

Using 'a' or 'an'

Warm-Up



Consonant or Vowel?

Sort the letters of the alphabet into two groups: **consonants** and **vowels**.

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n
o p q r s t u v w x y z

Consonants

Vowels

Consonant or Vowel?

Sort the letters of the alphabet into two groups: **consonants** and **vowels**.

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n
o p q r s t u v w x y z

Consonants

b c d f g h j k l m
n p q r s t v w x y z

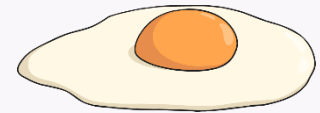
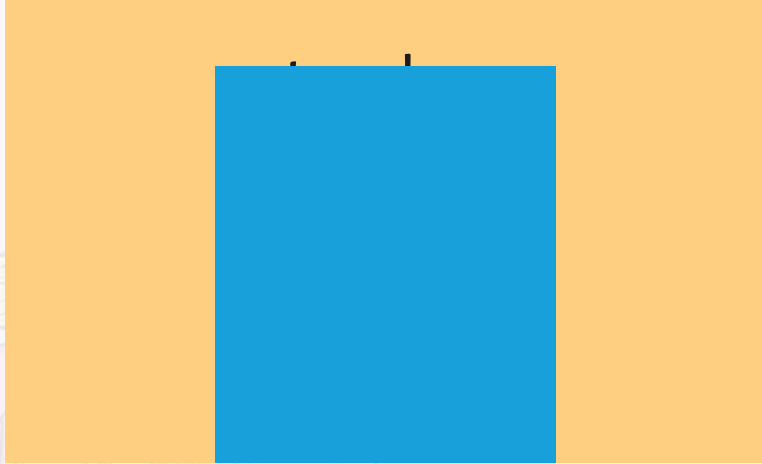
Vowels

a e i o u

Sort the Words!

Words starting with a consonant

Words starting with a vowel



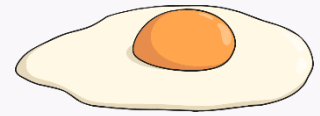
Sort the Words!

Words starting with a consonant

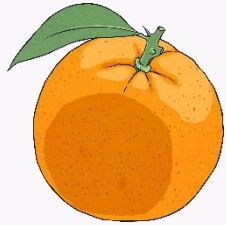
teacher
jumper
laptop
book
yoghurt

Words starting with a vowel

egg
apple
otter
umbrella
icicle



'a' or 'an'?



an orange



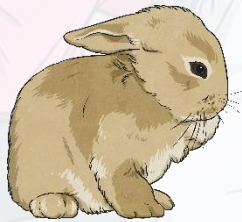
a house



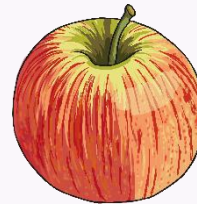
a pencil



an envelope



a rabbit



an apple

Usually, we put 'a' before words that start with a **consonant** and 'an' before words that start with a **vowel**.

'a' or 'an'?

Try these sentences – should it be 'a' or 'an'?

Tomorrow, I am going to ____ party.



Humpty Dumpty was ____ egg.



I always have ____ umbrella in my bag in case it rains.



The dog was on ____ lead.



You can make ____ house out of snow, which is called ____ igloo.



'a' or 'an'?

Try these sentences – should it be 'a' or 'an'?

Tomorrow, I am going to a party.



Humpty Dumpty was an egg.



I always have an umbrella in my bag in case it rains.



The dog was on a lead.

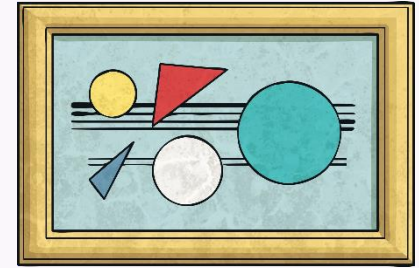


You can make a house out of snow, which is called an igloo.



'a' or 'an'?

Which sounds correct?



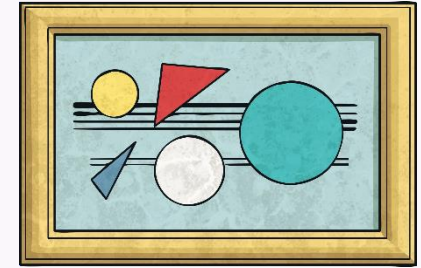
It was **a unique** painting.

It was **an unique** painting.



'a' or 'an'?

Which sounds correct?



It was **a unique** painting.

It was **an unique** painting.

