

WELCOME

to today's English lesson

Monday 18th January
Using a or an correctly



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Good morning, Year 3.

Happy Monday! I hope you are all okay and have had a lovely weekend.

First of all, THANK YOU for all your hard work last week on using inverted commas. I was SO impressed with all of your work.

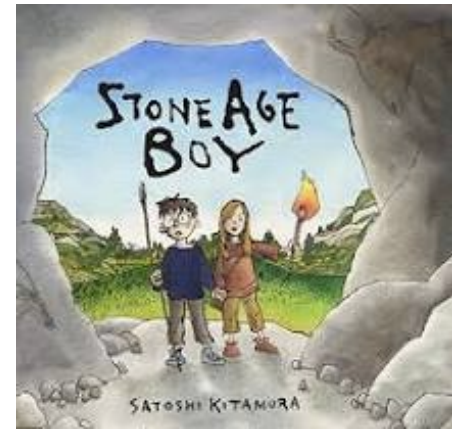
If you haven't already, you might like to watch the video of me reading the Stone Age boy story (link is on the website.) Enjoy!

In today's lesson, you are going to think about how to use 'a' or 'an' correctly within your writing.

I hope you enjoy the story and activities. Remember, you are all superstars 😊

Love

Miss Robertson xxx



Today, we are learning about how to use 'a' or 'an' correctly.

First of all, can you remember what a consonant is?
Can you remember what a vowel is?

Activity 1: Sort the letters of the alphabet into the table below (just draw it out if you don't have a printer.) *Don't worry, the answers are on the next slide if you aren't sure.*



Consonants:	Vowels:

How did you do?



Consonants:

b, c, d, f, g, h, j, k, l, m, n, p,
q, r, s, t, v, w, x, y, z

Vowels:

a, e, i, o, u



Consonants are letters (or sounds) that are not vowels (a, e, i, o, u). For example j, d and z are all consonants.

There are 5 vowel (letters and sounds).

Activity 2: Think of **5 nouns that start with a consonant.**

e.g. car

Think of **5 nouns that start with a vowel.**

e.g. elephant

You might like to draw a picture of each one.

Remember, a noun is a person, place, thing or idea.

Words starting with a consonant:	Words starting with a vowel:
car	elephant

What did you come up with? These are my examples:

Words starting with a consonant

teacher
jumper
laptop
book
yoghurt

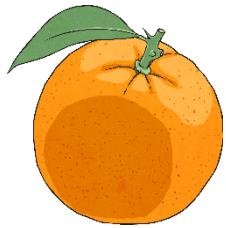
Words starting with a vowel

egg
apple
otter
umbrella
icicle



Usually, we put **'a'** before words that start with a **consonant** and **'an'** before words that start with a **vowel**.

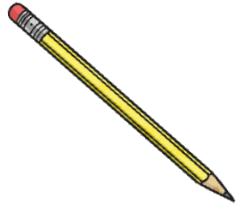
'a' or 'an'?



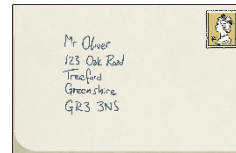
an orange



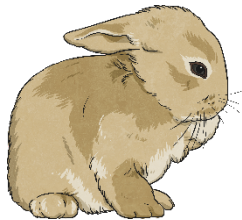
a house



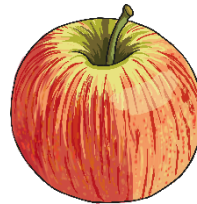
a pencil



an envelope



a rabbit



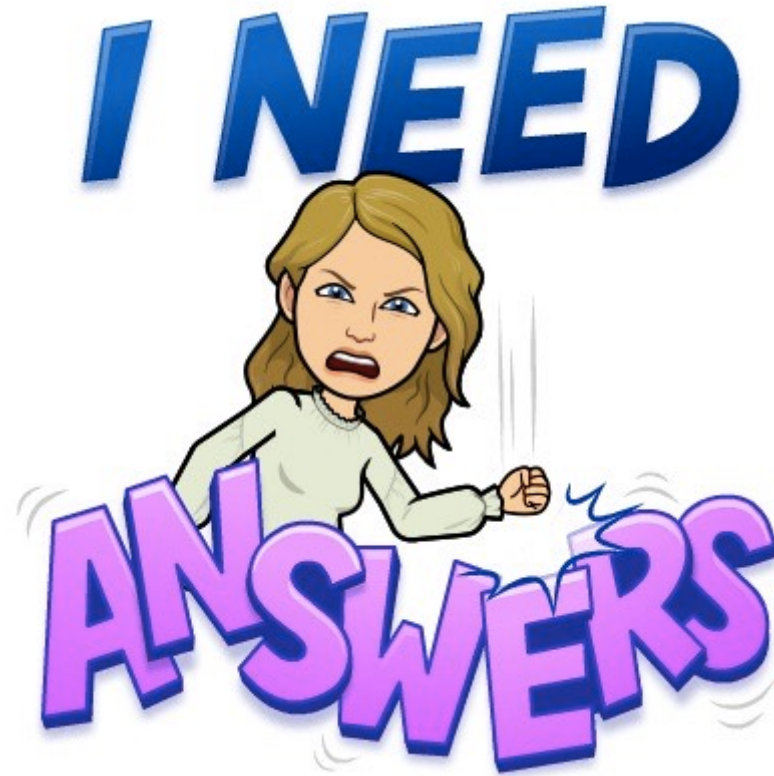
an apple

Activity 3: Copy the sentence into your book/ onto paper in your best handwriting. Should it be 'a' or 'an?'

