

FUMC ESL 1-31-2022 High Beginning and Low Intermediate Lesson

**Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. Would you prefer to live on the ground floor or on the upper floors of an apartment? Why?**

**Pronunciation:**

1-S and C can both make the SSSS sound. EX: sell-cell, cent - sent. In the word "distance" both the S and the C have the same sound. "Muscle" has an S and a C, both pronounced like S. There is another word, "mussel" which is a type of mollusk. It is spelled differently than "muscle" but is pronounced exactly the same.

2-Sometimes S sounds like Z. EX: Let's sew something.

The S in **let's** sounds like a Z. The S in **sew** and **something**, sounds like S.

3-SH has a different sound. EX: show, shower, shame, bush, rush,

**Tell whether the S in these words has an S sound or a Z sound:**

busy	bus	watches	silly	coughs	season (two different sounds)
easy	surprise (two different sounds)	present	horse	horses (two different sounds)	bees
please	says (two different sounds)	snake	kiss	socks	bells

**SAY:**

1. Sixteen ships were loaded with sixty sheep and shipped to Shanghai. But sadly, the ships sank.
2. Some silly zebras sat in Sam's seat.
3. Six sneaky snakes hiss in the bushes.
4. Sally sells seashells by the seashore.
5. Silly Suzy sends us shoes every Sunday.
6. Six socks sit in the sink soaking in the soapsuds.
7. Sandy saw seven seals swimming in the sea.
8. The sign on the shop said, "Save your sacks".

**Read this Poem:**

The stinky skunk sat on the stump.  
The stump thought the skunk stunk.  
The skunk thought the stump stunk.  
What a sticky situation!

*Note: A sticky situation is a difficult one. For example, you must catch the bus to get to work, but you forgot your wallet and have no money. You will need to ask someone to loan you the money or convince the driver to let you ride for free.*

## Using A, An, and The

Vowels: A E I O U. All other letters are consonants. We use "a" before a word that begins with a consonant: a dog, a person, a box. We use "an" before a word that begins with a vowel: an apple, an egg, an idea.

### Exceptions:

We also use "an" before "hour" because the H is silent. Example: I walked for an hour. The bus ride is an hour long.

We use "a" before "university". EX: There is a university in Austin.

We use "a" before "European" EX: He is a European. He lives in Germany.

We use "a" when we mean one of many. Example: It is hot in here. Please open a window. If there is only one window, we say, "Open the window."

We use "the" when we mean a certain thing. Example: I need to go to **a** post office. (Any post office will do. You don't need a specific post office). I need to go to **the** post office. (There is only one post office OR you want to go to a specific post office. EX: I need to go to **the** post office downtown because it stays open late.)

A COUNT noun is one that has a plural form. Example: one box, two boxes, one chair, two chairs.

A NON COUNT noun is one that does NOT have a plural form. Example: water, salt, money  
We don't say two waters, two salts, two monies.

Singular count nouns need "a" or "an"

Example: We need a key to open the door. NOT: We need key to open the door.

Non count nouns do not need "a" or "an".

Example: There is water on the floor. NOT: There is a water on the floor.

We can use "the" with count or non count nouns. EX: Where is **the** water? **The** pools are open.

*Note: Coffee is a non count noun. It does not have a plural form. However, some people will say, "I want two coffees and a tea." This is incorrect, but common slang. What they mean is, "I want two cups of coffee and a cup of tea."*

### Write "a", "an", or "the" in the blank.

1. Rosa works in \_\_\_\_\_ bank in Austin. (There are many banks in Austin.)
2. I don't have \_\_\_\_\_ computer. I want to buy one. \_\_\_\_\_ one I want is very expensive.
3. I can't find \_\_\_\_\_ keys to the car. Have you seen them?
4. There is \_\_\_\_\_ interesting program on TV.
5. I will buy \_\_\_\_\_ ring for her. (There are many rings.)
6. The bus takes \_\_\_\_\_ hour to get here.
7. He goes to \_\_\_\_\_ University of Texas.
8. Which woman is your wife? \_\_\_\_\_ tall woman in the blue dress is my wife.
9. He goes to \_\_\_\_\_ high school in Austin. (There are many high schools.)

10. Houston is \_\_\_\_\_ city in Texas.
11. A mouse is \_\_\_\_\_ animal with four legs.
12. Jo is \_\_\_\_\_ nice girl.
13. He is \_\_\_\_\_ doctor that did my surgery.
14. That's Mrs. Young. She is \_\_\_\_\_ teacher for this class.
15. I left \_\_\_\_\_ baby with my mother.
16. There was \_\_\_\_\_ dog in my yard this morning.
17. He bought \_\_\_\_\_ most expensive ring he could find.
18. May I ask you \_\_\_\_\_ question?
19. I hope I get \_\_\_\_\_ letter from home this week.
20. We live in \_\_\_\_\_ old house.
21. Should I buy \_\_\_\_\_ candy bar for Jack? He loves all kinds of candy.
22. Do you like \_\_\_\_\_ jacket that has gold buttons, or \_\_\_\_\_ one with snaps?
23. Lisa is \_\_\_\_\_ youngest student in the class.
24. Does this house have \_\_\_\_\_ garage? Yes, \_\_\_\_\_ garage is in \_\_\_\_\_ back of the house.
25. All of \_\_\_\_\_ planes are delayed.
26. Paris is \_\_\_\_\_ capital of France.
27. Is this \_\_\_\_\_ chair you chose?
28. Can you please help me set up \_\_\_\_\_ chairs?
29. Is this \_\_\_\_\_ bus we should take?
30. Can you loan me \_\_\_\_\_ pencil, please?

**Read these sentences. Put "a" or "an" in the blank if the noun is a count noun. If it is a non count noun, leave it blank. A or An or Blank are your only choices. Do not put THE in the blank.**

1. I bought \_\_\_\_\_ bread.
2. They have \_\_\_\_\_ nice furniture.
3. Please cook \_\_\_\_\_ egg for me.
4. He has \_\_\_\_\_ son named Bill.
5. I need \_\_\_\_\_ information about ESL classes.
6. Sylvia has \_\_\_\_\_ long hair.
7. Can I ask you \_\_\_\_\_ question?
8. There is \_\_\_\_\_ trash in the yard.
9. The cook put \_\_\_\_\_ salt on the chicken.
10. We have \_\_\_\_\_ milk in the refrigerator.
11. Kate eats \_\_\_\_\_ apple every day.
12. Bob likes \_\_\_\_\_ cheese on his sandwich.
13. I don't like coffee without \_\_\_\_\_ milk.
14. I wear \_\_\_\_\_ hat when it is raining.
15. I don't have \_\_\_\_\_ umbrella.
16. I poured \_\_\_\_\_ water into the pitcher.
17. I added \_\_\_\_\_ ice to the water.
18. Everybody needs \_\_\_\_\_ food.

19. Jim bought Mother \_\_\_\_\_ jewelry.
20. Jim bought Mother \_\_\_\_\_ ring.
21. There is \_\_\_\_\_ mail in the box.
22. I hate \_\_\_\_\_ traffic.
23. I listen to \_\_\_\_\_ music every day.
24. I don't have \_\_\_\_\_ watch.
25. I don't have \_\_\_\_\_ time.
26. We need \_\_\_\_\_ chair for the speaker.

**Practice your English answering these questions:**

1. What is something you wish you had learned in school?
2. Where do you dream of going?
3. Have you ever had a bad experience with a neighbor?
4. Would you prefer to live downtown in a busy city, or do you prefer a quiet neighborhood outside the city?