**Wednesday October 8th 2013**

• Nouns

• Articles

• Ordinal numbers

• Prepositions of time

**What is a noun?**

A noun is a person, place, animal or thing. This can be something we can touch (e.g. a table or a computer) or something abstract (e.g. happiness, a kilometre, beauty)

Can be split into two categories: count and noncount (or countable and no countable)



**Explanation:**  We can see things as whole or separate them into segments that we can count. If you cannot separate them they are noncount nouns. However, if they can be separated and counted individually they are count nouns. So think, if the noun can be made plural it is a count noun.

**Example:** Ask if money is count or noncount? Give some time to talk about the question but the answer is noncount. Money cannot be counted (monies is not a plural form of the word) but coins and notes can be counted. So a coin is a countable noun.

Next ask about clothing, is that count or noncount? Again it is noncount because you can’t count clothing (clothings?!). You count **items** of clothing such as a dress, a t-shirt and an overall.

**Activity 1:** Count/ Noncount vocab brainstorm

* Get the students to shout out as much vocabulary as possible from what they can see in the room. E.g. door, window, pen, desk, chair, student etc.
* Put into the appropriate headings drawn on the board – Count or Noncount.

**Activity 2:** Count / Noncount in categories ---> Introduce articles ‘A’ and ‘AN’.

* On their sheets the students a list of 20 words and four circles to put them into.
* These will include four categories (Fruit, Material, Furniture, Jewellery).
* Students to choose the category and the select the words that are associated with it. (for example Fruit – Apple, orange, banana, pear
* Decide if they are count or noncount. **Circles on maestra handout**

**apple, bracelet, fruit, plastic, mango, material, banana,**

**table, jewelry, chair, orange, earring, necklace,**

**desk, furniture, pear, wood, denim, bed, ring**

* Explain that count nouns take ‘A’ or ‘AN’ when they are singular.
* A and AN **not** used with plural nouns or noncount nouns!
* Use ‘A’ before a word beginning with a consonant sound
* E.g. a house, a movie
* The word can begin with a vowel but still have a consonant sound **e.g. a uniform**
* Use ‘AN’ before a word that begins with a vowel sound.
* E.g. an orange, an egg
* The word can begin with a consonant but still have a vowel sound **e.g. an hour**

**Activity 3:** Working for the Red Cross.

* Imagine you are working for the Red Cross after a natural disaster (elicit examples)
* Split teachers into groups and they must decide on a list of things that will be handed out.
* Get them the teachers to write up their lists with ‘A’ and ‘AN’ when appropriate.
* Have a group discussion to talk about their choices – Play devil’s advocate to increase participation and provoke opinions.

**Some Common Noncount Nouns**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Substances/Materials** | **Food** | **Liquid** | **School Subjects** | **Activities** |
| Glass | Bread | Coffee | Biology | Homework |
| Gold | Cheese | Juice | History | Housework |
| Plastic | Chocolate | Water | Economics | Soccer |
| Metal | Meat | Oil | Maths | Work |
| Paper | Fish | Soup | Literature | Baseball |
| Wood | Fruit | Tea | Spanish | Tennis |
| Gold | Rice | Milk | English | Tejo |
| Silver | Salt |  | Music |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Whole with Individual Parts** | **Abstract Nouns (Nouns you cannot touch)** |
| Clothing | Jewellery | Fun | Beauty | Love |
| Food | Traffic | News | Crime | Happiness |
| Furniture | Garbage | Pollution | Health | Peace |
| Luggage | Money | Truth | Information | Hate |

**Definite vs Indefinite Articles**

A and AN are indefinite articles and THE is the definite article. The table below states when you use the indefinite article, the definite article or no article.

