

# INDEFINITE ARTICLE (continuation)

In the previous lesson examples of the basic use of **a** & **an** were given. Here are some other examples of when the indefinite article is used in English.

- Before certain expressions of quantity, for example *a few, a little, a lot of, a number of, a great many, a great deal of, a couple of, a dozen, etc.*
  - Mr Jarwis will be the account manager for **a** number of prospects.
  - It's a good idea to go to **a** few banks and look for the best deal for what you want.
  - Getting a residence permit takes **a** little patience and **a** lot of paperwork.
- After pre-determiners *such, what, rather* and *quite*, and before singular countable nouns.
  - There was such **a** long line at the check out desk!
  - What **an** innovative and inspiring team!
  - It's quite **a** new product and we have strong indications that we will see a big uplift in resulting sales.
- Before words referring to nationality, religion or political groups.
  - Last month **an** American took over as chief executive of Alcatel.
  - According to David Cameron, the monarch is still the Supreme Governor of the Church of England, and needs to be **an** Anglican to fulfil this role.
  - The head of the BBC should be **a** Tory who knows about the work ethic and cutting costs.
- Before Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss + surname when a person is a stranger to the speaker.
  - Yesterday I had a visit from **a** Mr Pople from the Charity Organisation Society.
  - A** Mrs O'Connor called to confirm the delivery date.
  - The Chairman asked the council manager to contact **a** Mr R. Smith to see whether it would be a role he would be interested in taking on.
- Before names of meals when they are preceded by an adjective or when they are special meals given to celebrate something or in someone's honour.
  - Here at the Waterfront we can provide you with **a** filling breakfast.
  - Over 1 in 5 (22%) said their workplace was organising **a** special lunch for the Melbourne Cup.
  - I was invited to **a** dinner given to welcome the new ambassador.

A. Complete with **a** or **an** if necessary.

- You might estimate that quite \_\_\_ high percentage of people buying a PC will also buy certain other hardware accessories.
- The ADSL service is available via \_\_\_ number of service providers.
- Because of staff holidays the service of \_\_\_ lunch in the canteen will be suspended from Monday, 15 July.
- Finding \_\_\_ Frenchman to run a PLC in the UK with international retail experience was never going to be easy.
- No trademark of Phenomsphere UK may be used after such \_\_\_ products have been incorporated into any other material.
- Could you tell \_\_\_ Mr Taylor that I'll call him back?
- The training put my \_\_\_ little problem into perspective.
- What \_\_\_ important day for our organisation!
- Charles Barry is \_\_\_ Democrat who wants to cut social security.
- Working in the property market, you could find yourself handling property transactions worth \_\_\_ couple of millions of pounds.

Key: 1. a, 2. a, 3. /, 4. a, 5. / (do not use the indefinite article before plural nouns), 6. /, 7. / (do not use the indefinite article with a possessive adjective), 8. an, 9. a, 10. a

B. In the previous lesson, it was said that the indefinite article is often omitted in newspaper headlines, notices, emails, text messages, etc. for the purpose of brevity and conciseness, in order to attract more attention, or simply to save space and time. Below you will find examples of newspaper headlines. Complete them with the missing indefinite article.

- Morrisons buys banana ripening factory
- Amazon posts surprise loss
- Betcom abandons plans for US gambling licence
- Cable pressures FCA over mis-selling scandal
- Halt RTI rollout, says tax adviser
- Carney reveals Jane Austen £10 note
- American profits hit by Chinese slowdown
- Independent record stores enjoy modest revival
- Pantex ltd posts £4m loss amid overhaul
- GSK sends new man to China to battle inquiry

Key: 1. a banana ripening factory, 2. a surprise loss, 3. a US gambling licence, 4. over a mis-selling scandal, 5. a tax adviser, 6. a Jane Austen £10 note, 7. a Chinese slowdown, 8. a modest revival, 9. a £4m loss amid an overhaul, 10. a new man

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Iskoristite pogodnost  
za **individualnu**  
**nastavu do**  
31. kolovoza: cijena  
po satu **samo 119 kn!**