ARTICLES
The indefinite article
I. General statements
1. A and an have exactly the same meaning. We use a in front of consonant sounds (a man) and an in front of vowel sounds (an umbrella, an eye, an hour).
2. We can talk about people or things 'in general' with a/an or with the plural. Instead of: Cats are domestic animals. ("cats" in general)
   We can say: A cat is a domestic animal. ("cats" in general)

II. Describing people and things
1. We use some words as adjectives or nouns when we want to describe people. When we use them as countable nouns, we always put a/an in front of them e.g.
   *nationality: She's American, (adjective) or: She's an American, (noun)
   *religion: She's Anglican, (adjective) or: She's an Anglican, (noun)
   *politics: He's Conservative, (adjective) or: He's a Conservative, (noun)
2. We use some words only as countable nouns (people and things) and we always put a/an in front of them: He's a doctor. (Not *He's doctor.*) It's a tree. (Not *It's tree.*)
   We can also use adjective + noun: She's a good girl. (Not *She's good girl.*)
3. We can use a/an in front of proper nouns (names spelt with a capital letter for:
   -members of a family: He's a Forsyte. (= a member of the Forsyte family)
   -literature and art: It's a Dickens novel. It's a Brecht play. Sometimes we can use the name on its own. We can say It's a Rembrandt painting or It's a Rembrandt.

III. Something mentioned for the first time
1. We use a/an to introduce a person or thing for the first time. This shows that the listener or reader doesn't know what we are referring to. After this first reference, we use the.
   e.g. I watched a car as it came up our road. The car stopped outside our house and a man got out. The man was carrying a case in his hand. With the case in his hand, the man looked like a salesman.
2. We do not use a/an + noun and one + noun in the same way.
   We use a/an to mean 'any one': I'd like a coffee, please.
   We use one when we are counting: It was one coffee I ordered and not two.
3. We use one with day, morning, evening when we are telling a story:
   One day, when I was working as a salesman, I received a strange telephone call.
   Compare: / had to stay in bed for a day. (= any day, it doesn't matter which) had to stay in bed for one day. (= one day and not two or more)
4. We use a/an or one with:
   a Whole numbers: a/one hundred, thousand.
   b Fractions: a/one quarter, half.
   c. Money: a/one pound, dollar.
   d Weights, measures: a/one kilo, foot

IV. “A/An” for price, distance and frequency
price/weight: 80p a kilo
distance/speed: 40 km an hour
distance/fuel: 30 miles a (or to the) gallon
frequency/time: twice a day

V. “A/an” or zero with reference to illnesses
1. We always use a/an with these illnesses: a cold, a headache, a sore throat.
2. We can use or omit a/an with these:
   catch (a) cold, have (a/an) backache/earache/stomach-ache/toothache.
3. We use no article at all with these plurals: measles, mumps, shingles.
4. We use no article with these: (high) blood pressure, flu, gout, hepatitis.

The definite article

1. With nouns we have mentioned previously.
The bedroom and a living room. The bedroom is quite large.

2. With nouns we mention for the first time, but where it is clear which person
or thing we are talking about.
Can you pass the marmalade?
My life changed completely after the war.

3. Where there is only one of something. It is clear which one we are talking
about.
The moon is full tonight.

4. With nouns followed by a descriptive phrase, which makes them definite.
This is the man I told you about.
London Bridge BUT the Tower of London

5. With national groups.
The British drink far too much tea.

6. With classes of people.
The rich get richer and the poor get poorer.

7. With individual items which represent a class.
The lion is fast disappearing.

8. With names of musical instruments that we can play.
I can't flay the piano but I can play the guitar.

The Thames flows into the North Sea. the Arctic
Also with plural countries, or where the country name contains a noun.
the Netherlands the People's Republic of China

10. With superlatives, ordinals, the same, the only.
This is the best. You are the first. This is the only one.
11. With media.
What's on (the) television?       I went to the cinema.