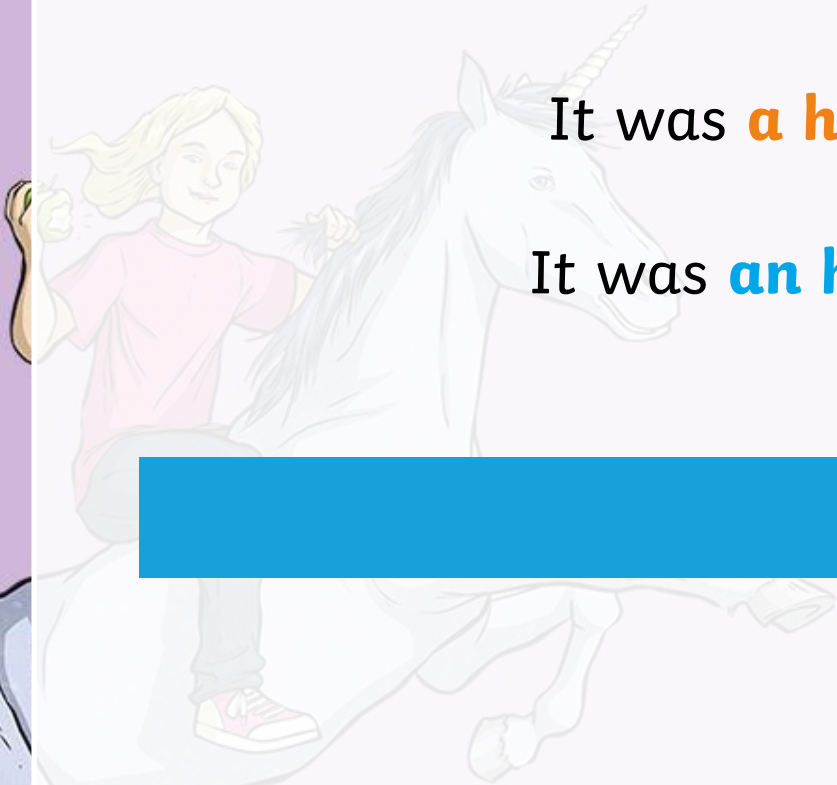
Although '**unique**' starts with a vowel, the letter '**u**' makes the '**y**' **sound**, so '**a**' is used instead of '**an**'.

'a' or 'an'?

Which sounds correct?

It was **a honest** mistake.

It was **an honest** mistake.



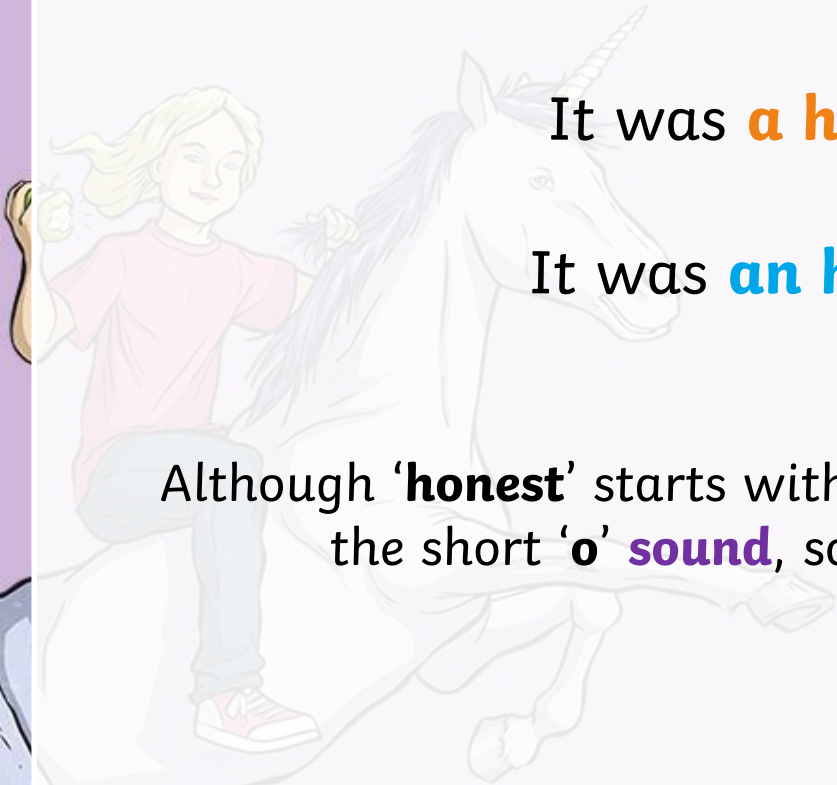
'a' or 'an'?

Which sounds correct?

It was **a honest** mistake.

