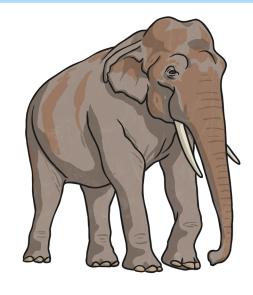
An or A

Did you know that we use 'an' before a word that starts with a vowel sound?

an elephant

an umbrella







The word 'hour' does not start with a vowel (a, e, i, o or u) but it does start with a vowel sound.

It is an hour because the 'h' is silent. Tricky!

Look at the examples below to see whether they need 'an' or 'a'.

an earthquake an octopus a game a monkey

an idea an excuse a ball a hat

an hour - this has an 'ou' sound a unicorn — this has a 'y' sound