

Articles – Practice 2

Exercise

Insert the article (**a**, **an**, or **the**) into the blank. In certain cases, no article is needed.

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

Last year, I had * ___ opportunity to visit * _____ city-state of Singapore. * ___ Singapore is located in Southeast Asia, so * ___ climate is hot. Singapore is * _____ very modern country, with * _____ enviable standard of living. It is * _____ multi-cultural country, with four official languages: English, Chinese, Malay, and Tamil. * _____ announcements in * _____ subway are all in four languages. * _____ cuisine of Singapore is well-known. Because of * _____ interesting mix of peoples and customs, some of its dishes are * _____ mix of Indian, Chinese, Malay, and European styles of cooking. * _____ architecture of Singapore is * _____ striking mixture of styles, with churches built by * Portuguese, next to temples built by * _____ Chinese. There are Hindu temples next to mosques and Buddhist temples next to churches. There are tall skyscrapers of glass next to colonial-style villas. Despite * _____ fact that Singapore is one of * _____ most densely populated cities in * _____ world, * _____ city is known as * _____ Garden City due to * _____ number of parks, trees, and even jungle in * _____ centre of * _____ city!

To * _____ north of Singapore is * ___ country of Malaysia. * ___ Malaysia is also * _____ multi-cultural country, with * _____ indigenous Malay forming * _____ majority. Apart from * _____ Malay people, there are large numbers of ethnic Chinese and Indians. * _____ capital of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, is * _____ bustling metropolis with * _____ population of several million people. * _____ capital city has numerous interesting neighbourhoods reflecting its diversity like Chinatown, Little India, * _____ Arab Quarter, and more.

* _____ food of Malaysia is an interesting mixture of flavours, with many dishes which are influenced by * _____ Indians who migrated to Malaysia from * _____ state of Tamil Nadu. These dishes contain coconut milk and curry, with local ingredients such as pandan leaf. Malaysian food can be quite spicy, and * _____ chili is ubiquitous in Malaysian cuisine.

Malaysia is famous for its wildlife, its untouched jungles and beaches, and is rich in natural resources such as rubber and oil. * _____ wildlife of Malaysia includes many species of

monkeys, some of which are wandering freely on * _____ outskirts of Kuala Lumpur. There are also snakes, some of which are poisonous, so be careful!

* _____ countries of Singapore and Malaysia share many similarities, which is not surprising considering they are both former colonies of * _____ British, and were both once part of * _____ same country. If you are considering * _____ visit to either of these locations, you are advised to carefully plan your trip. * _____ climate of both of these countries is tropical, so there is never any danger of it being too cold, but there are times of * _____ year when it is hotter, or wetter than others. To travel between Singapore and Malaysia, there is * _____ train, regular bus service, and * _____ number of airlines make * _____ short trip between Singapore and Kuala Lumpur. * _____ cost of travel is relatively cheap, in part due to * _____ abundance of petroleum in Malaysia.

Answers

These are the answers. When no article is required, the answer is indicated with x. When an article is optional, the answer is indicated with # sign. Where more than one article is possible, the answer is indicated with * sign.

Last year, I had **the** opportunity to visit **the** city-state of Singapore. **x** Singapore is located in Southeast Asia, so **the** climate is hot. Singapore is **a** very modern country, with **an** enviable standard of living. It is **a** multi-cultural country, with four official languages: English, Chinese, Malay, and Tamil. **# (The)** announcements in **the** subway are all in four languages. **The** cuisine of Singapore is well-known. Because of * **(an/the)** interesting mix of peoples and customs, some of its dishes are **a** mix of Indian, Chinese, Malay, and European styles of cooking. **The** architecture of Singapore is **a** striking mixture of styles, with churches built by **the** Portuguese, next to temples built by **the** Chinese. There are Hindu temples next to mosques and Buddhist temples next to churches. There are tall skyscrapers of glass next to colonial-style villas. Despite **the** fact that Singapore is one of **the** most densely populated cities in **the** world, **the** city is known as **the** Garden City due to **the** number of parks, trees, and even jungle in **the** centre of **the** city!

To **the** north of Singapore is **the** country of Malaysia. **x** Malaysia is also **a** multi-cultural country, with **the** indigenous Malay forming * (**a/the**) majority. Apart from **the** Malay people, there are large numbers of ethnic Chinese and Indians. **The** capital of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, is **a** bustling metropolis with **a** population of several million people. **The** capital city has numerous interesting neighbourhoods reflecting its diversity like Chinatown, Little India, **the** Arab Quarter, and more.

The food of Malaysia is an interesting mixture of flavours, with many dishes which are influenced by **the** Indians who migrated to Malaysia from **the** state of Tamil Nadu. These dishes contain coconut milk and curry, with local ingredients such as pandan leaf. Malaysian food can be quite spicy, and # (**the**) chili is ubiquitous in Malaysian cuisine.

Malaysia is famous for its wildlife, its untouched jungles and beaches, and is rich in natural resources such as rubber and oil. **The** wildlife of Malaysia includes many species of monkeys, some of which are wandering freely on **the** outskirts of Kuala Lumpur. There are also snakes, some of which are poisonous, so be careful!

The countries of Singapore and Malaysia share many similarities, which is not surprising considering they are both former colonies of **the** British, and were both once part of **the** same country. If you are considering **a** visit to either of these locations, you are advised to carefully plan your trip. **The** climate of both of these countries is tropical, so there is never any danger of it being too cold, but there are times of **the** year when it is hotter, or wetter than others. To travel between Singapore and Malaysia, there is **a** train, regular bus service, and **a** number of airlines make **the** short trip between Singapore and Kuala Lumpur. **The** cost of travel is relatively cheap, in part due to * (**an/the**) abundance of petroleum in Malaysia.