It was **an honest** mistake.

Although **'honest'** starts with a consonant, the letter **'h'** makes the short **'o' sound**, so **'an'** is used instead of **'a'**.

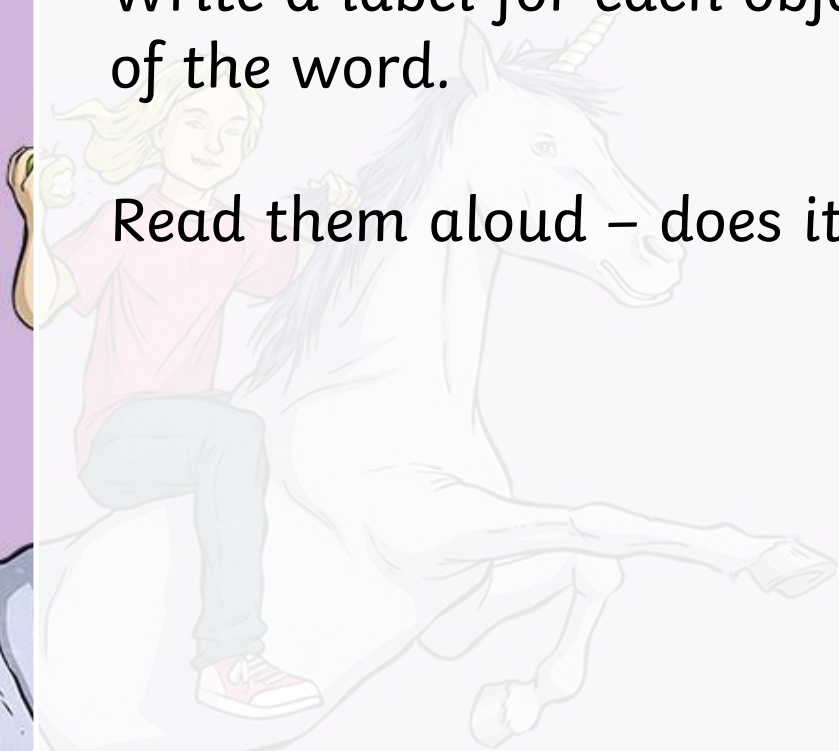


'a' or 'an' Hunt

Collect five objects from your home.

Write a label for each object adding 'a' or 'an' in front of the word.

Read them aloud – does it sound right?



The, the Definite Article

What is different about these examples?

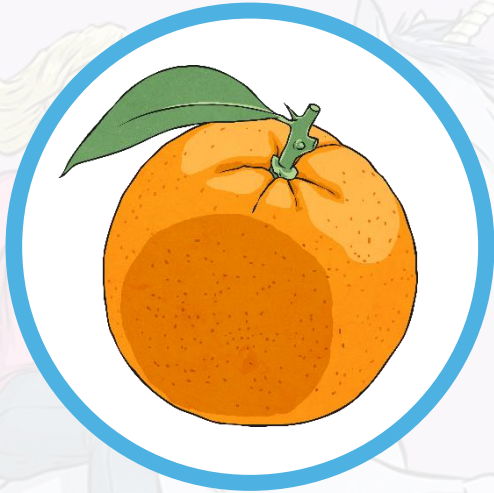
A brown elephant standing and facing right. The text "The enormous elephant" is written in bold black font over the elephant.

We use 'the', the definite article, to show people what we are talking about **specifically**.

The, the Definite Article

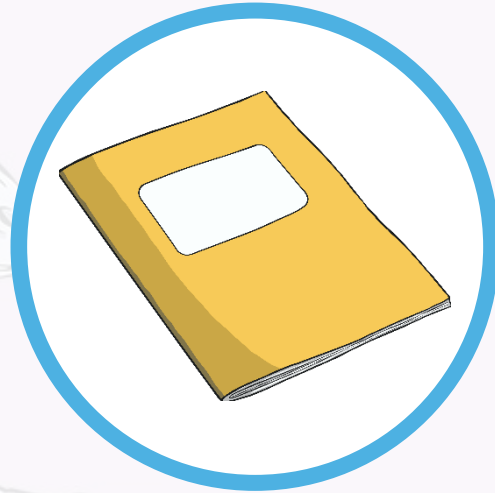
See how adding 'the' changes these examples...

an orange



the orange

A book



the book

a teacher



the teacher

What do we know about using 'a' or 'an'?

- We use 'a' when the next word starts with a **consonant sound**.
- We use 'an' when the next word starts with a **vowel sound**.
- Say it aloud - does it sound right?

It was **a** unique painting of **an** honest girl riding **a** unicorn while eating **an** apple.