|  |
| --- |
| **Guidelines for Article Use** |
| **A/AN** | **THE** | **NO ARTICLE** |
| **Use with singular count nouns**e.g. Joe has a pencil | **Use with all nouns**e.g. The bicycle is new (singular count)e.g. The books are on the table (plural count)e.g. The jewellery is in the box (noncount) | **To make generalisations with plural count nouns.**e.g. Bananas are yellowe.g. Planes travel fast. |
| **Use to talk about a person or thing for the first time.**e.g. Joe has a bicycle | **Use the second time you talk about a person or thing.**e.g. Joe has a bicycle. The bicycle is blue | **To make generalisations with noncount nouns.**e.g. Fruit is good for you.e.g. Gold is a metal. |
| **Use to classify people, animals and things** e.g. She is an actress | **Use when both speaker and listener know which noun is being talked about.**e.g. When is the party? It’s at 8.00 |  |
|  | **Use when the noun is the only one**e.g. The sun is hot. |  |

**Activity 4:**  Which article to use? A, An, The or Nothing

1. ……… beef is a kind of ……… meat
2. ……… beef we had for dinner last night was delicious.
3. Jack is wearing ……… blue hat today
4. ……… hat is ……… article of clothing.
5. Anthony wants to be ……… engineer when he is older.

**Task 5:** Choose which article to use to complete the following story.

Cristina went to a ……… bakery to buy a cake. ……… bakery is new; it opened last month. ……… cake is for ……… friend’s birthday.

……… friend’s name is Lola. She is from Colombia. This is ……… first birthday Lola is celebrating without her family. Cristina doesn’t want Lola to feel lonely because she isn’t with her family.

She wants to buy Lola ……… special present, but ……… present can’t be too expensive because Cristina is a student. Cristina is looking for ……… umbrella. She thinks that ……… umbrella will be ……… practical gift.

When Cristina gives Lola ……… present and ……… cake, Lola is surprised. She is happy to have ……… excellent friend like Cristina. ……… happiness is a gift best shared with friends.

**Task 6:** Quick Dialogues using articles.

* Split teachers into pairs and ask them to do the following dialogues very quickly.
* Teachers to present to the class.

**1**

Guest: Wow, it’s hot today. Do you have ……. room with ……. fan?

Receptionist: Unfortunately we only have one room with ……. fan, and ……. fan in that room is broken.

**2**

Husband: What’s in ……. box?

Wife: I have ……. surprise for you

Husband: What’s ……. surprise?

Wife: Open it and find out!

**3**

Luke: ……. sun is burning hot today. Let’s move into ……. shade.

Steve: That’s ……. good idea. Shall we get ……. beer?

Luke: You read my mind. As they say; it’s 5 o’clock somewhere.

**4**

Pedestrian 1: Excuse me, do you have ……. time?

Pedestrian 2: Sorry, I don’t have ……. watch.

Pedestrian 1: No problem, thanks anyway.

**5**

Customer: Can I have ……. Cappuccino please?

Barista: Sir, I recommend you try ……. semi skimmed, extra smooth, chai latte, it’s ……. speciality of ……. house.

Customer: Wow that sounds like ……. exotic drink, but I’ll have a Cappuccino thank you.



**What medal did Mariana Pajón win at the Olympics? What place is that?**

**Repeat for Silver and Bronze.**

Barista: As you wish.

**6**

Susan: There’s ……. new restaurant in my neighbourhood.

Alison: Really? What type of ……. food does it serve?

Susan: It’s ……. Indian place. ……. food is great!

**7**

What medal did Mariana Pajón win at the Olympics? What place is that?

Repeat for Silver and Bronze.

Marvin: Have you read ……. Great Gatsby?

Aston: To be honest, I prefer to read ……. Greek philosophy. Are you ……. fan of ……. ideas of Plato and Aristotle?

Marvin: Not really, I have ……. passion for fiction in my free time.

**8**

Jeff: Who’s that?

Beth: Oh, that’s Antoinela Lopez. She’s ……. actress in Colombian soap operas. She’s ……. best paid actress in all Colombia.

Jeff: I’ve never heard of her.

**9**

Simon: Do you have ……. keys or do I?

Rocio: I thought you had ……. keys, I don’t live here.

Simon: Sorry, I forgot. Here they are in my pocket.

Rocio: Haha, good joke Simon.

**10**

Alex: My friend Sam has ……. bar in Barrio Colombia, do you want to go tonight?

Celine: Maybe, what sort of music does ……. bar play?

Alex: Well it’s ……. Karaoke bar so you can choose ……. music.

