Exercises on Articles

1. Put in a/an or the.

1. We enjoyed our holiday. **The** hotel was very nice.
2. 'Can I ask _a_ question?' 'Of course. What do you want to ask?'
4. 'Where's Tom?' 'He's in _____ bathroom.'
5. Jane is _____ interesting person You must meet her.
6. A: Excuse me, can you tell me how to get to _____ city centre?
   B: Yes, go straight on and then take _____ next turning left.
7. A: Shall we go out for _____ meal this evening?
   B: Yes, that's _____ nice idea.
8. Its' _____ nice morning. Let's go for _____ walk.
9. Amanda is _____ student. When she finishes her studies, she wants to be _____ journalist. She
   lives with two friends in _____ flat near _____ college where she is studying. _____ flat is small but she likes it.
10. Peter and Mary have got two children, _____ boy and _____ girl. _____ boy is seven years old
    and _____ girl is three. Mary works in _____ factory. Peter hasn't got _____ job at the moment.

2. Put in a/an or the where necessary.

1. Don't forget to turn off light when you go out. --------> **turn off the light**
2. Enjoy your holiday and don't forget to send me postcard. --------> ______________________
3. What is name of this village? --------> ______________________
4. Canada is very big country. --------> ______________________
5. What is largest city in Canada? --------> ______________________
6. I like this room but I don't like colour of carpet. --------> ______________________
7. 'Are you ok?' 'No, I've got headache.' --------> ______________________
8. We live in old house near station. --------> ______________________
9. What is name of director of film we saw last night? --------> ______________________

3. Put in the where necessary. Write OK if the sentence is already correct.

1. What is name of this street? --------> _____ **the name**
2. What's on television tonight? --------> OK
3. Our apartment is on second floor. --------> ______________________
4. Would you like to go to moon? --------> ______________________
5. Which is best hotel in this town? --------> ______________________
6. What time is lunch? --------> ______________________
7. How far is it to city centre? --------> ______________________
8. We're going away at end of May. --------> ______________________
9. What are you doing next weekend? --------> ______________________
10. I didn't like her first time I met her. --------> ______________________
11. I’m going out after dinner. ———> ___________________
12. What’s biggest city in world? ———> ___________________
13. My sister got married last month. ———> ___________________
14. My dictionary is on top shelf on right. ———> ___________________
15. We live in country, about five miles from nearest village. ———> ___________________

4. Complete these sentences. Choose from the list. Use the if necessary.

Capital dinner police lunch middle name sky television

1. We had _____________ at a restaurant last night.
2. We stayed at a very nice hotel but I don’t remember ___________________.
3. __________________ is very clear tonight. You can see all the stars.
4. Did you see the film on _____________ last night?
5. Somebody was trying to break into the shop so I called _____________.
6. Tokyo is _____________ of Japan.
7. ‘What did you have for _____________?’ ‘A salad.’
8. I woke up in _____________ of the night.

(taken from Murphy, Essential Grammar in Use (CUP, 1997), p. 145&147)
Answer key:

Exercise 1

1. The
2. a
3. a
4. the
5. An
6. the; the
7. a; a
8. a; a
9. a; a; a; the; the
10. a; a; The; the; a; a

Exercise 2

1. turn off the light
2. send me a postcard
3. What is the name
4. a very big country.
5. the largest city
6. the colour of the carpet
7. I've got a headache.
8. in an old house near the station
9. the name of the director of the film

Exercise 3

1. the name
2. OK
3. on the second floor
4. to the moon
5. the best hotel
6. OK
7. the city centre
8. the end of May
9. OK
10. the first time
11. OK
12. the biggest city
13. OK
14. the top shelf on the right
15. the country, ....the nearest village

Exercise 4

1. dinner
2. the name
3. The sky
4. television
5. the police
6. the capital
7. dinner
8. the middle

(taken from Murphy, Essential Grammar in Use (CUP, 1997).