

# 22 Using “a” and “the”

Use the definite article (“the”) or indefinite article (“a,” “an”) to talk about things in specific or general terms. Use “some” to talk about more than one thing.

 **New language** Definite and indefinite articles

 **Aa Vocabulary** Places in town

 **New skill** Using articles

## 22.1 KEY LANGUAGE “A / AN / THE”

Use “a” to talk about a thing in general. Use “the” to talk about a place, person, or thing that you and the listener both know about.



I work in **a** library.

Use “a” because you are talking about your work in general, not the specific place where you work.



I work in **the** library on Main Street.

Use “the” because you are talking about the specific building where you work.



## 22.2 FURTHER EXAMPLES “A / AN / THE”



Jim is **an** artist.

Use “an” before words that start with a vowel.



Is there **a** bank near here?

Use “a” with “is there” and “there is.”



**The** doctor at my hospital is good.

Use “the” to talk about a particular doctor.



I go to **the** bank on Broad Street.

Use “the” to talk about a particular bank.



## 22.3 CROSS OUT THE INCORRECT WORDS IN EACH SENTENCE

Charlotte is **a** / **an** / **the** actress.

- 1 **A** / **An** / **The** new teacher is called Miss Jones.
- 2 There is **a** / **an** / **the** good café in the park.
- 3 I work at **a** / **an** / **the** hotel next to the library.

- 4 There is **a** / **an** / **the** swimming pool near my office.
- 5 It is **a** / **an** / **the** dog's favorite toy.
- 6 Janie is **a** / **an** / **the** artist at the gallery.
- 7 See you at **a** / **an** / **the** café at the bus station.



## 22.4 KEY LANGUAGE "A / SOME"

You can only use "a" and "an" for singular nouns. Use "some" for plurals.

Use "a" and "an" to talk about one thing.

Singular.

**There is a hotel in the town.**



**There are some hotels in the town.**

Use "some" to talk about more than one thing.

Plural.



## 22.5 FURTHER EXAMPLES "A / SOME"

**There is a bank on Main Street.**



**There is a waiter over there.**



**There are some banks on Main Street.**



**There are some children in the park.**



## 22.6 FILL IN THE GAPS WITH "A" OR "SOME"

There is a restaurant in the park.

1 There are        stores on Broad Street.

2 There is        café next to the castle.

3 There are        cakes on the table.

4 There is        phone here.

5 There are        factories downtown.



## 22.7 REWRITE THE SENTENCES, CORRECTING THE ERRORS

There **are** a movie theater on Main Street.

**There is a movie theater on Main Street.**

1 There **is** some supermarkets in town.

2 There **are** an office near the river.

3 There **is** some chocolate bars in my bag.

4 There **are** a hospital near the bus station.





## 22.8 KEY LANGUAGE QUESTIONS WITH "A / ANY"

There is **a** hotel in the town.



Is there **a** hotel in the town?

Use "a" to find out if there is one of something.

There are **some** hotels in the town.



Are there **any** hotels in the town?

Use "any" to find out if there is one or more of something.



## 22.9 FURTHER EXAMPLES QUESTIONS WITH "A / ANY"

Is there **a** restaurant?

Are there **any** factories?

Is there **a** hospital?

Are there **any** theaters?



## 22.10 CROSS OUT THE INCORRECT WORDS IN EACH QUESTION

Is there **a / an / any** hospital in the town?

1 Are there **a / an / any** stores on your street?  
2 Is there **a / an / any** airport near Littleton?

3 Are there **a / an / any** mosques in the city?

4 Is there **a / an / any** swimming pool downtown?  
5 Are there **a / an / any** offices in that building?



## 22.11 REWRITE THE SENTENCES, PUTTING THE WORDS IN THE CORRECT ORDER

**any** **in** **town?** **Are** **your** **factories** **there**

Are there any factories in your town?

1 **there** **here?** **a** **Is** **supermarket** **near**

3 **Are** **your house?** **there** **any** **near** **hotels**

4 **a** **café** **office?** **there** **near** **Is** **your**

2 **on** **there** **any** **Elm Road?** **Are** **cafés**

5 **the** **there** **a bar** **next to** **Is** **bank?**



## 22.12 KEY LANGUAGE SHORT ANSWERS

When answering questions in English, you don't have to repeat all the words from the question.



Is there **a** hotel in the town?

Short for: "Yes, there is a hotel in the town."

**Yes, there is.**

**No, there isn't.**



Are there **any** hotels in the town?

**Yes, there are.**

**No, there aren't.**

Short for: "No, there aren't any hotels in the town."



## 22.13 FILL IN THE GAPS WITH SHORT ANSWERS

Are there any theaters in Littleton?

No, there aren't.

1 Is there a church on Main Street?

Yes, there is.

2 Are there any pens in your bag?

Yes, there are.

3 Is there a post office near here?

No, there isn't.

4 Are there any supermarkets on Station Road?

Yes, there is.

5 Is there a school near your house?

No, there isn't.

6 Are there any dogs in the hotel?

No, there aren't.



## 22.14 LOOK AT THE MAP AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS, SPEAKING OUT LOUD

Is there a library?

**Yes, there is.**



1 Are there any hotels?

**Yes, there are.**



2 Is there a church?

**Yes, there is.**



3 Are there two cafés?

**Yes, there are.**



4 Is there a supermarket?

**Yes, there is.**



## 22 CHECKLIST

Definite and indefinite articles

**Aa** Places in town

Using articles