

Articles (उपपद)

SSC CGL English Grammar / A, An, The - Complete Rules

1. Article kya hai?

Noun se pehle aane wale chhote words *a, an, the*. *A / An* = Indefinite article (koi ek). *The* = Definite article (khaas wala).

2. A ya An? - Sound dekho, spelling nahi!

Rule	Example
Vowel sound se pehle <i>an</i>	an apple, an hour (h silent), an honest man, an MBA, an hour, an umbrella, an X-ray
Consonant sound se pehle <i>a</i>	a university (yu-), a European, a one-rupee note (wun), a unit, a useful book, a uniform, a ewe

Exam Trap (SSC)

- *An hour, an honest, an heir, an honour* (h silent). *A hotel, a historic* (h bolte hain).
- *a university, a union, a uniform, a unique idea* (yu sound).
- *an MLA, an LLB, an SP, an FIR, an X-ray, an NGO* (pehla letter vowel sound se bolte hain: em, el, es, ef, en).
- *a one-eyed man, a once-in-a-lifetime* (w sound).

3. A / An kab lagta hai

- Ek singular countable noun ke saath (pehli baar mention): "I saw *a* dog."
- Profession/pehchaan: "He is *a* doctor."
- Rate/per ke matlab me: "Rs. 50 *a* kg", "twice *a* day".
- Kuch fixed phrases: *a few, a little, a lot of, a pair of, as a result, in a hurry, have a look, take a seat, make a noise, at a loss, all of a sudden, as a rule, a great many, a good deal.*
- Exclamation: "What *a* beautiful day!", "Such *a* nice boy!"
- Quite *a*, many *a*, half *a*, such *a*, rather *a*: "quite *a* good student".

4. THE kab lagta hai (Use of The)

The lagane ke rules

- Unique cheez: the sun, the moon, the earth, the sky, the world, the north.

- *Pehle mention ho chuka ho*: "I saw a dog. *The dog was big.*"
- *Superlative*: the best, the tallest. *Ordinal*: the first, the second.
- *Rivers, seas, oceans, gulfs, canals, mountain ranges, island groups*: the Ganga, the Pacific, the Himalayas, the Andamans, the Suez Canal, the Persian Gulf.
- *Historical events/documents, newspapers, holy books, ships, trains, planes*: the Constitution, the Hindu, the Gita, the Titanic, the Rajdhani, the French Revolution.
- *Musical instruments*: play the guitar (*games ke saath nahi*: play cricket).
- *Adjective + group*: the rich, the poor, the old, the young, the brave.
- *Direction/Singular noun पूरी जाती के लिये*: "The cow is a useful animal."
- *Same/only/very/whole से पहले*: the same, the only, the very man.
- *Dates*: the 15th of August. *Decades*: in the 1990s.

5. Article KAB NAHI lagta (Omission)

Case	Example
Proper noun (नाम)	Ram, Delhi, India (but: the Netherlands, the USA, the UK - plural/union)
Languages, subjects	English, Hindi, Mathematics, Physics
Games, colours, meals	cricket, red, breakfast, lunch, dinner
Uncountable/abstract general	Honesty is the best policy. Water is life.
Single mountain/lake/continent	Mount Everest, Lake Chilika, Asia, Africa
Relation: father, mother, uncle, aunt	"Mother is calling" (ghar में). Plural/adjective के साथ the.
Institutions अपने purpose के लिये	go to school (पढ़ने), go to bed, go to hospital (ill), in jail, in prison, at college, go to church/market/temple

Exam Trap (SSC)

- *Go to school (पढ़ने)* vs *go to the school (kisi kaam से, building पर)*. "The teacher went to the school to meet the principal."
- *In bed (सोने के लिये)* vs *on the bed (bed पर कुछ)*.
- *Man vs the man*: "Man is mortal" (पूरी insaan जाती). "The man is mortal" (koi ek khaas).
- *The dono nouns के साथ*: "The doctor and the lawyer" (do alag log) vs "The doctor and lawyer" (ek hi insaan dono).

- Repeat article: "a black and white cat" (ek hi billi), "a black and a white cat" (do billiyan).
- Superlative ke saath **the** zaroori, par possessive ke saath nahi: "my best friend" (the my [WRONG]).

Trick / Yaad rakhne ka tareeka

- Spelling nahi, **SOUND** dekho (a/an).
- Nadi-samudra-pahad ki shrinkhla-dweep-samooh = **THE**.
- Naam, bhasha, khel, bhojan, rang = no article.

Q. "___ European" ke liye a ya an?

Ans. A European - pehle sound "yu" hai (consonant sound).

Q. "He is ___ honest man": a/an?

Ans. An honest man - "h" silent hai, vowel sound se shuru.

— Teacher: Abhishek Sir / Practice: is topic ke 100 MCQs ka CSV zaroor solve karo.