Name: _____

Advanced Use of Articles: *a* and *an*

Use the word **a** before nouns or adjectives that begin with a consonant sound.

example: I listened to **a** terrific song on the radio.

Use the word **an** before nouns or adjectives that begin with a vowel sound.

example: I saw **an** exciting movie last night.

Remember, **an** is used when a word begins with a vowel *sound*. Sometimes a word can begin with a vowel, but start with a consonant sound.

*example: Inches are **a** unit of measurement on a ruler.*

The word unit begins with the consonant y-sound (yoo-nit), so you would use the article **a**.

Sometimes a word will begin with a silent consonant, but a vowel sound. When this happens you use **an**.

*example: Mr. Bolivia is **an** honest man.*

Even though honest begins with a consonant, the h is silent. The word begins with a vowel sound, so you would use **an**.

Write the word a or an on each line to complete each sentence.

1. I ate dinner over _____ hour ago.

2. Dad made _____ delicious pork roast.

3. My brother is _____ soldier in the army.

4. He wears _____ uniform.

5. Samuel painted _____ unusual picture.

6. It was a picture of _____ unicorn on a space ship.

7. Do you have _____ extra pencil?

8. My pencil broke during _____ English test.

9. Kelly broke _____ bone in his leg.

10. He went to the hospital for _____ x-ray.

11. My sister will attend _____ university when she finishes high school.

Name: _____

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Use the word **a** before nouns or adjectives that begin with a consonant sound.

> *example:* I listened to **a** terrific song on the radio.

Use the word **an** before nouns or adjectives that begin with a vowel sound.

> *example:* I saw **an** exciting movie last night.

Remember: The word **an** is used when a word begins with a vowel *sound*. Sometimes a word can begin with a vowel, but start with a consonant sound.

> *example: Inches are **a** unit of measurement on a ruler.*

The word *unit* begins with the consonant y-sound (yoo-nit), so you would use the article **a**.

Sometimes a word will begin with a silent consonant, but a vowel sound. When this happens you use **an**.

> *example: Mr. Bolivia is <u>an</u> honest man.*

Even though honest begins with a consonant, the h is silent. The word begins with a vowel sound, so you would use **an**.

Write the word <u>a</u> or <u>an</u> on each line to complete each sentence.

1. I ate dinner over **an** hour ago.

2. Dad made **a** delicious pork roast.

3. My brother is **a** soldier in the army.

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