



Answers

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



Explanations

1. “the” (a)

We use 'the' because the speaker is asking about a specific way — the way to a specific station.

2. “an” (b)

We use 'an' because 'only' starts with a vowel sound /əʊ/. 'An only child' means someone with no siblings.

3. “—” (c)

We don't use an article with abstract uncountable nouns when talking about them in general. 'Happiness' here means the concept of happiness.

4. “a” (d)

We use 'a' because 'useful' starts with the consonant sound /ju:/. Despite starting with a vowel letter, it sounds like a consonant.

5. “the” (a)

We use 'the' + nationality adjective to refer to the people of a country as a group: the French, the Chinese, the Spanish.

6. “—” (b)

We don't use an article with uncountable nouns used in a general sense. 'Experience' here means general knowledge gained over time.

7. “an” (c)

We use 'an' because 'expensive' starts with a vowel sound /ɪ/. It's introduced for the first time, so we use the indefinite article.

8. “a” (d)

We use 'a' because the person is looking for any job in marketing, not a specific one.

9. “a” (a)

We say 'have a great/good/wonderful time'. This is a fixed expression with 'a'.

10. “the” (b)

We use 'the' before musical instruments: play the violin, the piano, the drums.

11. “—” (c)

We don't use an article with uncountable nouns when talking about them in general. 'Meat' here means meat as a food type.

12. “the” (d)

We always say 'the Internet'. It's unique — there is only one Internet.

13. “a” (a)

We use 'a' to introduce something non-specific mentioned for the first time. We don't know which hotel exactly.

14. “an” (b)

We use 'an' because 'interesting' starts with a vowel sound /ɪ/. It's one of many possible stories, mentioned for the first time.

15. “the” (c)

We use 'the' with compass directions used as regions: the south of England, the north of France, the east.

16. “an” (d)

We use 'an' because the 'h' in 'honest' is silent, so the word starts with the vowel sound /ɒ/.

17. “the” (a)

We use 'the' with 'next' and 'last' when referring to a specific one in a sequence: the next train, the last bus.

18. “a” (b)

We use 'a' with singular countable nouns in general statements. 'I don't have a car' means I don't own any car.

19. “—” (c)

We don't use an article with uncountable nouns when talking about them in general. 'Coffee' here means coffee as a drink category.

20. “a” (d)

We use 'a' with common illnesses that are countable: have a headache, have a cold, have a sore throat.