

Using “the” “a” or “an”

We use “the” when there is only one of something.

What is the longest river in the world?

The earth goes around the sun.

I am leaving at the end of August.

Austin is the capital of Texas.

We use “a” or “an” to say what kind of thing something is.

The sun is a star.

The hotel is a nice one.

We say “the sky”, “the sea”, “the ground”, “the country”

Look at all the stars in the sky.

He lives in the country.

There are many fish in the sea.

But we say “space” not “the space” if we mean space in the universe.

There are many planets in space.

We use “the space” if we mean a spot.

I found a space to park my car.

We say:

I listened to the radio.

I watched TV. (not the TV)

We don't usually use “the” with the names of meals.

I ate breakfast. (not the breakfast)

We ate dinner.

Practice:

Put “a”, “an” or “the” in the blank. Leave it blank if it does not need anything added.

1. Did you have _____ lunch?
2. We went to _____ restaurant.
3. Did you have _____ holiday on Friday?
4. It was _____ nice holiday.
5. Where is _____ closest store?
6. There is one on _____ corner.
7. Do you listen to _____ radio?
8. Do you watch _____ TV?
9. I would like to travel in _____ space.
10. I would like to go to _____ moon.
11. I watch movies on _____ television.
12. You stayed at _____ good hotel.
13. I looked at _____ sky.
14. I had _____ breakfast at 8 AM.
15. What is _____ capital of France?

More Verb Practice

1. I always forget his telephone number. Jamal _____ to call his mother. He has _____ to call her before.
2. Presidents choose their vice-presidents. The president _____ Joe Biden. He has _____ a good man.
3. I know his family. I _____ his family when I lived in China. I have _____ his family for years.
4. Tom flies to Paris every week. Tom _____ to Paris last week. He has _____ to Paris many times.
5. My aunt comes to our house for holidays. She _____ last month. She has _____ every year.
6. I go to English classes on Thursday. I _____ last Thursday. I have _____ to class all year.
7. Mother is a teacher. She _____ a teacher before. She has _____ a teacher for ten years.
8. I see some ducks. We _____ some ducks yesterday. I have _____ ducks many times.
9. My brother runs races. He _____ a race yesterday. He has _____ many races.
10. They learn English at school. The children _____ their lessons. They have _____ many things at their school.

Correct the errors in these sentences.

1. We flew to Chicago on Tuesday. _____
2. Joe chosen his friends well. _____
3. Did you forgot my number? _____
4. I have knew him a long time. _____
5. She has came here every holiday. _____
6. I seed some people in the street. _____
7. I have went there many times. _____
8. The children have learn English. _____
9. Jan has be here all night. _____
10. He has ran to the store. _____