

Greetings! Following are examples of article use—as you read through them, please notice the articles and think about the explanations in class 😊

- 1) The numbers on a clock begin with the number 1 and continue through 12. On some clocks, however, they begin with the Roman numeral “I” and go through “XII”. The hour hand is shorter, and the minute hand is longer—and, of course, the second hand is faster.
- 2) In Kashiwa there are two Starbucks near Kashiwa Station. The one near the East Exit is smaller, and the one near the West Exit is much larger. I often go to the one near the West Exit because the atmosphere is very relaxed and it has wonderful “easy chairs” for reading, studying, and sleeping.
- 3) There will be a test next week. The test will be “open-book”, and I also allow students to use their notes. However, you may not talk to your neighbor!
- 4) The final exam for each class comes during the exam week at the end of each semester.
- 5) I have four brothers (=There are five boys in my family), and I’m #4. The oldest lives in Thailand and is a senior geologist with Unocal Oil. The second is a hospital pharmacist in Nevada in the US. The third one is a computer engineer and system manager at a hospital in Colorado. I’m an English teacher in Japan, and, specifically, I’m your teacher. Finally, my younger brother is a computer programmer in our hometown in Montana.
- 6) In the Elwood family, we have an interesting week in December. My birthday is December 12, and my father’s birthday was the 13<sup>th</sup>. Next is my younger son’s birthday, which is the 14<sup>th</sup>. Finally, my mother’s birthday is the 15<sup>th</sup>. Really. My younger son was born here in Japan, by the way, and because of the time difference between the US and Japan, I was able to call my father on his birthday (the 13<sup>th</sup>) and announce, “Dad, your grandson was born tomorrow!” Of course, my father always insisted that he and his grandson shared the same birthday.
- 7) Teacher: “What’s the answer?”  
Student: “The answer is 5.”  

$2 + 3 =$
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- 8) Teacher: “What’s a good answer?”  
Student #1: “Cherry blossoms.”  
Student #2: “Mount Fuji.”  
Student #3: “Raw fish!”  

Japan is famous for _____
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- 9) From my newspaper: “The United States is optimistic concerning the latest resolution concerning Iraq’s alleged weapons of mass destruction. In the United Nations, many countries have expressed skepticism about Mr. Bush’s demands for a tough resolution against Iraq.”

10) With “of” you will usually find the definite article, “the”:

- ✓ the emperor of Japan = the Japanese emperor
- ✓ the 4<sup>th</sup> of July = July 4<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ the Republic of Korea = Korea
- ✓ the University of Tsukuba = Tsukuba University
- ✓ Mr. Elwood attended both Montana State University and the University of Montana. (two different universities).

11) Superlatives will have definite articles (these are unique things):

- ✓ the most delicious food I’ve ever eaten
- ✓ the tallest mountain in Japan
- ✓ the youngest in his family
- ✓ the most important point
- ✓ the least likely answer
- ✓ the smallest boy in his class