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Basics. The Zero Article with General Nouns

Medium | A1 | Elementary | Beginners | A2 | Elementary | Pre-intermediate | Article | Countable and uncountable | Determiner | Noun | Subject

1. Zorg the alien is visiting Earth and writing a report on basic human habits. Help Zorg by selecting ALL the sentences that correctly use nouns in a general sense without extra words.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** People need water to live.
- **B)** Music makes people feel happy.
- **C)** The time is very important to them.
- **D)** They drink the coffee every morning.

2. Complete the passive-aggressive sticky note left by a frustrated roommate.

Please remember that _____ love messy rooms, and I do not want any eight-legged guests. Also, I read online that _____ makes people sneeze, which explains my allergies. In general, everyone knows that _____ clean up after themselves!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** spiders
- **B)** the spiders
- **C)** a spider

Blank 2

- **A)** dust
- **B)** the dust
- **C)** a dust

Blank 3

- **A)** good roommates
- **B)** the good roommates
- **C)** a good roommate

3. Help a confused time-traveler from the 1800s write a letter home by matching each blank with the correct phrase.

People in this strange century stare at _____ for hours without blinking. I am terrified of the metal carriages, especially since _____ on this specific street move so incredibly fast! They also claim that _____ is what powers everything instead of good old-fashioned coal.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** the smartphones
- **B)** smartphone
- **C)** smartphones

Blank 2

- **A)** cars
- **B)** car
- **C)** the cars

Blank 3

- **A)** the electricity
- **B)** an electricity
- **C)** electricity

4. Choose the correct word to complete the fable's moral.

The wise old turtle seemed to say that _____ is far more important than speed.

Select one.

- **A)** patience
- **B)** the patience
- **C)** a patience
- **D)** patiences

5. Grandpa Joe is sharing his wise life advice with his grandchildren. He loves making broad, general statements about the world. Select ALL the sentences where he correctly talks about things in general.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** Dogs are great friends.
- **B)** Books are fun to read.
- **C)** The sugar is bad for your teeth.
- **D)** The money cannot buy love.

6. Complete the alien researcher's field notes about human life on Earth by dragging the correct words into the blanks.

It seems that humans desperately need _____ to function properly during the day. They also drink a lot of liquid, but _____ in their vast oceans is entirely too salty for them. Most humans love furry companions, and they firmly believe that _____ secretly rule the planet!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** the sleep
- **B)** a sleep
- **C)** sleep

Blank 2

- **A)** water
- **B)** a water
- **C)** the water

Blank 3

- **A)** the cats
- **B)** cat
- **C)** cats

7. Help the alien researcher complete their top-secret report on Earth.

According to my research notes, _____ secretly rule this planet by demanding endless treats and naps.

Select one.

- **A)** cats
- **B)** the cats
- **C)** a cat
- **D)** the cat

8. Help the food blogger complete their passionate review of Italian cuisine by dragging the correct phrases into the blanks.

I absolutely adore _____ because it is so versatile and delicious! However, I must admit that _____ I had at that new restaurant yesterday was terrible. In most traditional recipes, _____ are the star of the show, bringing fresh flavor to every bite.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** the pasta
- **B)** a pasta
- **C)** pasta

Blank 2

- **A)** pasta
- **B)** a pasta
- **C)** the pasta

Blank 3

- **A)** the tomatoes
- **B)** tomato
- **C)** tomatoes

9. Help Zorblax the alien complete his observation report about Earth.

Earthlings love _____ and listen to it all day on tiny devices. They also believe that _____ is the best medicine for sadness. Strangely, they let _____ sleep right in their beds!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** music
- **B)** the music
- **C)** a music

Blank 2

- **A)** laughter
- **B)** the laughter
- **C)** a laughter

Blank 3

- **A)** animals
- **B)** the animals
- **C)** an animal

10. Complete the tired professor's dramatic declaration.

"_____ is essential for surviving early morning lectures," the professor sighed, staring lovingly at his mug.

Select one.

- **A)** Coffee
- **B)** The coffee
- **C)** A coffee
- **D)** The coffees

11. Help Chef Pierre write his new restaurant's menu philosophy! He wants to talk about food in general. Select ALL the sentences that correctly use the zero article (no article) for general statements.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** I like tomatoes in my salad.
- **B)** Potatoes are very good for making fries.
- **C)** The carrots are good for your eyes.
- **D)** I hate the onions in my soup.

12. Complete the dramatic barista's note to a new café trainee.

Here at the café, we believe that _____ is life. We know that _____ need energy for their early morning classes, so we must be fast. Never forget that _____ is money!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** coffee
- **B)** the coffee
- **C)** a coffee

Blank 2

- **A)** students
- **B)** the students
- **C)** a student

Blank 3

- **A)** time
- **B)** the time
- **C)** a time