



Answers

1. a) the
2. b) the
3. c) the
4. d) the
5. a) the
6. b) a
7. c) the
8. d) —
9. a) a
10. b) the
11. c) the
12. d) the
13. a) the
14. b) the
15. c) a
16. d) the
17. a) the
18. b) —
19. c) the
20. d) the



Explanations

1. “the” (a)

We use 'the' when we mention something for the second time. The shirt was already introduced with 'a shirt'.

2. “the” (b)

We use 'the' for things that are unique — there is only one sun.

3. “the” (c)

We always use 'the' with superlative adjectives. 'The highest' means there is only one at the top.

4. “the” (d)

We use 'the' when both the speaker and listener know which thing is meant. Here, there is one obvious door.

5. “the” (a)

We always use 'the' with ordinal numbers (first, second, third, etc.).

6. “a” (b)

We use 'a' (not 'the') for job titles after 'be'. 'She is a doctor' describes her job in general, not a specific doctor.

7. “the” (c)

We use 'the' with superlative adjectives. 'The best' means no one else is better.

8. “—” (d)

We don't use 'the' with uncountable nouns in general statements. 'Classical music' here means classical music in general, not specific music.

9. “a” (a)

We use 'a' (not 'the') when mentioning something for the first time. The listener doesn't know which cat yet.

10. “the” (b)

We always use 'the' with 'same'. It's always 'the same', never 'a same'.

11. “the” (c)

We use 'the' with 'only' because it means there is just one — making it unique.

12. “the” (d)

We use 'the' + adjective to talk about a group of people. 'The rich' means 'rich people in general'.

13. “the” (a)

We use 'the' because each country has only one capital — it is unique.

14. “the” (b)

We use 'the' when referring to something connected to a previously mentioned noun. 'The food' refers to the food at that specific restaurant.

15. “a” (c)

We use 'a' (not 'the') when mentioning something for the first time. The listener doesn't know which bag.

16. “the” (d)

We use 'the' when both people can see the object. Here, the salt is on the table and both people know which salt is meant.

17. “the” (a)

We use 'the' for unique things — there is only one Earth.

18. “—” (b)

We don't use 'the' with abstract uncountable nouns in general statements. 'Nature' here means the natural world in general.

19. “the” (c)

We always use 'the' with 'same'. 'The same air' means the identical air.

20. “the” (d)

We use 'the' + adjective to talk about a group of people. 'The elderly' means 'elderly people in general'.