13.7 A vs An: Test Pack

about 15 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 Circle the correct word, a or an, to go before each noun below.

(a) ___ apple **(1)**

- [ ] a
- [ ] an

(b) ___ dog **(1)**

- [ ] a
- [ ] an

(c) ___ umbrella **(1)**

- [ ] a
- [ ] an

(d) ___ cat **(1)**

- [ ] a
- [ ] an

(e) ___ elephant **(1)**

- [ ] a
- [ ] an

(f) ___ box **(1)**

- [ ] a
- [ ] an

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2 Some of the sentences below are already correct; some contain an article mistake. Tick the three sentences that are ALREADY correct.

- ☐ A) I would like an sandwich, please.
- ☐ B) That was an amazing goal!
- ☐ C) We need a extra chair for the table.
- ☐ D) He is an honest man.
- ☐ E) She bought a orange umbrella.
- ☐ F) It was a useful lesson today.

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3 Write your own sentences to show that the article depends on the sound of the word right after it, not on the noun.

(a) Write a sentence with an adjective that begins with a vowel sound placed before a noun that begins with a consonant sound (for example: an old dog). **(2)**

(b) Write a sentence with an adjective that begins with a consonant sound placed before a noun that begins with a vowel sound (for example: a big elephant). **(2)**

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4 Explain, in your own words, the rule for choosing between a and an. Use two examples of your own (not copied from this pack) to show that the rule depends on the sound of the next word, not just its first letter.

(3)

5 Fill each gap with a or an.

(a) Mia packed ___ apple for her lunch. **(1)**

(b) The teacher gave every child ___ worksheet to complete. **(1)**

(c) There was ___ owl hooting in the old oak tree. **(1)**

(d) Tariq found ___ shiny coin buried in the sand. **(1)**

(e) At the end of the day, they saw ___ incredible sunset over the trees. **(1)**

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Mark scheme · 13.7 A vs An: Test Pack

Question 1

(a) an circled cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **an apple**

(b) a circled cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **a dog**

(c) an circled cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **an umbrella**

(d) a circled cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **a cat**

(e) an circled cao **B1**

(e) Answer: **an elephant**

(f) a circled cao **B1**

(f) Answer: **a box**

Question 2

B ticked (amazing begins with a vowel sound) cao **B1**

D ticked (silent h in honest) cao **B1**

F ticked (useful begins with a 'yoo' consonant sound) cao **B1**

Answer: **B, D and F**

Question 3

(a) adjective beginning with a vowel sound correctly chosen **B1**

(a) an used correctly before the adjective, and the sentence makes sense (oe) **B1**

(a) Answer: **e.g. An enormous dog barked at the postman.**

(b) adjective beginning with a consonant sound correctly chosen **B1**

(b) a used correctly before the adjective, and the sentence makes sense (oe) **B1**

(b) Answer: **e.g. A tiny elephant appeared in the storybook.**

Question 4

states that the choice between a and an depends on the sound of the word that comes immediately after it, not just its spelling **B1**

gives an original example where the spelling might suggest one article but the sound requires the other (e.g. a silent h word, a 'yoo' sound word, or an initialism) **B1**

the article is used correctly in the example given **B1**

Answer: **e.g. We use an before a word that starts with a vowel sound and a before a word that starts with a consonant sound. This is not always the same as the first letter: hour starts with a silent h, so it sounds like it begins with a vowel and takes an; unique starts with a 'yoo' sound, which is a consonant sound, so it takes a even though u is a vowel letter.**

Question 5

(a) an cao **B1**

(a) Answer: **an apple**

(b) a cao **B1**

(b) Answer: **a worksheet**

(c) an cao **B1**

(c) Answer: **an owl**

(d) a cao **B1**

(d) Answer: **a shiny coin**

(e) an cao **B1**

(e) Answer: **an incredible sunset**

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