Ocean’ is a proper noun and the name of an ocean, so it uses the article ‘the’.

2. Which article belongs in this sentence: ‘a’ or ‘an’? “My dog is (blank) French Bulldog.”
   Answer: ‘a’. French Bulldog begins with a consonant, so it uses the article ‘a’.

3. Yes or No. Should there be an article in the following sentence?
   Joe lives in (blank) Canada.
   Answer: No. Canada is a proper noun, it doesn’t express nationality or membership, it is singular, and it is not a river, ocean, or historical period, so it does not use an article.

4. Which article belongs in the blank space in the following sentences?
   Amelia the dog saw two squirrels outside the window. She wanted to go outside to catch (blank) squirrels.
   Answer: The. Because it is the second time we refer to these squirrels, we are referring to specific squirrels, and we use the article ‘the’.

5. If the noun ‘American’ is non-specific, what article should you use?
   a. A
   b. An
   c. The
   d. No article
   Answer: option ‘b’— An. When American is non-specific, you would use the article ‘an’ because it is a proper noun, expresses a nationality, it is singular, and the first letter is the vowel ‘A’.

6. Match each sentence to the correct article. The options are ‘a’, ‘an’, ‘the’ or no article.
   a. He is (blank) Liberal.
   b. I once saw (blank) aardvark.
c. This is (blank) place I told you about.

d. She loves to eat (blank) rice.

The answers are: a. ‘a’, a Liberal, b. ‘an,’ an aardvark, c. ‘the,’ the place, d. no article, rice.

Congratulations! You have completed the activity.