

A movie -vs- THE movie (1)

*This sheet deals with knowing when to use **A** and when to use **The***

“A (An)” is used:

1. to introduce a **new subject noun** into a conversation
An accident happened on the highway. (This is a new topic)
2. to show that you are talking about **one of many things**
*I saw **a** movie last weekend.* (There are many movies to see,
but I saw one of them)

“The” is used:

1. after a **new subject noun** has been introduced into a conversation
***The** accident I saw was very terrible!* (it was already a topic)
2. when the subject noun is (a) **very clear** to the listener, or when there is
(b) **only one** of something
(a) *It's getting cold. Can you close **the** window.* (very clear)
(b) *Sherry is **the** oldest student here.* (there's only one oldest)
(b) **When long ago there was only one of something in a
town or area. (ex. bank, store, beach, doctor, airport, etc.)
I have to go to **the** market to get some milk.*
3. with **uncountable nouns**
***The** police arrested one of **the** staff who stole some goods.*

*Choose **A (An)** or **The** for the blank spaces in the following sentences:*

**(Sometimes both will be OK to use)*

1. We decided to rent _____ car while we were in Hawaii. _____ car was a Jeep.
2. Gerry bought _____ new diamond necklace for his wife. _____ necklace cost him _____ lot of money.
3. I'm feeling sick. Maybe I should go see _____ doctor.
4. I was too drunk to drive, so I called _____ taxi and _____ Uber. I was happy when _____ Uber came first. It's cheaper than _____ taxi.
5. Bob was in _____ car accident and was taken to _____ hospital in _____ ambulance.
6. Does anyone have _____ good topic for today's free conversation class?
7. I ordered _____ new set of curtains on _____ internet, but _____ curtains I ordered were too short for _____ windows at home. So, I returned them and ordered _____ new set of curtains.
8. Excuse me, can you recommend _____ good Chinese restaurant nearby?
9. I want to see _____ new 007 movie! I really hope it is better than _____ last 007 movie from 2 years ago.
10. Amy got _____ new bike for her birthday. _____ bike has _____ long seat and _____ horn. _____ seat is bright red and _____ horn is _____ very loud retro horn.
11. I found _____ bag in _____ only park near my house. _____ bag was _____ very expensive brand bag with _____ lot of money in it. I wonder who _____ owner is.
12. Susie really loves _____ second album by her favorite band. It's better than _____ first one.

13. Jenny is _____ regular customer at _____ sushi bar in _____ shopping mall next to her house. It is _____ most expensive sushi bar in _____ whole city.
14. _____ President of _____ United States is _____ man who is admired all over _____ world by almost everyone. But _____ president we have now is doing _____ terrible job!
15. _____ new student from _____ U. K. started at our school last week. _____ new student is _____ girl and she is _____ most beautiful girl I have ever seen! We have _____ big test this Friday, so I tried to ask her to join me at _____ school library to study for _____ test, but Tony, _____ most popular boy in school, asked her first. I was sad because he already has _____ girlfriend. Later, when I was studying alone at _____ table in the _____ library, _____ beautiful new student asked if she could study for _____ test with me! It was _____ best day ever!
16. While I was at _____ bank, _____ man came in wearing _____ mask and holding _____ gun. _____ mask was _____ black ski mask and _____ gun was _____ long rifle. _____ man told us all to lay on _____ ground, and told _____ bank tellers to put all of _____ money in _____ big duffel bag. Suddenly, _____ bank's alarm started making _____ loud noise. _____ gunman grabbed _____ heavy bag and ran to _____ bank doors. But _____ bag was too heavy and _____ strap broke. _____ money in _____ bag went flying everywhere. _____ few customers began grabbing _____ money and running for _____ exit doors. _____ angry gunman shouted at _____ customers to stop, but they didn't listen. When _____ gunman finally picked up all _____ money and tried to leave _____ bank, _____ police had arrived and were all around _____ building. _____ gunman knew that he couldn't escape _____ situation, so he dropped _____ money and gave himself to _____ police officer. It was _____ wild day at _____ bank!