

**Indefinite Articles- A/An for describing companies and jobs**

*What is the normal answer to “What do you do?”/ “What’s your job?”?*

*What about the normal answer to “What kind of company do you work for?”*

*Which words usually follow “I’m” and “It’s” in the answers above?*

*Brainstorm possible jobs in the boxes below:*

I’m a/ He’s a/ She’s a _____	I’m an/ He’s an/ She’s an _____



Put one letter into each of the gaps below to make possible words to add to the table above, using "a" or "an" to help you. Some letters are used more than once.

- I'm an \_\_\_\_\_ccountant  
He's an \_\_\_\_\_rchitect  
She's an \_\_\_\_\_rtist  
I'm an \_\_\_\_\_ditor  
He's a \_\_\_\_\_ank clerk  
She's a \_\_\_\_\_anker  
She's a \_\_\_\_\_ameraman  
I'm a \_\_\_\_\_ashier  
He's a \_\_\_\_\_onsultant  
I'm a \_\_\_\_\_ram school teacher  
She's a \_\_\_\_\_irector  
I'm a \_\_\_\_\_octor  
He's an \_\_\_\_\_ngineer  
She's an \_\_\_\_\_xecutive  
I'm a \_\_\_\_\_ournalist  
He's a \_\_\_\_\_awyer  
I'm a \_\_\_\_\_ecturer  
She's a \_\_\_\_\_anager  
He's a \_\_\_\_\_anny  
I'm an \_\_\_\_\_ffice worker  
He's an \_\_\_\_\_ptician  
She's a \_\_\_\_\_ersonal assistant (= She's a \_\_\_A)  
I'm a \_\_\_\_\_hotographer  
I'm a \_\_\_\_\_ilot  
He's a \_\_\_\_\_eceptionist  
She's a \_\_\_\_\_esearch analyst  
I'm a \_\_\_\_\_ales assistant  
He's a \_\_\_\_\_ales rep  
She's a \_\_\_\_\_ecurity guard  
He's a \_\_\_\_\_ervice engineer  
He's a \_\_\_\_\_echnician  
She's a \_\_\_\_\_elephone operator  
He's a \_\_\_\_\_elelevision presenter  
I'm a \_\_\_\_\_rainee  
He's an \_\_\_\_\_nderwriter

Hint: The words above are in alphabetical order.



Do the same with these kinds of company:

- It's an \_\_\_\_\_ advertising company.
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_ aerospace company.
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_ airline.
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_ architecture firm.
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_ automobile company (= a car company).
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ bank.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ camera company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ chemical company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ clothing company (= fashion company).
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ construction company (= builder's).
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ cosmetics company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ department store.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ drinks company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ drug company (= pharmaceutical company).
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_ electronics company.
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_ engineering company.
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_ entertainment company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ fast food company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ finance company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ food company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ furniture company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ hotel chain.
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_ insurance company.
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_ internet search company.
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_ IT company (= a computer company).
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ law firm.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ logistics company (= delivery company).
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ mining company (= commodities company).
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ mobile phone company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ music company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ newspaper.
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_ oil company (= petrochemical company).
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_ online retailer.
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_ outsourcing company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ packaging company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ publishing company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ soft drinks company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ software company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ sportswear company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ stationery company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ supermarket chain.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ telecommunications company (= phone company).
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ toy company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ tyre (= \_\_\_\_\_ tire) company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ white goods company.



*Fill in the first letter of the nationality words below, using if there is “a” or “an” to help you.*

- It's an \_\_\_\_\_merican soft drinks company.
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_ustralian mining company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ritish white goods company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_anadian insurance company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_hinese computer company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_anish electronics company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_utch oil company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_innish mobile phone company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_rench tyre company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_erman sports good company.
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_ndian outsourcing company.
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_rish bank.
- It's an \_\_\_\_\_talian fashion company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_apanese newspaper.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_orean airline.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_alaysian automobile company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_ussian aerospace company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_panish telecommunications company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_wedish furniture company.
- It's a \_\_\_\_\_wiss food company.