*Zero article (no article)*

1. With uncountable nouns and plural countable nouns when we are talking generally.
   Give peace a chance.   Football is life. I hate wasps. All he talks about is cars.

2. With most continents, countries, states, islands, mountains, lakes, cities, parks, roads and streets, squares, bridges, palaces, castles, cathedrals, stations and airports.
   We live in France. We took the train from Paddington Station to Bath.

3. With company names, years, months, days and special times of the year.
   She works for Lufthansa.       I'll see you in January.

4. With names of meals when we are talking generally.
   Its time for lunch.       (BUT The lunch I had at Cafe Sol was good value.)
   What's for dinner?       (BUT The dinner Sue gave us last night was delicious.)

5. With unique jobs or roles (the definite article is also possible in these cases).
   Jim is (the) chairman of the company.

6. With prepositions of place with certain buildings, where the purpose of the building is more important than the place itself.
   Sally is in prison. (she's a prisoner)
   Sally is in the prison, (she's a visitor to that specific building)
   Similar are: bed, church, class, court, hospital, school, university

7. With means of transport when we are talking generally.
   We "went there by car.   (BUT We went there in the car that Alex borrowed.)
   Note that if we use in or on, we need an indefinite article.
   We went there in a car/on a bus.

**EXERCISES**
Lesson 1.

**EX. 1. Supply a/an or the in the following text.**

During our journey we came to [a] bridge. As we were crossing [the] bridge, we met[an]old man and spoke to him.[the]man refused to answer us at first. He could tell at [a]glance that we had escaped from [a]prisoner-of-war camp and he was afraid of getting into trouble. We weren't[the]first prisoners of war to have escaped from [the]camp. As
soon as Jim produced [a] revolver, [the] man proved very willing to answer our questions. He told us exactly where we were and directed us to [the] farm where we might find food.

EX. 2. Supply a/an or one in these sentences.
1. I need [a] picture-hook to hang this picture.
2. Did you say you wanted [one] picture-hook or two?
3. [one] nail won't be enough for this job. I need several.
4. You should use [a] hammer to drive in those nails.
5. How many orange juices did you say? – Just [one] orange juice, please.
6. You should get out into the fresh air on [a] day like this!
7. [one] day, many years later, I learnt the truth.
8. I was out walking late [one] evening when I saw [a] strange object in the sky.
9. He says he's going to be [a] millionaire [one] day.
10. There were over [a/one] hundred people at the party.
11. Have you ever seen [a] silent movie?
12. I've only ever seen [one] silent movie.

EX. 3. Supply a/an where necessary. Note where you can use a/an or zero (-).
1. I'm going to bed. I've got [a] headache.
2. [ - ] measles can be very unpleasant.
3. I was awake all night with [a] toothache.
4. Don't come near me. I've got [a] sore throat.
6. I think I've got [a] cold!
7. The children are in bed with [-] mumps.
8. I've had [a] terrible backache.
9. Mind you don't catch [a] cold.
10. I often suffer from [a] backache.

EX. 4. Put in a, some, any or'-'.
AT YOUR SERVICE, SIR!
[-] robots are common in industry and perhaps they will soon be common in the home. [a] robot working in the home must be able to behave like [a] human. You could ask it to make breakfast for you. 'I'd like [a] pot of coffee, please and [some] boiled eggs.' 'How many, sir?' Two please.' You wouldn't have to worry about bringing friends home to dinner. 'I've brought [some] friends for dinner,' you would say, 'please prepare [a] meal for six.' Your robot would be [a] cook, [a] servant and [a] cleaner, perhaps it could even do [the] shopping. 'We haven't got [any] tomatoes,' you would say. 'Be [a] good robot and get some from the supermarket.' [ - ] robots would never need to sleep, and would never complain. But I wouldn't want them wandering round [the] house.

Lesson 2.

