

What are Partitive Articles?

Worksheet

Partitive articles (du, de la, de l') express an unspecified quantity or part of a mass noun. Use du for masculine, de la for feminine, de l' before vowels, and remember they often mean 'some' or 'any'.

Questions

1. Some bread: ' ____ pain'

- A) un pain
- B) le pain
- C) du pain
- D) une pain

2. Some water (ünlü): ' ____ eau'

- A) de eau
- B) du eau
- C) de l'eau
- D) la eau

3. Partitive for 'jam' (feminine, la confiture): ' ____ confiture'

- A) du confiture
- B) un confiture
- C) de la confiture
- D) l'confiture

4. Which sentence uses the partitive correctly?

- A) Je veux un pain.
- B) Je veux du pain.
- C) Je veux les pains.
- D) Je veux un du pain.

5. Complete: 'Je veux ____ pain et ____ beurre.' (I want bread and butter.)

6. Fill in: 'Elle boit ____ café chaque matin.' (She drinks coffee every morning.)

7. Complete: 'Avez-vous ____ sucre?' (Do you have sugar?)

8. Define: What are partitive articles?

9. Define: Difference: 'un' and 'du'?

10. Define: When do you use partitive articles?

Answer Key

1. C) du pain — Bread is uncountable mass → partitive 'du pain'.
2. C) de l'eau — 'Eau' starts with a vowel → 'de l'eau'.
3. C) de la confiture — Feminine mass noun → 'de la confiture'.
4. B) Je veux du pain. — 'Du pain' (some bread) is correct for uncountable quantity.
5. 'Pain' (bread) and 'beurre' (butter) are uncountable mass nouns. Use 'du' for masculine mass nouns. Answer: Je veux du pain et du beurre.
6. 'Café' (coffee) is a mass noun—you can't say 'one coffee' in the same way. Use 'du' (du café = some coffee). Answer: Elle boit du café chaque matin.
7. 'Sucre' (sugar) is an uncountable mass noun. Use 'du' for masculine mass. Answer: Avez-vous du sucre?
8. Articles expressing an unspecified quantity or mass: du, de la, de l'. They mean 'some' or 'any'.
9. 'Un' = one specific item (countable); 'du' = some/an amount (uncountable mass).
10. With mass nouns (bread, water, flour) or when quantity is unclear and you mean 'some'.

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