*What are the names of the countries that those companies come from?*

*Can you think of any examples of companies which match any of the explanations above?  
Think of a company, read the line above without saying the company name, and see if  
your partner can guess which company you are thinking of.*

### Alan for describing your company and job meeting people practice

Roleplay meeting people in a trade fair or conference from the beginning to the end of the conversation, pretending that you have the job, type of company, nationality of company or nationality of the card you are given. If you get a country or nationality card, you can pretend that is of your company and/ or of yourself, but make sure you use the nationality and/ or country word in the right way. Make up the other details which aren't on your card.

advertising	airline	architect	auditor
Austria	bank clerk	banker	businessman
cameraman	Canada	cashier	chemical
construction	cram school teacher	Danish	defence
department store	drug (= pharmaceutical)	Dutch	Finland
France	furniture company	German	Indian
insurance	Irish	law	lecturer
mechanic/ service engineer	middle manager	mining (= commodities)	office worker
oil (= petrochemical)	optician	outsourcing	packaging
photographer	receptionist	Russia	security guard
soft drinks	Spain	stationery	Swedish
Swiss	Taiwan	television presenter	tyre (= tire)
UK	underwriter	USA	white goods

Look at the whole list and ask any questions you have.

Make full sentences out of these words, making sure you include "a" or "an".

- Austria
- Indian
- Irish
- Swedish
- advertising
- auditor
- bank clerk
- white goods



*Put those words into the gaps below. Different answers are possible, but just use each one once.*

It's a \_\_\_\_\_ company.

It's an \_\_\_\_\_ company.

I'm a \_\_\_\_\_.

I'm an \_\_\_\_\_.

I'm from \_\_\_\_\_.

I'm \_\_\_\_\_.

It's a \_\_\_\_\_ pharmaceutical company.

It's an \_\_\_\_\_ drinks company.

*Find country words above and change them to nationality words.*

*Find nationality words above and change them to country words.*

*Find jobs above which seem similar and explain the differences.*

### A/ An to describe companies and jobs guessing game

Describe a company below until your partner guesses. They are arranged by country.

**Useful phrases**                      It's a/ an (nationality) (kind of company) company.

It's a/an (nationality) company.      It's a/an (kind of company) company.

It's based in...                      Its HQ is in...

It's famous for...                      Its most famous product is...

In this country, it...                      It's the market leader in...

Country				
Adjective/ Nationality				
<b>Companies</b>	Amazon.com Avon Boeing Citigroup Coca Cola Dell DuPont Estee Lauder ExxonMobil FedEx Gap GM Goodyear Google Hershey's Hertz HJ Heinz IBM Mattel Met Life Microsoft Nike Northwest Pfizer Subway Wal-Mart	Asahi Shimbun Bridgestone Canon Dentsu Fast Retailing JAL Kao Kenwood Kikkoman Kirin Mitsubishi UFJ Nissan NTT Pentel Roland Sekisui Shiseido Subaru Tomy Toray	BAE Systems BP Burberry Dunlop Dyson Foster and Partners GlaxoSmithKline Harrods Land Rover Parker Prudential Tesco The Guardian Virgin Atlantic Vodafone	Adidas BASF Continental DHL Grundig Hugo Boss Leica Lufthansa Mercedes Benz Munich Re Nivea SAP Siemens Stabilo T-Mobile
Country				
Adjective/ Nationality				
<b>Companies</b>	Carlsberg Bang and Olufsen LEGO Maersk	Banco Santander Mapfre Seat Telefonica Zara	Adecco Bally Credit Suisse Logitech Nestle Roche	BHP Billiton Commonwealth Bank Foster's Group Quantas



<b>Country</b>				
<b>Adjective/ Nationality</b>				
<b>Companies</b>	AXA BNP Paribas Bic Canal + Carrefour Chanel Danone L'Oreal Michelin Printemps Renault Total	Amoy Cathy Pacific Golden Harvest HSBC Hutchinson -Whampoa South China- Morning Post	Alibaba Cosco Haier Lenovo Ping An Sinopec Tsingtao	Astra Zeneca Electrolux H&M IKEA Tetra Pak Volvo

<b>Country</b>				
<b>Adjective/ Nationality</b>				
<b>Companies</b>	Asiana Hite Kia LG Lotte	Aegon Heineken ING KLM Phillips Royal Dutch Shell TNT	Diadora Fiat Generali Group Gucci Intesa Sanpaolo Pirelli	Blackberry Four Seasons IMAX Labatts Sun Life

<b>Country</b>				
<b>Adjective/ Nationality</b>				
<b>Companies</b>	Aeroflot Gazprom Sberbank Tupolev	Hindustan Times Infosys Kingfisher Tata	AIB Guinness Ryan Air	Banco Bradesco Petrobras Varig

<b>Country</b>				
<b>Adjective/ Nationality</b>				
<b>Companies</b>	Petronas Proton	Finnair Nokia	Acer Eva Airways	Manila Times San Miguel

*Add the country and nationality words to the gaps above. Then check your answers as a class, writing the stress patterns of any which you pronounce incorrectly.*