**Directions:** Edit the following sentences based on your understanding of §7.3.2.1, Selecting *a* or *an* and §11.11, Correct and Preferred Usage of Common Words and Phrases of the *AMA Manual of Style*.

1. The investigators studied physics and medicine from a/an historical perspective.
   **ANSWER:** The investigators studied physics and medicine from a historical perspective.
   **Editor’s Note:** The article *a* is used before the aspirate *h* (eg, a historic occasion) and nonvocalic *y* (eg, a ubiquitous organism) (§11.11, Articles).

2. Most of the employees selected a/an HMO for their health care plan.
   **ANSWER:** Most of the employees selected an HMO for their health care plan.
   **Editor’s Note:** Abbreviations and acronyms are preceded by *a* or *an* according to the sound following (eg, a UN resolution, an HMO plan) (§11.11, Articles).

3. The patient had a/an hemoglobin level of 15.6 g/dL.
   **ANSWER:** The patient had a hemoglobin level of 15.6 g/dL.
   **Editor’s Note:** The article *a* is used before the aspirate *h* (§11.11, Articles).

4. The physician told the patient that he should have a/an ultrasound examination performed.
   **ANSWER:** The physician told the patient that he should have an ultrasound examination performed.
   **Editor’s Note:** Words beginning with vowels are preceded by *a* or *an* according to the sound following (in this case, the *u* sound) (§11.11, Articles).

5. The writer received a/an honorable mention for the essay contest.
   **ANSWER:** The writer received an honorable mention for the essay contest.
   **Editor’s Note:** Words beginning with the letter *h* are preceded by *a* or *an* according to the sound following (in this case, the *o* sound) (§11.11, Articles).
6. Reanalysis of a/an NHANES III study contradicted the original findings.

**ANSWER:** Reanalysis of an NHANES III study contradicted the original findings.

*Editor's Note:* Abbreviations and acronyms are preceded by a or an according to the sound following (in this case, the e sound) (**§11.11**, Articles).

7. A/An WHO survey was conducted to study associations between earlier lifetime disorders and the subsequent first onset of later disorders.

**ANSWER:** A WHO survey was conducted to study associations between earlier lifetime disorders and the subsequent first onset of later disorders.

*Editor's Note:* Abbreviations and acronyms are preceded by a or an according to the sound following (in this case, either a d sound (W-H-O) or an h sound (WHO)) (**§11.11**, Articles).

8. At the follow-up visit, the physician diagnosed the patient's condition as a/an obsessive-compulsive disorder.

**ANSWER:** At the follow-up visit, the physician diagnosed the patient's condition as an obsessive-compulsive disorder.

*Editor's Note:* Words beginning with vowels are preceded by a or an according to the sound following (in this case, the o sound) (**§11.11**, Articles).

9. A/An urinary tract infection caused the patient's pain.

**ANSWER:** A urinary tract infection caused the patient's pain.

*Editor's Note:* Words beginning with vowels are preceded by a or an according to the sound following (in this case, the y sound) (**§11.11**, Articles).

10. Scabies is a/an ubiquitous skin disease.

**ANSWER:** Scabies is a ubiquitous skin disease.

*Editor's Note:* The article a is used before the aspirate h (eg, a historic occasion) and nonvocalic y (eg, a ubiquitous organism) (**§11.11**, Articles).