

D. Montalto
Using *a* and *the*

Name _____

Write *a* or *the* in the blank spaces. Use *a* for non-specific, singular, countable nouns. Use *the* for specific, singular, countable nouns. For example:

I need a new car. I want to buy the red car over there.

1. Where is my coffee? It is on _____ table in _____ kitchen.
2. Where can I mail _____ letter?
3. _____ letter from my father is on my desk.
4. Can you get me _____ chair?
5. Can you get me _____ green chair over there?
6. I need to see _____ doctor.
7. Can I see Dr. Smith? Yes, _____ doctor will see you in a few minutes.
8. Every student needs _____ dictionary.
9. Can you hand me _____ dictionary on my desk?
10. Show me _____ car that you like.
11. _____ beautiful woman can always find _____ good husband.
12. _____ woman in my office is my friend.
13. _____ teacher for this class is very interesting.
14. What is your job? Are you _____ mechanic or _____ truck driver?
15. Where do you live? I live in _____ big house.
16. Where do you live? I live in _____ big house on the corner.
17. When does _____ bus come? It comes at 10 o'clock every day.
18. Maria is _____ baby in our family.
19. _____ stove in our house is broken.
20. We need to buy _____ new stove.
21. _____ school on Main Street is very old.

Use *the* with specific, plural or uncountable nouns. Do not use *the* with general plural or uncountable nouns. For example:

Monkeys are very intelligent.
The monkeys in this zoo are very intelligent.

Life is difficult.
The life of a single parent is very difficult.

People are funny.
The people in my family are funny.

Write *the* or leave the space blank.

1. _____ money is necessary for _____ life.
2. Somebody took _____ money in my house.
3. Please give me _____ money I need for the rent.
4. _____ transportation is a big business.
5. _____ transportation of food during war is always a problem.
6. I like _____ Mexican food.
7. I like _____ Mexican food in this restaurant.
8. We need _____ water to live.
9. _____ water in this city is dirty.
10. _____ intelligence of people is difficult to measure.
11. _____ intelligence is difficult to measure.
12. Give me _____ liberty or give me _____ death.
13. The most important thing in _____ life is _____ health.
14. _____ technology of computers is changing the world.
15. We all need to learn about _____ technology.
16. Where there are _____ drugs, there is _____ crime.
17. _____ prostitution in this city is not a serious problem.
18. I enjoy playing _____ baseball.
19. _____ vegetables are good for your health.
20. _____ vegetables in this store are always fresh.

Using *the* with Proper Names

D. Montalto

Name _____

Some proper names use the word *the*, but other proper names do not use the word *the*. Look at p. 29 in the grammar pamphlet for examples when you do this exercise.

Write *the* or leave the space blank.

1. We live in _____ North America.
2. _____ United States is a rich country.
3. _____ England is a monarchy.
4. It is about 3,000 miles from _____ New York to _____ Los Angeles.
5. My sister lives on _____ Main Street.
6. The Immigration Office is in _____ Rand Building.
7. I like to buy clothes at _____ WalMart.
8. Do you go to _____ Columbia University or to _____ University of Moscow?
9. My wife and I are staying at _____ Sheraton Hotel.
10. Let's have a picnic in _____ Delaware Park.
11. _____ Niagara River flows from _____ Lake Erie to _____ Lake Ontario.
12. _____ Panama Canal connects _____ Atlantic and _____ Pacific Oceans.
13. We are going to visit my family on _____ New Year's Day.
14. Are you coming in _____ February or later in _____ spring?
15. _____ Maria is my friend.
16. _____ Doctor Smith will see you now.
17. Many people died during _____ Civil War.
18. My grandfather fought in _____ World War I.
19. Climbing _____ Mount Everest is very dangerous.
20. _____ Caribbean Islands include many countries like _____ Cuba, _____ Puerto Rico, _____ Haiti and _____ Dominican Republic.