

# Articles

# *A/An*

➤ Use *a/an* with singular countable nouns.

1. The first time you mention a thing/ person.  
I saw **an** old man with **a** dog.
2. When you say what something is.  
It is **a** nice house.
3. When you say what someone does.  
She is **a** lawyer.
4. In exclamation with what....!  
What **an** awful day!
5. In expressions like...  
three times **a** week, once **a** month

# *The*

## ➤ Use *the*

1. when we talk about something we've already mentioned.  
I saw an old man with a dog, and **the** dog was barking.
2. When there is only one of something.  
**The** moon goes around **the** sun.
3. When it is clear what you are referring to.  
He opened **the** door.
4. With places in a town, e.g. *cinema and theatre*.  
I'm going to **the** cinema.
5. With superlatives.  
It is **the** best film I've ever seen.

# Don't use *the*

- When you are speaking in general (with plural and countable nouns).  
**Women** talk more than **men**.  
**Love** is more important than **money**.
- With some nouns (e.g. *home, work, school, church*) after *at/ to /from*.  
She is not **at home** today.  
I get back **from work** at 5:30.
- Before meals, days and month.  
I never have **breakfast** on **Sunday**.
- Before *next /last* + days, week, etc.  
See you **next Friday**.

# Complete the email with an article: *a, an, the,* or – (no article).

Dear all,

We're having a fantastic time in Paris. We arrived yesterday afternoon so we had time to find <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ nice little hotel and relax after our journey.

We woke up early this morning because <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ sun was shining in through the window. We had a delicious breakfast and then went out to explore <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ city.

Later, we're meeting Lizzie's friend Paul, who's <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ artist studying at university here. He's going to take us to <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ best café in town, (at least he says it is!) just beside the River Seine. After that we're going to go up <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ Eiffel Tower and then do some more sightseeing.

<sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ French cities are wonderful!

We'll be back <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ next Sunday. See you soon!

Love,

Eleanora

- I love ..... classical music and ..... Italian food.
- He is ..... artist.
- What ..... beautiful day!
- Don't worry! It's not ..... end of ..... world .
- My mother is ..... teacher.
- ..... money doesn't make people happy.
- Do you think ...women are more sensitive than.... men?

Read the article and tick (✓) A, B, or C.

### **How I got my dream job**

Are you still looking for your dream job? Don't give up. Here's how three people achieved their goals.

#### **Mario Mendes, 29**

I'm doing something I really enjoy. I'm part of a team that develops new technologies. I work with intelligent, interesting people and occasionally get to travel abroad. I won't pretend it was easy getting my dream job, but it was worth the effort. My advice? Decide exactly what your dream job is and what it involves. Learn about the job. Make contact with companies that could offer your chosen career. Make sure they know your strengths. You may just get that dream job.

## **Andy Collins, 46**

As a student, I earned \$295 a week in cash working in a beach café. At the time, it was my dream job! Later I became a chef. It was hard work, I was often in a hot kitchen for twelve hours a day, six days a week. But you have to know the meaning of hard work if you want to achieve your goals. I now own five restaurants around the U.S. My best advice is to find out what your skills and talents are. Talent is something you're born with. Skills are something you've learned to do. People like doing things that come naturally to them, so work and enjoy!

- **Sarah Cooper, 38**

- I'd been working as a secretary for three years when I decided to change my career. My work was often boring and always busy. I started studying to become a teacher. It certainly wasn't easy; I continued working full-time to pay for my training at night school. I was exhausted most of the time, but after two years, I finally got my qualifications and resigned. I'm now a primary school teacher and it's as good as I imagined. So don't wait! Write a list of the things that are stopping you from getting your dream job. Make a plan to deal with each thing. There's always an answer.

1 Mario really enjoys \_\_\_\_\_.

A travelling abroad      B being part of a team      C his job

2 Mario thinks he got his dream job because \_\_\_\_\_.

A he's interested in modern technology      B he had done a lot of preparation  
C it was easy

3 Andy says his dream job used to be \_\_\_\_\_.

A owning a restaurant      B working in a beach café      C being a chef

4 Andy says it's important to experience \_\_\_\_\_ if you want to achieve your goals.

A working in a kitchen      B difficult conditions      C working overtime

5 Andy's most important advice is to find out what \_\_\_\_\_.

A you do well      B you want to do      C your goals are

- 6 Sarah decided to change her profession after \_\_\_\_\_.  
A two years      B three years      C five years
- 7 Sarah says her job was \_\_\_\_\_.  
A not easy      B quite tiring      C not very interesting
- 8 Sarah felt exhausted \_\_\_\_\_.  
A when she was at work      B very often      C when she was at night school
- 9 Sarah says that people should \_\_\_\_\_.  
A stop trying to get their dream job      B put their family first  
C plan how they can achieve their goals
- 10 Who did a job that they didn't enjoy?  
A Sarah      B Sarah and Andy      C Mario