

Articles: Practice 1

Add articles (a/an, or the) as needed. In many cases, no article is needed.

1. Last summer, I visited _____ United Arab Emirates.
2. I never drink _____ tea for _____ breakfast.
3. _____ breakfast he served was inedible.
4. _____ capital of _____ Ontario is _____ Toronto.
5. _____ Hague is located in _____ Netherlands.
6. I debated whether to go to _____ university or to _____ college.
7. Tarragon is _____ herb widely used in French and Spanish cooking.
8. I have long wanted to visit _____ Himalayas.
9. That city is located near _____ Indian Ocean.
10. _____ Swiss are famous for their banks.
11. Would you rather live by _____ sea or in _____ mountains?
12. Although _____ English has many rules for article usage, there are just as many exceptions.
13. What is _____ reason for your being so late?
14. She has been _____ big help to me.
15. _____ author of this book is named Arundhati Roy.
16. _____ official language of Quebec is French.
17. Would you like _____ coffee or _____ tea?
18. _____ aardvark is an unusual animal.
19. _____ cost of living is dear.
20. How much is _____ kilo of rice?
21. In some countries, _____ dollar can still buy much.
22. Gold is _____ precious metal.
23. _____ gold sold in India is mainly 24 carat.
24. I'd like _____ glass of water.
25. _____ Senegalese speak French.
26. _____ French is a widely-spoken language.
27. _____ French are known for their pastries.
28. I need to reserve _____ room for the week.
29. _____ room I reserved last time was nice.

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These are the answers. Try to think of the rules/reasons to explain the answers. The first three are done for you.

1. Last summer, I visited *the* United Arab Emirates. (the United Arab Emirates is plural)
2. I never drink (*no article!*) tea for (*no article!*) breakfast. (We do not use indefinite articles with non-count nouns, or with meals, unless there is an adjective)
3. *The* breakfast he served was inedible. (This is a specific breakfast)
4. *The* capital of Ontario is Toronto.
5. *The* Hague is located in *the* Netherlands.
6. I debated whether to go to (*no article*) university or to go to (*no article*) college.
7. Tarragon is *a/an* herb widely used in French and Spanish cooking. (Two different pronunciations of herb, so depending on the pronunciation, the article is different)
8. I have long wanted to visit *the* Himalayas.
9. That city is located near *the* Indian Ocean.
10. *The* Swiss are famous for their banks.
11. Would you rather live by *the* sea or in *the* mountains?
12. Although (*no articles*) English has many rules for article usage, there are just as many exceptions.
13. What is *the* reason for your being so late?
14. She has been *a* big help to me.
15. *The* author of this book is named Arundhati Roy.
16. *The* official language of Quebec is French.
17. Would you like (*no article*) coffee or (*no article*) tea?
18. *The* aardvark is an unusual animal.
19. *The* cost of living is dear.
20. How much is *a* kilo of rice?
21. In some countries, *a* dollar can still buy much.
22. Gold is *a* precious metal.
23. *The* gold sold in India is mainly 24 carat.
24. I'd like *a* glass of water.
25. *The* Senegalese speak French.
26. (no article) French is a widely-spoken language.
27. *The* French are known for their pastries.
28. I need to reserve *a* room for the week.
29. *The* room I reserved last time was nice.