Celine: That sounds like fun, see you there

**Ordinal Numbers:**

**Use:** We use ordinal numbers ordinal numbers in various ways:

* With the date e.g. January 2nd (second), July 13th (thirteenth)
* To talk about order and ranking e.g. ‘I am first in my class’ ‘ I came fifth in the race’

1st - First 11th – Eleventh 21st – Twenty First 31st – Thirty First

2nd - Second 12th – Twelfth 22nd – Twenty Second 32nd – Thirty Second

3rd – Third 13th Thirteenth 23rd – Twenty third 33rd – Thirty third

4th – Fourth 14th – Fourteenth 24th – Twenty forth 34th – Thirty forth

5th – Fifth 15th – Fifteenth 25th – Twenty fifth 35th – Thirty fifth

6th – Sixth 16th – Sixteenth 26th – Twenty sixth 36th – Thirty sixth

7th – Seventh 17th – Seventeenth 27th – Twenty seventh 37th – Thirty seventh

8th – Eighth 18th – Eighteenth 28th – Twenty eighth 38th – Thirty eighth

9th – Ninth 19th – Nineteenth 29th – Twenty ninth 39th – Thirty ninth

10th – Tenth 20th – Twentieth 30th – Thirtieth 40th – Fortieth

50th Fiftieth 60th Sixtieth 70th Seventieth 80th Eightieth 90th Ninetieth 100th One hundredth 200th Two hundredth 1000th One thousandth 2000th Two thousandth

**A popular Rhyme:** First the worst, second the best, third the one with the hairy chest.

**Activity 7:** Use ordinal numbers to make sentences with this information.

Top 10 biggest countries by population Top 5 most spoken languages

1. China Arabic
2. India Mandarin
3. United States of America Hindi
4. Indonesia English
5. Brazil Spanish
6. Pakistan **What order are they in?**
7. Nigeria
8. Russia
9. Bangladesh
10. Japan

22. United Kingdom

27. Colombia

**Activity 8:**

Play the game 21 using ordinal numbers or Fizz buzz (5 is fizz, 7 is buzz)

Count up to 21. After practice, a student who makes a mistake is out. If they say the word 21 they are out.

**Activity 9:**

Write the complete dates of the following holidays

* Christmas Eve ………………………………………………………
* New Year’s Day ………………………………………………………
* Independence Day ………………………………………………………
* Halloween ………………………………………………………
* Your birthday ………………………………………………………
* Your teacher’s birthday ………………………………………………………
* The first day of term ………………………………………………………
* Valentine’s Day ………………………………………………………

**Prepositions of time: In, On and At**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **On** | **At** | **In** |
| 1. For days of the week

E.g - On Monday  | 1. For a precise point / moment in time

E.g. – 10.30am | 1. Weeks, Months, years, long periods, Seasons
 |
| 1. Specific Dates

E.g. - On my birthday On July 10th | Specific examples:* At night, at bedtime, at the weekend, at Christmas
 | 2. In a certain period of time.* In an hour, in 15 minutes
 |
|  | 1. In the morning, In the afternoon, In the evening
 |

**REMEMBER:** Don’t use prepositions with adverbs of frequency e.g. Last. Next, very, this.

**Activity 10**

1. Let’s meet ………. 6.30
2. The play is ………. Saturday ………. midday.
3. I was born ………. April 7th 1989
4. Catherine went to Argentina ………. January
5. Sam arrived in Mexico City ………. September 3rd.
6. I love to see the flowers ………. the spring.
7. The movie starts ………. 8.00 ………. the evening.
8. We go to bed ………. 11.30 ………. night.
9. Her birthday is ………. November which is ………. the winter
10. I saw a witch ………. midnight ………. Saturday ………. October 31st ………. 1988

**Activity 11:**

* A British Council Listening exercise – so very British.
* The words are on the screen.
* Ask the students to write down as many examples of using in/on/at that they here.
* Play 2x or 3x then go through the examples they have and compare with the rules in the table.

<http://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/grammar-vocabulary/grammar-videos/prepositions-time>

British Council Teens Prepositions of Time