

SCENE 2 • GRAMMAR

a cat, my key, not mine

Articles, identity and ownership

6 Exercises · Duration: 20 min.

Arrival

English

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Articles, identity and ownership

A singular countable noun usually needs a small word before it: **a cat, the key, my key**. Use **a** to introduce one thing; **the** when the listener knows which one. Do not say **my the key**.

Use **an** before a vowel sound: **an egg, an engineer**. The sound matters, so **a university** but **an hour**. Start with the scene words **a cat, a key, an egg**.

A possessive form expresses ownership. Before a noun say **my key**. On its own say **mine: The key is mine**. For negation with **be**, use **isn't, aren't** or **I'm not**.

Form	Example	Meaning
a	Milo is a cat.	Introduce Milo as one cat.
an	I'm an engineer.	Introduce your profession.
my	This is my key.	Say that the key belongs to you, before the noun.
mine	The key is mine.	Say that the key belongs to you, with no following noun.
isn't	He isn't my cat.	Say Milo is not your cat.
not	I'm not hungry.	Say you are not hungry.

Milo is a cat.

Introduce Milo as one cat.

I'm an engineer.

Introduce your profession.

This is my key.

Say that the key belongs to you, before the noun.

The key is mine.

Say that the key belongs to you, with no following noun.

He isn't my cat.

Say Milo is not your cat.

I'm not hungry.

Say you are not hungry.

GRAMMAR

G1) NOTICE THE PATTERNS

Underline the form described in this unit.

1 Milo is a cat.

Meaning: Introduce Milo as one cat.

2 I'm an engineer.

Meaning: Introduce your profession.

3 This is my key.

Meaning: Say that the key belongs to you, before the noun.

4 The key is mine.

Meaning: Say that the key belongs to you, with no following noun.

5 He isn't my cat.

Meaning: Say Milo is not your cat.

6 I'm not hungry.

Meaning: Say you are not hungry.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Milo is _____ cat.

- ☐ A a
- ☐ B an
- ☐ C some

Meaning: Introduce Milo as one cat.

2 I'm _____ engineer.

- ☐ A a
- ☐ B some
- ☐ C an

Meaning: Introduce your profession.

3 This is _____ key.

- ☐ A I
- ☐ B mine
- ☐ C my

Meaning: Say that the key belongs to you, before the noun.

4 The key is _____.

- ☐ A I
- ☐ B mine
- ☐ C my

Meaning: Say that the key belongs to you, with no following noun.

5 He _____ my cat.

- ☐ A aren't
- ☐ B not
- ☐ C isn't

Meaning: Say Milo is not your cat.

6 I'm _____ hungry.

- ☐ A aren't
- ☐ B isn't
- ☐ C not

Meaning: Say you are not hungry.

G3) COMPLETE A SHORT MESSAGE

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

an a

Milo is _____ cat.

Meaning: Introduce Milo as one cat.

a an

I'm _____ engineer.

Meaning: Introduce your profession.

mine my

This is _____ key.

Meaning: Say that the key belongs to you, before the noun.

my mine

The key is _____.

Meaning: Say that the key belongs to you, with no following noun.

aren't isn't

He _____ my cat.

Meaning: Say Milo is not your cat.

isn't not

I'm _____ hungry.

Meaning: Say you are not hungry.

G4) BUILD USEFUL SENTENCES

Put the words in order.

- 1 is Milo cat. a

Meaning: Introduce Milo as one cat.

- 2 an I'm engineer.

Meaning: Introduce your profession.

- 3 key. my is This

Meaning: Say that the key belongs to you, before the noun.

- 4 key mine. is The

Meaning: Say that the key belongs to you, with no following noun.

- 5 cat. isn't my He

Meaning: Say Milo is not your cat.

- 6 hungry. not I'm

Meaning: Say you are not hungry.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 Introduce Milo as one cat. You say:

- ☐ A Milo is a cat.
- ☐ B Milo is an cat.

2 Introduce your profession. You say:

- ☐ A I'm a engineer.
- ☐ B I'm an engineer.

3 Say that the key belongs to you, before the noun. You say:

- (A) This is my key.
- (B) This is mine key.

4 Say that the key belongs to you, with no following noun. You say:

- (A) The key is mine.
- (B) The key is my.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| (1) I'm an engineer. | (A) Say that the key belongs to you, with no following noun. |
| (2) This is my key. | (B) Say Milo is not your cat. |
| (3) I'm not hungry. | (C) Introduce your profession. |
| (4) He isn't my cat. | (D) Say you are not hungry. |
| (5) Milo is a cat. | (E) Introduce Milo as one cat. |

- ⑥ The key is mine.
- ⑦ Say that the key belongs to you,
before the noun.