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English Note for grade -9

1. Define Article (the)

- The definite article is used before countable and uncountable nouns. It is used with such nouns if they are, definite or specifically known or identifiable. How do we know whether a noun is definite or not? A noun is definite.

A. If it is modified by a clause.

Examples

1. The girl whom Henock wants to marry is very beautiful.
 2. The dog that is lying on the grass is dangerous.
- B. Unique nouns like earth, sun, moon, world, equator, sky etc are already known, or definite. Therefore, the definite article is put before them.

Examples

- The earth
- The sun
- The equator
- The sky

C. When a noun is mentioned for the second time.

Examples

1. On my way to school, I met a student. The student was grade 8 last year.
2. In front of our school, there is a kiosk. The kiosk is full of goods.

D. When a noun is modified by a phrase.

Examples

1. The students in Abune Gorgorios Primary School are good at English.
2. The water in that bottle is pure.

E. The is used before superlative degree.

Examples

1. This is the best alternatives.
2. Abebe is the tallest boy in our class.

F. The is used with specific names of rivers, oceans, seas, canals, deserts, newspapers, ranges of mountains etc.

Examples

- The red sea

- The Blue Nile
- The Ethiopian Herald
- The Abay River
- The pacific ocean

G. The is also used before the names of some countries like

- The United States of America.
- The United Kingdom.
- The Yemen
- The Soviet union
- The middle East
- The Congo
- The Sudan

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Read the passage carefully

African Lakes

Class work

Page 110 3 Vocabulary (1-8)

- 2. Indefinite Articles (a/an)
- A and an are indefinite articles. These articles are used before singular countable nouns, not before uncountable nouns or plural nouns.

Examples

- a students (wrong)
- a student (correct)
- a drinking water (wrong)
- drinking water (correct)
- an eggs (wrong)
- an egg (correct)

Note -1: - A is used before a consonant sound.

Examples

- a horse
- a book
- a Ugandan culture
- a European girl
- a University student

Note -2: - An is used before a vowel sounds.

Examples

- an umbrella
- an elephant
- an hour

- an honest boy
- an apple
- an onion

Indefinite articles are used:-

A. To introduce a singular countable nouns for the first time.

Examples

1. There is a man outside. The man is her uncle.
2. Alemu has a book. The book is very costly.

B. To express rate, measure, speed etc. in this case, a/an means each.

Examples

1. He drives 70 kilometers an hour. (Meaning:- He drives 70 kilometers each hour)
2. We visit our parents twice a month. (Meaning:- We visit our parents twice each month.

C. Before the names of a profession

i.e. before teacher, doctor, carpenter, lecture, nurse etc.

Examples

1. His father is a teacher.
2. She is an engineer.
3. He is a carpenter.

Exercise

Supply a/an/the as required

1. Magarsa is _____ Ethiopian but his wife is _____ European.
2. Who was _____ first man to walk on _____ moon?
3. _____ earth rotates around _____ sun.
4. Ato Abate is a doctor but he wants his daughter to be _____ artist.
5. Mr. Henry is _____ European man. But he likes to eat 'doro wot'.
6. Do you know that _____ Blue Nile is the largest river in the world?
7. I trust him very much because he is _____ honest man.
8. _____ potato cost less than an apple.
9. _____ elephant is bigger than a buffalo.
10. There is a book on the table _____ book is yellow.

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Exercise

8. vocabulary (1-8)