

Definite, Indefinite, or No Article?

Activity Sheet (page 1/2)

A. Complete the sentences below, writing 'DA' for Definite Article (*the*), 'IA' for Indefinite Article (*a/an*), or 'NA' for No Article.

1. We use the ____ when mentioning things for the first time, or with things we are unfamiliar with.
2. We use the ____ with things we have mentioned before, and with things we are familiar with.
3. When talking about things in general we usually use ____.
4. When we say what something is, or what someone does, e.g., '*He's a chef*', we use the ____.
5. With superlatives and ordinal numbers, we usually use the ____.
6. With exclamations starting with *What*, and expressions like *twice a week*, we use the ____.
7. With things that are unique, and often with instruments, e.g. '*I play the piano.*', we use the ____.
8. With named oceans, seas, rivers, deserts, and mountain ranges, we use the ____.
9. With most countries, cities, continents, and planets, we use ____.
10. When a country's name is plural, or has the words *Kingdom*, or *Republic* in it, we use the ____.

B. Read the paragraph below and circle the correct choices.

My uncle is (1) *a / an / the / --* famous pianist. He travels all around (2) *a / an / the / --* world, playing in concerts with his orchestra. He also plays (3) *a / an / the / --* guitar in his free time and has released several solo albums. I don't see him very often because he lives in (4) *a / an / the / --* Canada. His wife is American, though, so he spends a lot of time in (5) *a / an / the / --* USA too. They even have (6) *a / an / the / --* house in California, overlooking (7) *a / an / the / --* Pacific Ocean. He is coming to visit us here in (8) *a / an / the / --* England (9) *a / an / the / --* next summer. I can't wait to see him. He is one of (10) *a / an / the / --* kindest people I know, and we always have a great time together.

C. Complete the sentences below using 'a', 'an', 'the', or '--'. (-- = No Article)

1. My aunt lives in ____ New York. She lives on ____ third floor of ____ old building in ____ SoHo.
2. Although I am afraid of ____ dogs, I don't mind ____ dog next door. He is ____ friendly puppy.
3. I don't like ____ beer, but I love ____ wine. I drank ____ whole bottle ____ last night!
4. What ____ beautiful day! Shall we go to ____ park and have ____ picnic?
5. Jim's cousin lives in ____ Netherlands, so he only sees him ____ few times ____ year.

D. Match the beginnings of the geographical "facts" below with the correct endings, then fill in the gaps using either 'the' or '--'.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. ___ Nile is ___ longest | a. countries in it is ___ Europe. |
| 2. ___ Sahara Desert is ___ world's | b. is ___ highest mountain in ___ Asia. |
| 3. ___ capital of ___ Australia | c. bigger than ___ Atlantic. |
| 4. ___ Mt Kilimanjaro | d. is ___ Mediterranean. |
| 5. ___ Algeria is | e. the ___ Himalayas. |
| 6. ___ country which produces | f. river in ___ world. |
| 7. ___ continent with ___ most | g. ___ most coffee is ___ Brazil. |
| 8. ___ Pacific Ocean is | h. driest desert. |
| 9. ___ Mount Everest is part of | i. ___ largest country in ___ Africa. |
| 10. ___ saltiest sea in ___ world | j. is ___ Sydney. |

Talk with your partner and decide which of the above "facts" are true and which ones are false and write 'true' or 'false' in the spaces below.

- | | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ | 3. _____ | 4. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 7. _____ | 8. _____ | 9. _____ | 10. _____ |

E. Work with your partner and try and come up with some geographical "facts" of your own, some of which are true, some of which are not true. Write your facts below, paying careful attention to the use of Articles.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____

Once you've completed your sentences, find another partner, and read them your "facts". See if they can guess which ones are true and which ones are false.