

Rajasthan RVUNL

English

Important Formulae Notes



ENGLISH (FORMULA NOTES)

ARTICLE

A/An:

A/An is used for singular countable nouns which are introduced for the first time, .i.e., they are indefinite.

(A) **An** is used only before the letters producing vowel sounds, i.e., the sounds produced while speaking the vowels '**a, e, i, o, u**'. e.g. *An honest woman.*

(B) If the word starts with a consonant sound, article '**A**' is used. e.g. **A one rupee note.**

Note: You need to take care the pronunciation in case of an abbreviation as well.

Where are these articles used?

1. An article comes before a noun. E.g. **Mr. Sharma is a cook.** (Here, "cook" is a noun, and the presence of which allows an article to come before it)
2. An article comes before an adjective, if an adjective modifies the noun. E.g. **Mr. Sharma is an excellent cook.** (Here, "excellent" is an adjective and "cook" is a noun)
3. An article comes before an adverb, if an adverb qualifies an adjective qualifying a noun. E.g. **Mr. Sharma is a very good cook.** (Here, "very" is an adverb, "good" is an adjective and "cook" is a noun)

The:

The is known as **definite article** because it is used before **definite nouns** towards which someone can 'point out'. Thus, **definite nouns** are the nouns that we can 'visualize' or that has 'already been introduced'. Hence, "The" is called as **definite article**.

E.g. *Once upon a time, there lived **an old woman**. **The old woman** was very generous. One day, she decided to meet **a hermit**. **The hermit** was very poor.*

In the first sentence given above, '**an old woman**' is introduced. Thus, article '**a**' preceded '**old woman**'. In the very next sentence, '**old woman**' has become familiar to us, thus, article '**The**' came before it. In the third sentence, the next person, .i.e., '**a hermit**' has been introduced. In the last sentence, again, the person became familiar to us, thus, '**The hermit**' has been used in the sentence.

ARTICLES DON'T COME WITH:

Names of **months**: July, August etc., Names of **days**: Sunday, Monday etc., Names of **subjects**: Physics, Maths etc., Names of **roads**: Mall Road, G.T Road etc., Names of **meals**: Breakfast, Lunch etc., Names of **languages**: Marathi, Assamese etc., Names of **hobbies**: Dancing, Painting etc., Names of **games**: Hockey, Cricket etc., Before **noun complement**: Appoint, Make, Elect, Select. (E.g. **They elected him chairman**), '**The**' is not used before '**Heaven**', '**Hell**', '**God**' and '**Parliament**'. (E.g. *Go to hell, God resides in heaven, etc.*)

Difference between A/An & One

Basis of Difference	A/An	One
Definition	These are articles .	This is an adjective .
In the sense of 'per'	' A ' is used in the sense of ' per ' as in ' per day ', ' per week ', ' per kg ' etc. E.g. <i>Ten rupees a kilo, sixty kilometers an hour.</i>	We can't use ' one ' in the sense of ' per '.
When used with a noun	A cow is a useful animal.	One apple is not enough for our family to eat. We need two or more as the consumption is huge.
With another/ other	Article ' A ' can't be used with another/ other.	One student wants to go out, another wants to stay in the class.
With day/week/month/year /summer/winter etc.	-	One comes before day/week/month/year/summer/winter etc., when we are referring to an incident on that particular day/week etc. E.g. <i>One night, there was a terrible storm.</i>
In case of a particular day	-	Use of ' one ' does not point to any particular day. E.g. <i>One day you will come back to me.</i>
As a pronoun	-	' One ' can be used as A/An pronoun too. E.g. <i>Did you get any basket? Yes, I have got one.</i> Note: Plural of 'one' is 'some'.
To avoid repetition	-	To avoid repetition of a noun, we use ' one ' as a pronoun. E.g. <i>This book is better than that one.</i>

Parts of Speech

Based on the purpose for which they are used, words are divided into eight different categories, namely, Nouns, Pronouns, Adjectives, Verbs, Adverbs, Prepositions, Conjunctions, Interjections.

- Noun-** A noun is a part of speech that identifies a person, place, thing, or idea.
E.G. **Rama** reached the **airport** on **time**.
- Pronoun-** Pronouns are words that are used in place of nouns (people, places, or things) to avoid sounding unnatural by reusing the same noun in a sentence multiple times.
E.G. Zoya saw Venkat and ran towards **him**.

Here, the pronoun 'him' takes the place of Venkat. The other examples of pronouns are I, you, she, her, it, everyone, somebody, your, hers, theirs, etc.

