

Articles a / an / the

Learn!

- a. Samuel is **an** engineer.
- b. I've bought **a** new cell phone.
- c. Tim works in **a** factory.
- d. **The** history teacher is really good.
- e. **The** cats in the neighborhood were making a lot of noise last night.
- f. **The** coffee on the top of the shelf is decaffeinated.
- g. **The** old, **the** sick and **the** unemployed need our special care.
- h. How many astronauts have landed on **the** moon?
- i. **Dogs** are not allowed in this shop.
- j. **Milk** is good for you
- k. Eugene comes from **France**.

Work it out!

1 Write the letter of the sentence(s) that match their explanations below.

- a. We use the articles *a / an* with singular nouns:
 - when the listener does not know which person or thing we are talking about: _____
 - to describe the job of a person: _____
 - when you mention something for the first time: _____
- b. We use *the* with singular, uncountable and plural nouns
 - when it is clear which thing or person we are talking about: _____, _____ and _____
 - when there is only one of something: _____
 - for nationalities and other groups: _____
- c. We use *Zero article* (no article) with plural and uncountable nouns:
 - when we are talking generally: _____ and _____.
 - with most countries, states and cities: _____

Use!

1 Underline the correct word in each sentence. If no article is necessary, circle X.

- a. Where's *an / the* entrance key? I can't find it.
- b. What happened at *an / the* end of *a / the* movie?
- c. Sam has *an / the* appointment at the doctor's.
- d. *An / The* old person sometimes feels lonely.
- e. I'm thinking of buying *a / the* new pair of shoes.
- f. I'm not sure if he is in *the / X* England or Scotland.
- g. I loved *the / X* chocolates you gave me.
- h. Eating too much *X / the* sugar is not healthy.