

Definite and indefinite articles

We use the **definite article** 'the' before a noun when the identity of the noun is clear to the reader.

E.g. The CEO of Apple is Tim Cook. (There is only one CEO at Apple.)

We use the **indefinite articles** 'a' and 'an' before a singular noun when its identity is either very general or not known.

For nouns with a vowel sound, we use 'an' and for nouns with a consonant sound, we use 'a'.

E.g. I sent him a PDF this afternoon. (We don't know which PDF you sent.)

E.g. Tiffany is an English native speaker. (She is not the only native speaker.)

Now let's try to put the correct articles in the blanks below.

Germany is (1) _____ European country.
(2) _____ population of Germany is around 83 million. It has 16 states.
(3) _____ largest state is Bavaria. Munich is
(4) _____ city in Bavaria. Berlin is (5) _____ capital of Germany.



Germany has (6) _____ strong economy with many companies that operate worldwide.
(7) _____ automotive industry in Germany is regarded as one of (8) _____ most competitive and innovative in the world. Germany is also one of (9) _____ largest exporters globally. (10) _____ integral part of the German economy is the research and development field. Germany is well-known for its science and engineering efforts.

Germany is (11) _____ federal republic. (12) _____ chancellor of Germany is (13) _____ female politician called Angela Dorothea Merkel. She was (14) _____ physics student at Karl Marx University in Leipzig. She was (15) _____ leader of the CDU from 2000 to 2018.

(16) _____ most popular sport in Germany is association football. With more than 7 million official members, (17) _____ German Football Association (Deutscher Fußball-Bund) is (18) _____ largest single-sport organisation worldwide. Germany is also famous for its motor sports athletes. Names like Michael Schumacher and Sebastian Vettel are known all over (19) _____ world.

Answer key: 1. a 2. The 3. The 4. a 5. the 6. a 7. The 8. the 9. the 10. An
11. a 12. The 13. a 14. a 15. the 16. The 17. the 18. the 19. the