EX. 1. Supply a/an, the or'-'.
1. We were looking for [a] place to spend [a/the] night. [the] place we found turned
out to be in a charming village. The village was called Lodsworth.

2. [a/the] individual has every right to expect personal freedom. The freedom of the individual is something worth fighting for.

3. Yes, my name is [-] Simpson, but I'm not [the] Simpson you're looking for.


5. When you go out, would you please go to the supermarket and get some butter.

6. I've got an appointment this afternoon. I've got to go to [the] doctor's.

7. We went to the theatre last night and saw Flames. It's a wonderful play.

8. We prefer to spend our holidays in the country or by the sea.

9. We have seen what the earth looks like from the moon.

10. This is the front room. The ceiling and the walls need decorating, but the floor is in good order. We'll probably cover it with a carpet.

11. You're imagining things. All your fears are in the mind.

12. Look at this wonderful small computer. The top lifts up to form a screen; the front lifts off to form a keyboard and the whole thing only weighs 5 kilos.

13. The history of the world is the history of war.

14. Is there a moon round the planet Venus?

15. What's [-] John doing these days? - He's working as a postman.

16. [-] exercise is good for the body.

17. Could you pass me the salt, please?

18. They're building a new supermarket in the centre of our town.

19. Where's your mother at the moment? - I think she's in the kitchen.

20. If you were a cook, you'd have to work in a kitchen all day long.

EX. 2. Supply a or the in the following text.

We wanted to reach a small village and knew we must be near. Then we saw a woman just ahead and some children playing. When we stopped to ask the way, the woman said she was a stranger herself. We called out to the children, but they ignored us. Just then two men came along and we asked them the way. The men didn't know, but at least they were helpful. There's a signpost a mile along this road,' one of them said. We drove to the signpost eagerly. This is what it said: NORTH POLE 6,000 MILES.

EX. 3. Supply a/an, the or -.

1. There was an accident yesterday at the corner of the street.

2. I need [-] time to think about the offer you made me.

3. The recipe for [-] success is [-] hard work.

4. [-] people who live in [-] glass houses shouldn't throw [-] stones.

5. The worst part of [-] living in a caravan is the lack of space.

6. The book you ordered [-] last week is now in the stock.

7. [-] dancing is [a] more interesting activity than [-] reading.

8. The people we met on [-] holiday in the north of England sent us a postcard.

9. [-] little knowledge is [a] dangerous thing.

EX. 4. Put in a or the.

ANCIENT SECRETS

Mr. Denys Stocks, a retired policeman, has just been given a B.Sc. for twelve years' research into ancient Egyptian industrial methods. Egyptologists have often wondered
how the Egyptians were able to cut such hard stone and how they produced such fine jewelry. Mr Stocks has shown that the Egyptians used saws and drills. The saws and drills were made of copper, which is very soft. But the Egyptian craftsmen turned them into very powerful tools. First, a craftsman made a cut in the stone with a soft saw. Then the craftsman poured sand into the cut. The hard sand got into the teeth of the saw and did the cutting. In this way, a worker could cut basalt, one of the hardest rocks. The sand he used turned into a very fine powder. The powder was then

An ancient Egyptian drill used by jewellers to cut precious stones and to make delicate jewellery.

Lesson 3.

EX. 1. Supply the or '-'.
1 I like to read newspapers like the Times and the Washington Post.
2 I read the Economist every week and the Time magazine.
3 Do you think the New Yorker and the Punch have much in common?
4 We can't be sure about the history of the human race, but man developed earlier than we think, though we certainly weren't around at the time of the dinosaurs.
5 I like watching old films. I recently watched the Graduate and Jaws on video.
6 The Ancient Greeks believed in the gods. The idea of God was not known to them.
7 I've read Homer's Odyssey, but I haven't read Joyce's Ulysses.
8 the United Nations may be a talking shop, but so is Congress.
9 A lot of people object to attempts to bring up the Titanic.
10 My oldest son joined the Navy and now my youngest wants to join the Army.
11 France celebrated the 200th anniversary of the French Revolution in 1989.
12 In many countries, the head of state is called the President.
13 Do you know who killed President Lincoln?
14 Because of the greenhouse effect the climate of the world is changing.

