‘The’ is the name of the game

1 Read the following sentences and mark them (C) if they are correct and (I) if they are incorrect.

1 I met Jo’s two sisters last night. The youngest one is very funny! ___
2 English people often drink the tea with cold milk. ___
3 Are you having the lunch at midday today? ___
4 We stayed at a wonderful resort on the south of the island. ___
5 Flight to Australia from the UK will be very long and quite tiring. ___
6 Eiffel Tower is one of the tallest buildings in Paris. ___
7 The house next to that one is for sale. ___
8 There are the elephants and zebras in the safari park. ___

2 Write four sentences of your own using the definite article incorrectly.

__________________________  ____________________________
__________________________  ____________________________

3 Exchange papers with your partner and correct each other’s mistakes.

4 Can you add the where it needs to be added in the following extract? The is missing twelve times.

We all had a great day at safari park. There were lots of beautiful animals, and we
liked sea lions in particular - they were really funny! My little sister liked bears, but
we told her that these bears are very different to her teddy bears at home.
At lunchtime we had a picnic next to a lake in middle of the safari park. There were
lots of flowers and trees all around picnic spot. After lunch, we went along to dolphin
pool as they were doing a display at 2pm. Display was very entertaining, and dolphins
seemed very friendly. Around 4 o’clock we started to think about going home. We
had to find car park first. At last, we found a sign, which directed us to car park.
When we got to car, everyone felt very tired, but we’d all had a great time. I’m
looking forward to going to safari park again!
‘The’ is the name of the game

TEACHER’S NOTES:

**Aim:** to consolidate and provide further practice of the definite article. This worksheet is designed to be used in conjunction with unit 10.3.

**Time:** 40 minutes maximum

**Materials:** photocopies of the worksheet for each student.

1. Tell students they have to discover which sentences contain the mistakes. Ask them to mark the correct sentences (C) and the incorrect ones (I). Give students time to compare their answers and correct each other’s work if necessary before checking the answers with the class.

   **Answers:**
   1 C  2 I  English people often drink tea with cold milk.
   3 I  Are you having lunch at midday today?  4 C  5 I  The flight to Australia from the UK will be very long and quite tiring.  6 I  The Eiffel Tower is one of the tallest buildings in Paris.  7 C  8 I  There are elephants and zebras in the safari park.

2. This exercise gives students the chance to study the correct use of the definite article again. Suggest they use the sentences from Ex. 1 as a model. Contrary to popular belief this should sharpen up their accuracy on the definite article.

3. Ask students to exchange their papers and correct each other’s sentences. Monitor carefully to ensure the definite article is being used appropriately. Get feedback from various pairs.

4. Tell students to imagine they are a teacher who has to correct the sentences. Give students time to compare their answers and make corrections if necessary, before checking the answers with the class.

   **Answers:**
   line 1  the safari park  line 2  the sea lions, the bears
   line 3  in the middle of  line 5  the picnic spot, the dolphin pool
   line 6  the display, the dolphins  line 8  the car park, the car park
   line 9  the car  line 10  the safari park