

ARTICLE (MẠO TỪ)

*** Đ/N: Mạo từ là từ dùng trước danh từ và cho biết danh từ ấy đề cập đến một đối tượng xác định hay không xác định.

I. Indefinite Article (Mạo từ không xác định): A, An

*** A, an: đề cập đến một đối tượng chung hoặc chưa được xác định rõ. Đối tượng lần đầu được nhắc tới

*** A đứng trước một phụ âm hoặc một nguyên âm có âm là phụ âm.

Ex: a game (một trò chơi), a university, a European

*** An đứng trước một nguyên âm hoặc một phụ âm câm.

Ex: an egg (một quả trứng), an hour (một giờ đồng hồ).

*** An cũng đứng trước các mẫu tự đặc biệt đọc như một nguyên âm.

Ex: an SOS (một tín hiệu cấp cứu); an MSc (một thạc sĩ khoa học), an X-ray (một tia X).

*** Cách dùng:

1. Trước một danh từ số ít đếm được.

Ex: We need a microcomputer (Chúng tôi cần một máy vi tính). / He eats an ice-cream.

2. Trong các thành ngữ chỉ số lượng nhất định.

Ex: a lot (nhiều); a couple (một cặp/đôi); a third (một phần ba) / a dozen (một tá); a hundred (một trăm); a quarter (một phần tư)

*** Không dùng mạo từ bất định(a / an) trong các trường hợp sau:

1. Trước danh từ số nhiều

2. Trước danh từ không đếm được

Ex: He gave us good advice (Ông ta cho chúng tôi những lời khuyên hay).

I write on paper (Tôi ghi trên giấy)

3. Trước tên gọi các bữa ăn, trừ phi có tính từ đứng trước các tên gọi đó

Ex: They have lunch at eleven (họ dùng cơm trưa lúc 11 giờ)

But: You gave me a delicious dinner (bạn đã cho tôi một bữa ăn tối thật ngon miệng).

II. Definite Article (Mạo từ xác định) - THE

*** Dùng "the" khi danh từ chỉ đối tượng được cả người nói lẫn người nghe biết rõ đối tượng nào đó (được nhắc lại), dùng cho cả danh từ đếm được (số ít lẫn số nhiều) và danh từ không đếm được..

Ex: The truth (sự thật) / The bicycle (một chiếc xe đạp) / The bicycles (những chiếc xe đạp)

*** Cách dùng:

1/ Khi vật thể hay nhóm vật thể là duy nhất hoặc được xem là duy nhất

Ex: The sun (mặt trời); the sea (biển cả) / The world (thế giới); the earth (quả đất)

2/ Trước một danh từ, với điều kiện danh từ này vừa mới được đề cập trước đó.

Ex: I saw a beggar. The beggar looked curiously at me.

(Tôi thấy một người ăn xin. Người ăn xin ấy nhìn tôi với vẻ tò mò)

3/ Trước một danh từ, với điều kiện danh từ này được xác định bằng một cụm từ hoặc một mệnh đề.

Ex: The girl in uniform (Cô gái mặc đồng phục). / The mechanic that I met (Người thợ máy mà tôi đã gặp).

The place where I waited for him (Nơi mà tôi đợi anh ta).

4/ Trước so sánh cực cấp, Trước first (thứ nhất), second (thứ nhì), only (duy nhất)... khi các từ này được dùng như tính từ hay đại từ.

Ex: The first day (ngày đầu tiên). / The best time (thời gian thuận tiện nhất). / The only way (cách duy nhất)

5/ The + Tính từ tượng trưng cho một nhóm người

Ex: The old (người già); the rich and the poor (người giàu và người nghèo)

6/ The dùng Trước những danh từ riêng chỉ biển, sông, quần đảo, dãy núi, tên gọi số nhiều của các nước, sa mạc, miền. Ex: The Pacific (Thái Bình Dương); The Netherlands (Hà Lan)

7/ The + họ (ở số nhiều) nghĩa là Gia đình ...

Ex: The Smiths = Gia đình Smith (vợ chồng Smith và các con)

Không dùng mạo từ xác định - THE

1/ Trước tên quốc gia, tên châu lục, tên núi, tên hồ, tên đường.

Ex: Europe (Châu Âu), France (Pháp quốc), Downing Street (Phố Downing)

2/ Sausở hữu tính từ (possessive adjective) hoặc sau danh từ ở sở hữu cách (possessive case) .

Ex: My friend, chứ không nói My the friend. / The girl's mother = the mother of the girl (Mẹ của cô gái)

3/ Trước tên gọi các bữa ăn. Ex: They invited some friends to dinner. (Họ mời vài người bạn đến ăn tối)

4. Go to bed/hospital/church/school/ work/prison (Đi ngủ/đi nằm bệnh viện/đi lễ/đi học/đi làm/ đi tù),

But: They went to the school to see their children's teacher (Họ đến trường để gặp thầy của con họ)

She will get a bus at the church (Cô ta sẽ đón xe buýt ở chỗ nhà thờ).

