MET Education  Name: _____ Date: _____

FREE GRAMMAR PRACTICE · FORMS 1–3

# Articles: a, an, the or no article

**Small words that change the meaning**

| Use | When | Example |
|---|---|---|
| **a / an** | one non-specific singular countable thing, or a job or type | I saw **a** dog and **an** owl. She is **an** engineer. |
| **the** | the reader knows which one, or the thing is unique in this context | **The** dog was big. **The** sun was shining. |
| **no article** | plurals and uncountable nouns in general | **Dogs** are friendly. · **Water** is important. |
| **a / an** | **a** before a consonant sound · **an** before a vowel sound | **a** uniform · **an** hour · **an** umbrella |

## PART A Fill in

**Fill in a, an or the. Write — if no article is needed.**

1. Paul bought _____ new bike. _____ bike is red and black.
2. Lucy wants to be _____ engineer when she grows up.
3. We watched _____ sun go down over _____ sea.
4. Amy waited for _____ hour at _____ doctor's.
5. My brother plays _____ piano, and I play _____ football.

## PART B Story gap-fill

**Read the story. Fill in a, an, the or —.**

1. Last Sunday, Ben found _____ old box in _____ cupboard under the stairs.
2. Inside _____ box there was _____ letter and _____ photos of his grandfather.
3. The letter was written in _____ English and was nearly _____ hundred words long.
4. Ben showed _____ letter to his mother, who was _____ English teacher.

## PART C a or an?

**Tick (✓) the correct word. Listen to the first sound.**

1. It takes ( ☐ a ☐ an ) hour to walk there.
2. Paul is ( ☐ a ☐ an ) university student.
3. I need ( ☐ a ☐ an ) umbrella today.
4. Lucy wears ( ☐ a ☐ an ) uniform to school.

**Answers** **A** 1 a; The · 2 an · 3 the; the / a · 4 an; the / a · 5 the / —; — **B** 1 an; a / the · 2 the; a; — · 3 —; a · 4 the; an **C** 1 an · 2 a · 3 an · 4 a

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