EX. 2. Put in a/an or the.

SUNRAYCER
I read recently in the Times that the big American company, General Motors, has developed a vehicle that uses the power of the sun instead of petrol. The vehicle is called Sunraycer. Sunraycer has just taken part in a race against 25 solar-powered vehicles. The route of the race was from Darwin to Adelaide, an immense distance. Sunraycer covered the distance in 45 hours at an average speed of 41 miles an hour in temperatures as high as 48°C. It beat all other cars by two and a half days! Sunraycer (‘ray of the sun’ + ‘racer’) is certainly the car of the future!

EX. 3. Supply the or '-'.
1 A lot of people are giving up meat.
2 the meat we had for lunch last Sunday was very tough.
3 As someone said life is just one damned thing after another.
4 I don't know much about the life of Napoleon.
5 [-] running is supposed to be good for you.
6 I ought to be fit with all the running I do, but I don't feel fit.
7 Which is your favourite colour? [-] Red.
8 I think the red one will suit you best [-]. Red is more your colour.
9 We learnt English at school, but the English we learnt was useless.
10 [-] London is a safe city today, but the London of the 18th century was pretty rough.
11 [-] watches have become very cheap and very attractive.
12 Most of the watches you see today work on [-] quartz.
13 [-] indoor plants require a lot of effort and attention.
14 [-] Bach gives me a great deal of pleasure.
15 [the] Bach recording you bought for my birthday is first class.
16 What has been the longest period of [-] peace in [-] history?
17 If you study [-] History, you've got to read a lot.
18 [-] fasting during [-] Ramadan is more difficult in the summer months.
19 [-] journeys to unknown places require a lot of preparation.
20 [the] lives of [-] poets and [-] musicians have often been unbearably difficult.
21 I'm not interested in the price of [-] silver or the price of [-] gold.
22 [-] time is [-] money.
23 I can never regret [the] time I've spent enjoying myself.
24 I often listen to [-] music and I like [-] jazz best.

EX. 4. Supply a/an, the or '—'.
1. We're setting off at [-] sunrise.
2. We're invited to [the] Smiths for [-] lunch.
3. We must be home before [-] midnight.
4. Let's have [-] breakfast on [the] terrace.
5. I'm often wide awake at [-] night.
6. Do you always have [-] tea at four?
7. We reached [the] village before [-] sunset.
8. We've come here to see [the] sunset.
9. [the] lunch I ordered was burnt.
10. I had [a] nice lunch at [the] Ritz.

Lesson 4.

EX. 1. Supply a/an, the or '—'.
1. I'm really tired and I'm going to [-] bed.
2. My father went to [-] sea when he was 14.
3. Your shoes are under [the] bed.
4. When do you hope to go to [-] university?
5. Tim's been in [-] bed for hours.
6. Martha's been taken to [-] hospital.
7. We've bought [a] lovely new bed.
8. How long will she be in [-] hospital?
9. We took some photos outside [the] church.
10. There's a strike at [the] hospital.
11. We always go to [-] church on Sunday.
12. We've got [a] fine new hospital.
13. Have you ever worked in [a] factory?
14. When do you get home from [the] office?
15. Susan's in [-] class at the moment.
16. John's at [-] work at the moment.

EX. 2. In each space put a/an or the, or leave the space blank.

It has been announced that for [the] third consecutive month there has been [a] rise in [the] number of [-] unemployed, rather than [the] fall that had been predicted. [the] rise was blamed on [the] continuing uncertainty over [-] government economic policy, and couldn't come at [a] worse time for [the] Prime Minister, who is facing [-] growing criticism over [the] way [the] present crisis is being handled. [-] MPs are increasingly voicing [-] fears that despite [the] recent devaluation of [the] pound and cuts in [-] interest rates, [the] government still expects [the] recovery of the economy to take three or even four years. To make [-] matters worse, [the] number of small business going into [-] liquidation is still at[a/-] record level, and [the] housing market is showing no signs of recovery. Some backbenchers expect [a] general election before [the] end of [the] winter unless there is [a] rapid change of [-] fortune.