BÀI TẬP MẠO TỪ - ARTICLE EXERCISES

I/ ARTICLES: A, AN, THE OR Ø(nothing).

Exercise 1. Put "an", "a", "the" or Ø (nothing):

1. My birthday is _____ Sunday afternoon.
2. It doesn't often snow here at _____ Christmas. We haven't had _____ White Christmas for many years.
3. We came here in _____ summer of _____ 1969.
4. _____ Thanks giving is in _____ November. The Church of England dates from _____ year 1534. I like driving at _____ night. The roads are quite. Oh, I don't like driving in _____ park. I'd rather travel during _____ day.
5. Are you doing anything at _____ weekend? + I don't think so. Well, come over on _____ Sunday.
6. _____ meals we had weren't very good. We had _____ breakfast in the hotel and that wasn't too bad. We usually went out for _____ lunch because _____ lunch they served in the hotel was always the same _____ dinner we had in our first evening was pretty a few, so we tried a few restaurants. On our last evening we had _____ marvelous dinner in a Chinese restaurant, but that was an exception.
7. Rita plays _____ violin and her sister plays _____ guitar.
8. On our trip to _____ Spain, we crossed _____ Atlantic Ocean.
9. David attended _____ Princeton University.
10. _____ Florida State University is smaller than _____ University of Florida
11. _____ chair that you are sitting in is broken.
12. _____ Civil War was fought in _____ United States between 1861 and 1865.
13. _____ big books on _____ table are for my history class.

Exercise 2. Write a or an in the space:

1. _____ unreasonable decision	6. _____ X- ray	11. _____ elephant
2. _____ universal problem	7. _____ UFO.	12. _____ hospital
3. _____ unit of work.	8. _____ T shirt	13. _____ BBC programme
4. _____ eucalyptus tree	9. _____ happy girl	14. _____ UNESCO worker
5. _____ honorable man.	10. _____ H-bomb	

Exercise 3. Put in a, an or some or leave a space:

1. Have you got _____ camera?
2. Would you like to be _____ actor.
3. Bill's got _____ big feet.
4. Do you collect _____ stamps?
5. Tom always gives Ann _____ flowers on her birthday.
6. Those are _____ really nice trousers. Where did you get them?
7. What _____ beautiful garden!
8. What _____ lovely children!
9. _____ birds, for example the penguin, cannot fly.
10. Jack has got _____ very long legs, so he's _____ fast runner.
11. You need _____ visa to visit _____ foreign countries, but not all of them .
12. I'm going shopping. I'm going to get _____ new clothes.
13. Jane is _____ teacher. Her parents were _____ teachers too.
14. When we reached the city centre, _____ shops were still open but most of them were already closed.
15. Do you enjoy going to _____ concerts?
16. When I was _____ child, I used to be very shy.

Exercise 4. Put suitable articles into blanks:

1. John is _____ teacher. He's teaching in _____ school in London.
Every morning, he gets up at 7 o'clock, has _____ breakfast and _____ cup of _____ coffee. Then he goes to work by bus. He has _____ lunch at _____ restaurant (near _____ school). In the afternoon he works until 5 or 5.30 and then goes _____ home. He doesn't work on _____ Saturday or Sunday. He goes to _____ cinema or theatre. John has _____ sister in Oxford and _____ brother in _____ London.
2. There are millions of stars in _____ space.
3. I'm going away at _____ end of this month.
4. The sun is _____ star.
5. What did you have for _____ breakfast?
6. Have you got _____ car?
7. How much are those potatoes? 1.20 _____ kilo.
8. Can you think _____ rich should pay more taxes to help _____ poor?

Exercise 5. Put suitable articles into blanks:

1. He is _____ honest person.
2. My father went out to _____ sea when he was 14.

3. When do you hope to go to _____ university?
4. There's a strike at _____ hospital.
5. He is _____ one-eyed man.
6. There's _____ onion left in the fridge.
7. This is _____ useful method of learning English.
8. I've got _____ uncle.
9. Your shoes are under _____ bed.
10. There's a splendid view of _____ Lake Geneva from his hotel.