3. **Adjective**- Words that qualify or modify a noun is called an adjective.
E. G. The ingredient has a **strong** smell.
4. **Verb**- Verbs are used to signify the actions, processes, conditions, or states of being of people or things.
E.G. We **went** out for dinner.
5. **Adverb**- An adverb is a word used to modify a verb, an adjective, another adverb or an entire clause.
E. G. He spoke **foolishly** at the party.
6. **Preposition**-A preposition is a word placed before a noun or a pronoun to indicate some relation between the noun or pronoun and some other word. Some common prepositions are in, on, for, to, of, with, and about, etc.

Conjunction- Conjunctions are joining words. They are used to link words and phrases to one another, one clause to another clause, or one sentence to another sentence.

E.G. The food was nutritious **and** appetizing.

Degrees of Comparison

Degrees of Comparison are used when we compare one person or one thing with another.

In English, there are three degrees of comparison:

- 1) The Positive Degree. (This offers no comparison.)
E.g. rich, pretty, handsome, good.
- 2) The Comparative Degree (This shows the greater or lesser degree.)
E.g. richer, prettier, more handsome, better.
- 3) The Superlative Degree (This shows the greatest or least degree.)
E.g. richest, prettiest, most handsome, best.

IDIOMS & PHRASES

1. **(an) eye wash** (a pretence)- My friend's promise to help me just proved **an eye wash**.
2. **A culture vulture** : someone who is very keen to experience art and literature.
3. **A death below**: An action or event which causes something to end of fail
4. **A double entendre** (a word which has two meanings)
5. **A match made in heaven**: A marriage that is likely to be successful and happy.
6. **Above all** (before everything else)- **Above all**, he is blunt and dare devil.
7. **Above board** (honest and straightforward)- He is known for his above **board conduct**.
8. **Achilles' heel** (weak point) Everyone has his **Achilles' heel**
9. **Add fuel to the flame or fire** (to make matter worse)- The attempt to suppress the agitation of the strikers only **added fuel to the flame**.
10. **After one's own heart** (to one's liking)- When Deepa met a man she went **after her own heart**, she got married to him.
11. **All in all** (most important)- as he was the only son in a big family, he was **all in all** in his home.

12. **An apple of discord** (cause of quarrel)- Ancestral property is **an apple of discord** between two sisters.
13. **Apple-pie order** (in perfect order)- On the eve of inspection everything was kept in **apple-pie order**.
14. **Argus eyed** (careful, observant)- as a politician, He is **Argus Eyed** and never overlook even a small matter.
15. **As fit as a fiddle** (strong and healthy)- He has recovered from illness and now he is **as fit as a fiddle**.
16. **Assumer airs** (to pretend superiority)- The rich are in the habit of **assuming airs** in the presence of their poor relations.
17. **At a loose end** (unoccupied, idle)- Now a days he is **at a loose end** because he has wound up his business.
18. **At a loss** (to be unable to decide)- I am **at a loss** to know what to do.
19. **At a stone's throw** (very close)- My friend's house is **at a stone's throw** from mine.
20. **At close quarters** (close examinations)- Many of my friends proved selfish **at close quarters**.
21. **At cross purposes** (have conflicting intentions)- How can there be peace in their family when husbands and wife are **at cross purposes**.
22. **At dagger's drawn** (to have bitter enmity)- The quarrel between the two brothers has grown more bitter now and they are **at dagger's drawn**.
23. **At large** (abscond, to keep unchained)- People keep their dogs **at large** at night .
24. **At logger heads** (to be at strife)- The partners of our firm are **at logger heads** these days.
25. **At odds** (in dispute)- The members of the group were **at odds** over the selection procedure.

ACTIVE/PASSIVE VOICE

What is voice?

The voice of a verb indicates whether the subject of the sentence performs or receives the action.

For Example:

- 1) Rohit hits the ball.
- 2) Food is being prepared by the chefs.

There are two types of voice:

Active voice: In active voice, the subject performs the action. Eg: She writes a letter.

Passive voice: In passive voice, the subject receives the action. Eg: A letter is written by her.

Why do we need a sentence in passive voice

Generally, we prefer to deliver a speech in active voice where the doer of an action is important to mention. However, there are situations when it is not important to mention the doer. The passive voice

is used in following situations:

1. When the doer or agent (the person who performs the action) is unknown, unimportant or obvious from the context.

For example:

- I. Five people were killed in the sentence.
- II. The school was built in 1957.

2. To make formal statements.

For example:

The email has not been received.

3. When the action is more important than the agent, as in processes, instructions, events, reports, headlines, news items, and advertisements.

For example:

Ministers from various states have been invited in the conference.
