

Articles – Practice 1

Exercise

Add articles (**a**, **an**, or **the**) as needed. In certain cases, no article is needed.

*For screen reader users, blanks will be indicated by a *.*

1. Last summer, I visited *___ United Arab Emirates.
2. I never drink *_____ tea for *_____ breakfast.
3. *_____ breakfast he served was inedible.
4. *_____ capital of *_____ Ontario is *_____ Toronto.
5. *_____ Hague is located in *_____ Netherlands.
6. I debated whether to go to *_____ university or to *_____ college.
7. Tarragon is *_ herb widely used in French and Spanish cooking.
8. I have long wanted to visit *_____ Himalayas.
9. That city is located near *_____ Indian Ocean.
10. *_____ Swiss are famous for their banks.
11. Would you rather live by *_____ sea or in *_____ mountains?
12. Although *_____ English has many rules for article usage, just as many exceptions exist.
13. What is *_____ reason for your being so late?
14. She has been *___ big help to me.
15. *_____ author of this book is named Arundhati Roy.
16. *_____ official language of Quebec is French.
17. Would you like *_____ coffee or *_____ tea?
18. *_____ aardvark is *_____ unusual animal.
19. *_____ cost of living is dear.
20. How much is *_____ kilo of rice?
21. In some countries, *_____ dollar can still buy much.
22. Gold is *_____ precious metal.
23. *_____ gold sold in India is mainly 24 carats.
24. I'd like *_____ glass of water.
25. *_____ Senegalese speak French.
26. *_____ French is *_____ widely-spoken language.

27. *_____ French are known for their pastries.
28. I need to reserve *_____ room for the week.
29. *_____ room I reserved last time was nice.
30. I'd like to go to *_____ washroom, please.

Answers

These are the answers. Try to think of the rules/reasons to explain the answers. The first three explanations are done for you as an example which are indicated by the*().

1. Last summer, I visited **the** United Arab Emirates. *(the United Arab Emirates is plural)
2. I never drink **(no article!)** tea for **(no article!)** breakfast. *(We do not use indefinite articles with non-count nouns, or with meals, unless there is an adjective)
3. **The** breakfast he served was inedible. *(This is a specific breakfast)
4. **The** capital of Ontario is Toronto.
5. **The** Hague is located in **the** Netherlands.
6. I debated whether to go to **(no article)** university or to go to **(no article)** college.
7. Tarragon is **a/an** herb widely used in French and Spanish cooking. *(This is a special exception with two options. Since there are two different pronunciations of herb, the article is different depending on the pronunciation, the article is different)
8. I have long wanted to visit **the** Himalayas.
9. That city is located near **the** Indian Ocean.
10. **The** Swiss are famous for their banks.
11. Would you rather live by **the** sea or in **the** mountains?
12. Although **(no article)** English has many rules for article usage, just as many exceptions exist.
13. What is **the** reason for your being so late?
14. She has been **a** big help to me.
15. **The** author of this book is named Arundhati Roy.
16. **The** official language of Quebec is French.
17. Would you like **(no article)** coffee or **(no article)** tea?

18. **The** aardvark is **an** unusual animal.
19. **The** cost of living is dear.
20. How much is **a** kilo of rice?
21. In some countries, **a** dollar can still buy much.
22. Gold is **a** precious metal.
23. **The** gold sold in India is mainly 24 carats.
24. I'd like a glass of water.
25. The Senegalese speak French.
26. **(no article)** French is **a** widely-spoken language.
27. **The** French are known for their pastries.
28. I need to reserve **a** room for the week.
29. **The** room I reserved last time was nice.
30. I'd like to go to **the** washroom, please.