EX. 3. Correct the errors in the articles in these sentences or leave the same article if it is right.

1. It's not a[-] first-class accommodation unless it has [a] a private bathroom.
2. On this record [the]twins play [a] piano duet.
3. The[-] halfway through [the] meal we realised what [the] waiter had said.
4. If the[-] Mrs Hillier phones, say I'm away on [a] trip.
5. There is a [-] wonderful scenery in [the] eastern part of [-] Turkey.
6. [the] Cocker spaniel is one of [the] most popular [-] pet dogs.
7. There is going to be [-] fog and a[-] cold weather all the [-] next week.
8. The [-] burglaries are definitely on [the] increase.
9. I spent [a] very interesting holiday at the[-] Lake Coniston in England.
10. We are against [-] war in general, so of course we are against [a] war like this between [a] superpower and [a] developing country.

EX. 4. In each space put a/an or the, or leave the space blank.

1. I'm going to stand for [-] Parliament at [the] next election.
2. When I left [the] station, I had to stand in [a] queue for [a] taxi for [a] long time.
3. We took [a] trip around London and saw [-] Tower Bridge.
4. [the] happiness of [the] majority depends on [-] hard work from everyone.
5. [-] most main roads in this part of [the] country follow [the] line of [the/-] roads built by [the] Romans.
6. Have you got [the] latest record by [the] Gipsy Kings?
7. If I had [the] time, I would like to take up [-] archery.
8. We spent [a] pleasant evening having [a] drink at [the] Robin Hood.
10. [the] summer I spent in [the] USA was one of [the] best in my life.
11. Go down [-] Kingston Street and turn right into [-] Mill Road.
12. Please let me carry [the] shopping. It's [the] least I can do.
13. I don't like [-] milk in [-] coffee.
14. She was [the] first woman to cross [the] Atlantic in [a] canoe.
15. Jim became [a] furniture salesman after leaving [-] school.
16. At [the] end of [a] busy day, [-] sleep is [the] best tonic.
17. [the] James Joyce I knew wasn't [a] novelist and wasn't [-] Irish either.
18. We'll go for [a] walk if [the] sun comes out.
19. This is [the] last time I do you [a] favour for [a] while.
20. I'm staying in [the] Hilton so you can leave me [a] message.

Lesson 5.

REVISION

EX. 1.

Insert the right article.

1. He is [a] local priest in [the] Anglican church. 2. [the] church has a wonderful porch at the front. 3. His parents go to [-] church now and then. 4. Bruce was in [-] town with his wife to promote the film. 5. The market is an exciting and colourful part of [the] town, full of noise and bustle. 6. This is [a] small town, everybody knows everybody. 7. She went to [the] town where her aunt lived. 8. [-] school was a very happy time. 9. I left [-] school exactly ten years ago. 10. We met every day after [-] school. 11. This is [a] school with more than one thousand pupils. 12. [the] school was built in 1909. 13. Criminals are kept in [-] prison. 14. [the] prison was surrounded by a brick wall. 15. [-] prison is not the answer to many social problems. 16. Ben was taken to [-] hospital with appendicitis. 17. There is a well-equipped laboratory at [the] hospital. 18. Melanie went to [-] bed but couldn't fall asleep. 19. Why do you always put your shoes under [the] bed? 20. Doctors advise me to sleep on [a] hard bed. 21. He went to [-] University to get education. 22. There is [a] university in this small town. 23. There is no place like [-] home.

EX. 2. Insert the right article.

