

Indefinite articles in English

Consider the following examples:

1. It's **a** bag.
2. It's **an** umbrella.
3. They're bags.
4. They're umbrellas.

It's	a	bag
	an	umbrella
They're	/	bags
	/	umbrellas

Rule:

- We use **a/an** with singular nouns.
- We don't use the indefinite articles (**a/an**) with plural nouns.
- We use (**a**) with nouns starting with a consonant.
- We use (**an**) with nouns starting with a vowel (**a, o, u, i, e**).
- We use (**a**) with words starting with **u** when u= /ju:/ like in **a university**.

Practice:

a. Complete with **an/a**. Write the plural.

- ... photo ⇒
- ... city ⇒
- ... email ⇒
- ... person ⇒
- ... box ⇒
- ... woman ⇒
- ... diary ⇒
- ... dictionary ⇒
- ... desk ⇒

b. Write sentences with **it's** or **they're**. Add (**a**) or (**an**) when necessary.

- **pen** ⇒ **it's a** magical pen.
- buses ⇒
- Children ⇒
- purse ⇒
- men ⇒
- umbrella ⇒
- sunglasses ⇒
- uniform ⇒