Exercise 6. Choose the correct answer:

1. The British Prime Minister live in Downing Street / the Downing Street.
2. One of the nicest parks in London is St. James's Park/the St. James's Park, which is very near Buckingham Palace / the Buckingham Palace.
3. Frank is a student at Liverpool University / the Liverpool University.
4. Mr. Jenkins reads Daily Telegraph / the Daily Telegraph but his wife reads Times / the Times.
5. We flew from London to Orly Airpot / the Orly Airpot in Paris.
6. Mary and Peter got married in St. Matthew's Church / the Matthew's Church.
7. Some children hate school / the school.
8. After leaving school / the school, Nora worked as a cleaner in hospital / at the hospital
9. All over the world, people are in prison / the prison because of their political beliefs.
10. The other day the fire-brigade had to go to prison / the prison to put out a fire.
11. On the way to London we passed through a small village with an old church. We stopped to visit church / the church. It was a beautiful building.
12. John's mother is a regular churchgoer. She goes to church/the church every Sunday. John himself doesn't go to church / the church.
13. Apples / the apples are good for you.
14. Women / the women are often better teachers then men/the men.
15. In Britain coffee / the coffee is more expensive than tea/the tea.
16. Most people/the most people still believe that marriage/the marriage and family life / the family life are the basic of our society.
17. Life / the life would be very difficult without electricity / the electricity.
18. Skiing / the skiing is my favourite sport but I also like swimming / the swimming.
19. Second World War / the Second World Ward ended in 1945.
20. Don't stay in that hotel. Beds / the beds are very uncomfortable.

Exercise 7. Put suitable articles into blanks if necessary:

1. After _____ lunch, we went for _____ walk by _____ sea.
2. Don't sit on _____ ground. It's wet.
3. On _____ Sunday my father stay in _____ bed till ten o'clock reading _____ Sunday paper.
4. He's got _____ job in _____ South and spent _____ next two years doing _____ work he really enjoyed.
5. My mother goes to _____ church in _____ morning and in _____ afternoon goes to visit _____ friends.
6. _____ post man's little boy says that he'd rather be _____ dentist than _____ doctor because _____ dentists don't get called out at _____ night.
7. This morning I bought _____ newspaper and _____ magazine _____ newspaper is in my bag, but I don't know where _____ magazine is.
8. My parents have _____ cat and _____ dog. _____ dog never bites _____ cat, but _____ cat often scratched _____ dog.
9. We live in _____ old house in _____ middle of town. There is _____ garden behind _____ house. _____ roof of _____ house is in bad condition.

Exercise 8. Which is correct or more likely, a/an or one? If both a/an and one are possible, write them both:

1. It weights over _____ hundred kilos.
2. I only asked for _____ pizza - I didn't want three of them.
3. I wouldn't allow _____ child of mine to be treated in that way.
4. It only took us _____ week to drive to Greece.
5. I've always wanted to own _____ silver - coloured car.
6. _____ sandwich isn't enough. I usually eat four or five
7. Policies differ from _____ state to another.
8. Less than three quarters of _____ hour later, she was home.
9. All of the competitors completed the race, with just _____ exception.
10. She left home late _____ morning and hasn't been seen since.
11. The best way to learn _____ musical instrument is to find _____ enthusiastic teacher.
12. Somewhere in the distance, _____ bell rang.

KEY

1. MAO TÙ

Exercise 1:

1. nothing 2. nothing, a 3. nothing, nothing 4. nothing, nothing, nothing, nothing, the dark, the day
5. the weekend, nothing 6. the meals, nothing, nothing, the lunch, the dinner, a marvelous dinner.
7. the violin, the guitar. 8. nothing, the Atlantic Ocean. 9. nothing 10. nothing, the University
11. the 12. the Civil War, the United States. 13. The big books, the table.

Exercise 2:

1. an	6. an	11. an
2. a	7. a	12. a
3. a	8. a	13. a
4. a	9. a	14. a
5. an	10. an	

Exercise 3:

1. a	9. some
2. an	10. nothing, a
3. nothing	11. a, some
4. nothing	12. some
5. some or nothing	13. a
6. nothing	14. some
7. a	15. nothing
8. nothing	16. a

Exercise 4:

1. a, a, nothing, a, nothing, nothing, the, the, nothing, nothing, nothing, the, a, a, nothing.
2. nothing 3. the 4. a 5. nothing 6. a 7. a 8. the, the.

Exercise 5:

1. an	6. an
2. nothing	7. a
3. nothing	8. an
4. the	9. the
5. a	10. nothing

Exercise 6:

1. Downing street 2. St. Jame's Park, Buckingham Palace 3. Liverpool University
4. The Daily Telegraph the Times 5. Orly Airport 6. St Matthew's Church 7. school
8. school, at the hospital 9. prison 10. the prison 11. the church 12. church, church
13. apples 14. women, men 15. coffee, tea 16. most people, marriage, family life
17. life, electricity 18. skiing, swimming 19. the Second World War 20. the beds

Exercise 7:

1. nothing, a, the 2. the 3. nothing, nothing, the 4. a, nothing, nothing, nothing
5. the, the, the, nothing 6. the, a, a, the, nothing 7. a, a, the, the, 8. a, a, the, the, the, the
9. an, the, a, the, the, the.

Exercise 8:

1. one	7. one
2. one	8. a
3. one	9. an
4. one	10. one
5. a	11. a, an
6. one	12. a

Good luck!