Question 10: Big dog, old bull, strong horse Solution

A1.

	Dan	Swe
a. *en tyr* — a bull		√
b. *en gammal tjur* — an old bull	√	
c. *tyren* — the bull		√
d. *en gammel tyr* — an old bull		√
e. *den gamle tyr* — the old bull		√
f. *tjuren* — the bull	√	
g. *den gamla tjuren* — the old bull	√	
h. *en tjur* — a bull	√	

A2.

English	Swedish	Danish
a horse	*en häst*	*en hest*
a strong horse	*en stark häst*	*en stærk hest*
the horse	*hästen*	*hesten*
the strong horse	*den starke häst*	*den stærka hesten*

Explanation

The only differences you can see from the first set of given data is in a definite phrase with an adjective ('the big dog') that the Swedish adjective ends in –*e* while in Danish it's –*a*, and Danish keeps the –*en* ending seen in definite phrases without an adjective, whereas Swedish drops this. Using only this information you can tell that (e) must be Swedish and (g) Danish. This in turn tells you that 'bull' is *tyr* (D), vs *tjur* (S), and from that 'old' is *gammal* (D) vs *gammel* (S). One other thing you can pick up is that here, when adjectives take the –*a* or –*e* ending, the double m is simplified, and the following vowel dropped: *gamla* (D)/*gamle* (S), though actually you don't need that information for the final task.