1. Maxim left [the] Ritz Hotel after their dinner at [-] Annabel's and walked home crossing Picadilly and heading through [-] Half Moon Street into [-] Mayfair. 2. [-] Easter Island in [the] Pacific Ocean was discovered in 1722. It is one of [the] most mysterious spots on [the] earth. 3. I flew to [the] UK on [the] Concorde. I had hardly had a chance to eat a snack, relax and read my book when we were landing at [-] Heathrow. 4. [the]
Gulf Stream is a warm ocean current which flows from the Gulf of Mexico, along the south-east coast of the United States, and north-eastwards in the Atlantic Ocean. 5. The waters of the Seine trembled in the hazy sunshine. 6. In the vicinity of the house were the Rodin Museum, the French Academy, and Hotel des Invalides, housing the tomb of Napoleon I. 7. George had planned a cruise to the Greek islands as a surprise for his family. They would be sailing around the Aegean Sea for about a fortnight. 8. The two young women had attended Sorbonne at the same time. Their fathers, as it turned out, had been at Oxford University. 9. The highest peak in North America is Mount McKinley. 10. Monterey Peninsula juts out into the Pacific Ocean halfway up California coast. 11. The travellers saw an oasis in the Gobi, but it was a mirage. 12. If you want to see Lake Victoria and Mount Kilimanjaro, go to Kenya. 13. There is a project to turn the Baikal area into the Russian Alps.

EX. 3. Insert the right article.

I. The hunters got lost in the Rocky Mountains. 2. Buckingham Palace, Trafalgar Square, the Houses of Parliament, the Tower of London, Tower Bridge, the National Gallery are the usual sights in the English capital. 3. The six island countries of the West Indies are Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti and Jamaica. 4. In the mornings she used to read "Vogue" and he usually read "Mirror". 5. Berlin she had been born in, and where she had grown up, no longer existed. 6. Low Countries include the Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxembourg. 7. The Colorado River flows through the Grand Canyon. 8. The names of the following streets have the definite article: the Mall, the Strand, Wall Street, Unter den Linden. 9. England of the 21st century will be very different from England of our days. 10. This producer got Nika for this film. 11. Chaucer would have had difficulty in recognizing the London of Queen Elizabeth, just as Shakespeare would have been lost in the brick-and-stone London of D.R. Johnson, while Dickens, well as he knew London, would have been bewildered by the steel and concrete London of today.

EX. 4. Insert the article if necessary.

1. teachers are like weather, one minute good, one minute bad. 2. Opening the fridge door, Jake took out the beer, opened it and drank cold beer from the bottle, enjoying it; beer always tasted better from the bottle. 3. She is on a diet, so she ordered calorie-free dinner. 4. Evidence of a happy marriage is when a husband and a wife obviously enjoy each other's company. 5. We'd like to have our wedding in fall, in early October, just as the foliage begins to turn yellow. 6. Emma's eyes rested on the memorandum again. Here was the opportunity she had been waiting for and she seized it. 7. red suits her;
Lesson 6

EX. 1. Insert the article if necessary.

1. The West Indies are in the Atlantic between - North America and - South America.
2. The Caucasus separate the Black Sea from the Caspian Sea.
3. Regent’s Park is the largest in Europe, it is still one of the most popular places of rest of Londoners on hot summer days.
4. London Underground is the oldest and longest in Europe.
5. Lake Erie is one of the five Great Lakes in North America.
6. Queen Elizabeth II is the Monarch of Great Britain.
7. The tiger is a big cat-like animal ranging in several races from India and the Malay Peninsula to Siberia.
8. The car stopped at the corner of Fifth Avenue.
9. He drank a Martini after dinner and, paying the bill, left the restaurant.
10. “But I happen to know most of the members of the Racquet Club,” he said.
11. — Well, I am connected with the Wellington – the new hotel on Broadway.
12. The Hague, a city in the Netherlands near the North Sea, is the seat of the Dutch government.
13. The travellers stared hard at the distant and blue masses of the Pyrenees.
14. The Philippines is an archipelago which consists of thousands of islands.
15. George will never be a Napoleon in any walk of life.
16. The Antarctic was first explored in the early 1880’s.
17. Sensation at the London airport! Attempt to smuggle 12 jewels worth three quarters of a million.
18. We asked John to speak about his experiences in the Antarctic.
19. Last night I found a gentleman waiting to see me when I returned home – a certain George Reed.
20. “Has the museum a Monet?” I asked.