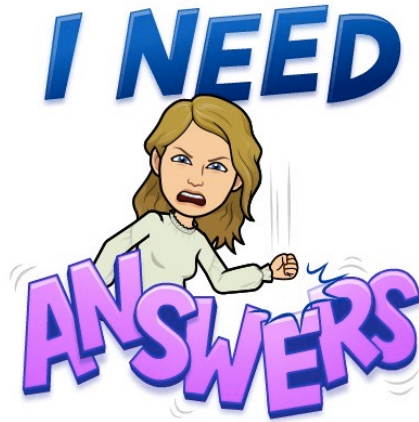
Remember, usually when the word starts with a consonant we use 'a'. When the word starts with a vowel we use 'an'.

1. A modern boy went on ___ adventure in the Stone Age.
2. Om was holding ___ spear to protect herself.
3. In the evening, the children had ___ party with Om's family.
4. The children helped to hunt for ___ reindeer.
5. On the wall in the cave, there was ___ huge cave painting.
6. At the party, the boy enjoyed playing on ___ air guitar.

Challenge: Think of your own sentences using 'a' or 'an' correctly.



**Answers are coming up on the next slide.
No peeking until you have completed the
questions 😊**



1. A modern boy went on **an** adventure in the Stone Age.
2. Om was holding **a** spear to protect herself.
3. In the evening, the children had **a** party with Om's family.
4. The children helped to hunt for **a** reindeer.
5. On the wall in the cave, there was **a** huge cave painting.
6. At the party, the boy enjoyed playing on **an** air guitar.

There are some **exceptions** to the rule.
Look at the examples below:



It was **a unique** painting.

It was **an unique** painting.

Although '**unique**' starts with a vowel, the letter '**u**' makes the '**y** sound', so '**a**' is used instead of '**an**'.



Unicycle starts with a vowel but the letter 'u' makes a 'y' sound, so 'a' is used instead of 'an'.



Unicorn starts with a vowel but the letter 'u' makes a 'y' sound, so 'a' is used instead of 'an'.



It was **a honest** mistake.

It was **an honest** mistake.

Although '**honest**' starts with a consonant, the letter '**h**' makes the short '**o**' **sound**, so '**an**' is used instead of '**a**'.



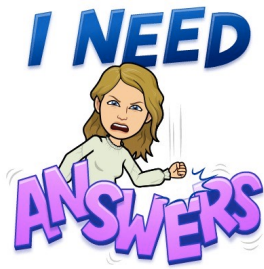
It took **a hour** to get to school.

It took **an hour** to get to school.

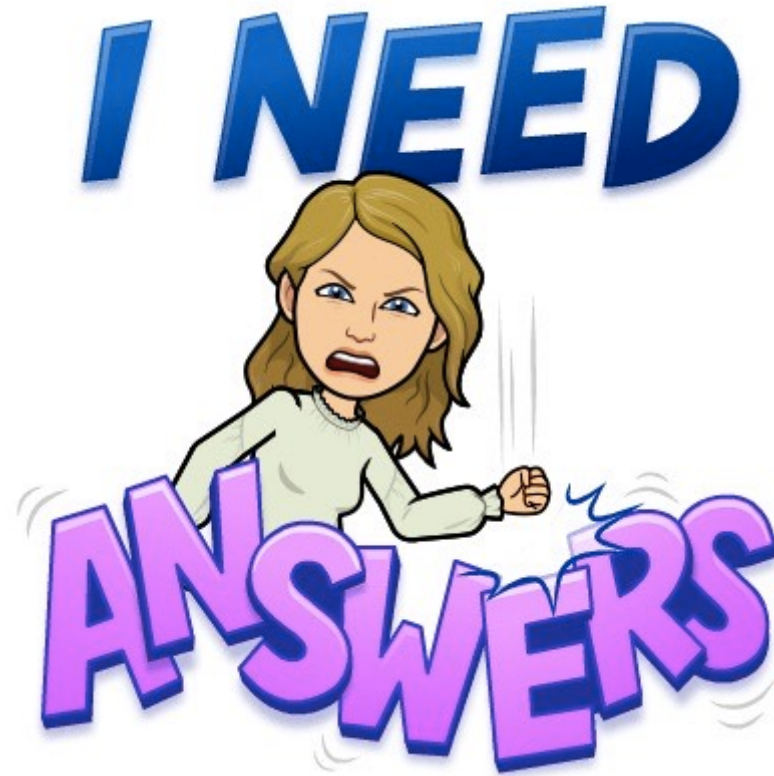
Although '**hour**' starts with a consonant, the letter '**h**' at the beginning of the word is silent, so '**an**' is used instead of '**a**'.

Activity 4: Complete the table below. Use my example to help you. Don't worry if you don't have a printer, just draw your own table into your book 😊.

A or an:	Noun:	Sentence:
an	axe	I used an axe to chop some wood.
	fire	
	bear	
	cave	
	torch	
	unique girl called Om	
	spear	
	reindeer	



A or an:	Noun:	Sentence:
an	axe	I used an axe to chop some wood.
a	fire	
a	bear	
a	cave	
a	torch	
a	unique girl called Om	
a	spear	
a	reindeer	



**Answers are coming up on the next slide.
No peeking until you have completed the
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Thank you for working so hard.

Please send in any photos of your work or any questions you have to yearthree@st-jo-st.dudley.sch.uk

It is always a pleasure to see all of your work.

