Grammar

Hi Yachts!

Using **a** or **an**
Remember that we use **a** or **an** before a singular noun (when there is only one object). If the noun starts with a **consonant** sound we use **a** before it (*example*: **a** lion) and if the noun starts with a **vowel sound**, we use **an** before it (*example*: **an** elephant). Remember that it's the first sound in the noun that you must think about, not how the noun is spelt.

Would we use a or an before the nouns in these sentences?
* Turn up a television.
* Turn up an television.
* I live in a London.
* I live in an London.
* My name is a Nina.
* My name is an Nina.

This was a trick question! When we refer to a specific object, place or person, we use the or no determiner at all instead of a or an.
* Turn up the television.
* I live in London.
* My name is Nina.

Silly Story
Choose one item from each column and write a short, silly story or poem about all the items. Remember to use **a** and **an** correctly before a noun. I have written the start of my silly story:

*The five suns shone brightly down on the space ship as it shot through outer space. Onboard, were **an** octopus, who was captian of the vessel, and **a** tiger who was feeling rather sick at that point.*

Noun		Verb	Setting
lizard	arachnid	munching	beach

dragon	elephant	sprinting	outer space
unicorn	octopus	giggling	rainforest
tiger	orangutan	squealing	Buckingham Palace

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Challenge

Varying Sentence Openers

It is important that we start our sentences in lots of different ways when writing, otherwise the reader will become very bored! Choose the best opener for my sentences below:

Sentence Opener	Sentence
Time Connective While Tom waited,	stood an old house.
Manner Adverb Carefully,	the bus arrived.
Place Prepositional Phrase At the end of the lane,	she dived into the sea.
-ing Clause Waiting for the others,	he turned for home.

<u>-ed Clause</u> Surprised by the bang,	she removed the bandage.
<u>One Word</u> Sad,	Megan stared up at the sky.
<u>But (to emphasise the sentence)</u> But	Nadim froze to the spot.
<u>Simile</u> Like a fish,	they were doomed!

Did you notice that most of these sentence openers have a comma after them to show that the reader should pause? Now write eight sentences of your own using a different one of the sentence opener techniques each time.