

Indefinite Articles

Articoli Indeterminativi

Goals of the Presentation

By the end of the presentation the learner will be able:

1. To state, in English, the difference between a definite and an indefinite article.
2. To state the different forms of the English and the Italian indefinite articles.
3. To use the Italian indefinite article in a complete sentence.

The Indefinite Article

- *A / An* are the indefinite articles of the American English Language (hft *English*).
- *A / An* indicate something that is generic.

– *The* cat on a hot tin roof.

Listener and speaker know which

VS

– *A* cat on a hot tin roof.

Generic category, not any one cat.

The Italian Indefinite Article

- While in English there are only two forms of the indefinite article: *A / An*.
- In Italian there are *four* forms...

The Forms

Masculine	
	Uno
	Un
Feminine	
	Una
	Un'

Articoli Indeterminativi: Maschili

INDEFINITE ARTICLES: MASCULINE FORM

The Masculine Forms

Masculine
Uno
Un

When are these forms used?

Uno

Uno => when the word that follows is masculine singular and begins with:

1. Gn ... Uno **gn**omo
2. Pn ... Uno **pn**eumatico
3. Ps ... Uno **ps**icologo
4. S + Consonant ... Uno **st**udente
5. Z ... Uno **z**aino

Un

- Un => It does not matter that the following word begins with a vowel, as long as it is masculine and singular:
 1. A ... Un **a**lbero
 2. E ... Un **e**lefante
 3. I ... Un **i**nferno
 4. O ... Un **o**mbrello
 5. U ... Un **u**omo

Un

- Un => When the word that follows is masculine singular and begins with: *all else...*
 1. B ... Un **b**ambino
 2. F ... Un **f**iglio
 3. S + vowel ... Un **sa**ndalo

Articoli Determinativi: Feminili

DEFINITE ARTICLES: FEMININE FORM

The Feminine Forms

Feminine
Una
Un'

When are these forms used?

Un'

- Un' => when the word that follows is feminine singular and begins with:
 1. A ... Un'**a**ssenza
 2. E ... Un'**e**ntrata
 3. I ... Un'**i**pocrisia
 4. O ... Un'**o**ra
 5. U ... Un'**u**scita

Una

- Una => when the word that follows is feminine singular and begins with: *all else...*

1. B ... La **b**ambina [Le bambine]
2. F ... La **f**iglia [Le figlie]
3. Z ... La **z**ia [Le zie]

Articoli Indeterminativi: Esercizi

INDEFINITE ARTICLES: EXERCISES

Examples

1. ___ aula
2. ___ lavagna
3. ___ cestino
4. ___ studente
5. ___ libro
6. ___ professoressa
7. ___ matita
8. ___ quaderno
9. ___ cartina geografica
10. ___ banco
11. ___ zaino
12. ___ bandiera

1. ___ cattedra
2. ___ pezzo di gesso
3. ___ stampante
4. ___ computer
5. ___ porta
6. ___ orologio
7. ___ riga
8. ___ un foglio di carta
9. ___ professore
10. ___ studentessa
11. ___ orologio
12. ___ cancellino

Examples

1. **Un'**aula
2. **Una** lavagna
3. **Un** cestino
4. **Uno** studente
5. **Un** libro
6. **Una** professoressa
7. **Una** matita
8. **Un** quaderno
9. **Una** cartina geografica
10. **Un** banco
11. **Uno** zaino
12. **Una** bandiera

1. **Una** cattedra
2. **Un** pezzo di gesso
3. **Uno** stampante
4. **Un** computer
5. **Una** porta
6. **Un** orologio
7. **Una** riga
8. **Un** foglio di carta
9. **Un** professore
10. **Una** studentessa
11. **Un** orologio
12. **Un** cancellino