EX. 2. Insert the article if necessary.

1. "Are you a bad sailor?" she asked. "About as bad as is possible in spite of having been at sea so much." 2. The parcel came by post. 3. On his trip round the world with Fleur he had often put his nose out and watched the dancing on deck. 4. He decided that he would not at present explain to her who he was. 5. I saw a good deal of him during the war. 6. He has taken her death very much to heart indeed. 7. She went by coach because it was cheaper. 8. All seemed perfectly at their ease, by no means in a hurry. 9. A little car in the question now stood outside the front door. 10. Am I dealing, young people, with the case of love at first sight? 11. We’ve had some tea already on board the yacht. 12. Kate was well aware that she had never taken the trouble to get to know Annette. 13. You will go to sea and forget all about me in a month. 14. He is beginning to lose heart, they say. 15. She burned like fire from head to foot. 16. I got into a
conversation with him by [-] chance at [a] concert.

EX. 3. Insert the article if necessary.

1. My Grandmother was [a] true original. Strong of character, she truly ruled our family with [an] iron hand. In [a] velvet glove, of course. 2. Maxim was at [the] centre of her thoughts. He was her world — [the]sun, [the] moon, [the] stars. He had ordered [-] chilled white wine; it was [-]young wine and it was [a] perfect choice. 4. It was [a] beautiful night, warm, balmy, gentle. [an] ink-black sky was sprinkled with [the] stars, and there was [a] hazy full moon. 5. "Harrow! That's [a] marvellous school! Winston Churchill, [the] Prime Minister of England, went to Harrow." 6. I'm looking for [a] Miss Rosie. I was told she was [a] barmaid here. 7. "Yes," she said in [a] soft whisper. "Why, you sound like [a] scared little church mouse." 8. [-] marmalade is usually made from [-] oranges. It is usually eaten for [-] breakfast with [-] toast. 9. [the] Royals" is [a] serial, which portraits [the] life of [the] members of [the] Royal Family in [the] United Kingdom. 10. It was [a] cold Saturday morning at [the] beginning of [the] month. [the] first snap of [-] frost was in [the] air, after [a] mild October of [-] Indian-summer weather. But nonetheless, it was [a] sparkling day, sunny, with [a] bright blue sky.

EX. 4. Insert the article if necessary

I. It had rained earlier in [the] day and as Maggie left [the] house, she lifted her eyes to [the] sky. [the] Sun was coming out again and quite suddenly [a] rainbow trembled up there above [the] trees, [a] perfect arc of pink and blue, violet, and yellow. Maggie thought it was [a] good omen. Her mother had been [the] most positive person she had ever known, [the] one who had always believed in [a] pot of [-] gold at [the] end of [a] rainbow, bluebirds bringing [-] happiness. Mom was [an] eternal optimist, she thought.

II. I lay in [the] bed, staring at [the] clock in [the] dim light of [the] room. I had awakened sooner than I usually did. Although I was [an] early riser, and always had been, I generally slept until six. Sliding out of [the] bed, I went to [the] window, opened [the] blind, and stood peering out. It was still dark, but soon it would be [-] dawn. I let myself drift with my thoughts and felt [a] rush of [-] tears. Blinking them away, I took [the] firm hold of myself and went to [the] bathroom. After pinning up my hair under [a] cap, I took [a] quick shower. [a] Few minutes later, as I toweled myself dry, I found myself glancing at [the] corner of [the] bathtub near [the] taps.