Answers at the end of document!

Other / Another / the Other / the Others

These words can take two positions in the sentence: they can be adjectives or pronouns.

Adjectives
One girl was wearing a white dress. The other girl was wearing a red one.
[‘Other’ is describing or qualifying the noun ‘girl.’ So, it’s an adjective.]

Another girl was wearing a pink T-shirt. [‘Another’ is qualifying ‘girl’ so it’s an adjective; only used with singular nouns because it means ‘one other.’]

Some girls were playing soccer. The other girls were lying in the sun.
[‘Other’ is still an adjective. Adjectives are invariable, so they never change for singular or plural. In this case, ‘girls’ is plural, but ‘other’ doesn’t change because it’s an adjective.]

So, other, the other, another are adjectives when they are describing a noun.
Pronouns
In the following sentences we don’t want to repeat the word ‘girl’ so we use a pronoun. If we refer to one girl we use ‘other’, and if there are more girls we use the plural ‘others.’ ‘Another’ means one more, so it’s only used to replace a singular noun.

*One girl was wearing a white dress. The other was wearing a red one.*
[The other girl]

*And another was wearing a pink T-shirt.*
[One more girl]

*Some girls were playing soccer. The others were lying in the sun.*
[The other girls]

*Some girls were playing soccer. The others were lying in the sun.*
[‘The others’ is replacing ‘the other girls,’ so it’s a pronoun. Pronouns change for singular or plural.]
So, other, the other, another are pronouns when they are replacing a noun. They can be singular or plural.

‘Others’ versus ‘the others’

Both are pronouns, that is, they stand for a noun. ‘Others’ is more vague, we are not determining how many others, or which other ones. ‘The others’ is more specific; it stands for all the rest.

Some people prefer vanilla ice cream. Others prefer chocolate. (It’s vague. We are not specifying how many others.)

Some people decided to go to the beach. The others stayed at home. (All the rest. The ones that didn’t go to the beach.)

A) In the exercise below, select the correct pronoun.

1. There are three pieces of fruit in my basket. One is an orange; one is a lemon and ........ is an apple.

[ ] (a) others
[ ] (b) the other
[ ] (c) another
[ ] (d) the others

2. I have two pencils. One is black, and ........ is blue.

[ ] (a) another
[ ] (b) the others
[ ] (c) others
[ ] (d) the other

3. There are four girls in my apartment. Two are called Casey and Amber. ........ are Joanne and Lindsey.

[ ] (a) Others
[ ] (b) The others
[ ] (c) Another
[ ] (d) The other
4. There are several holidays in Brazil. One is Independence Day and .......... are Children's Day and Teacher's Day.

☐ (a) some others  
☐ (b) another  
☐ (c) the other  
☐ (d) the another

5. My friend has two cars. One is black and .......... is red.

☐ (a) another  
☐ (b) the other  
☐ (c) the others  
☐ (d) others

6. My mom speaks two languages. One is English and .......... is French.

☐ (a) others  
☐ (b) the other  
☐ (c) another  
☐ (d) the others

7. There are eight pets in my house. Six are cats and .......... are dogs.

☐ (a) others  
☐ (b) another  
☐ (c) the other  
☐ (d) the others

8. There are 50 states in the United States. One is North Carolina and .......... are Virginia and Kentucky.

☐ (a) another  
☐ (b) the others  
☐ (c) some others  
☐ (d) the other

9. My neighbor has four kids. One of them is a boy and .......... are girls.

☐ (a) the others  
☐ (b) other  
☐ (c) another  
☐ (d) the other
10. There are two books in my backpack. One is a math book and .......... is a chemistry book.

☐ (a) others
☐ (b) the another
☐ (c) the other
☐ (d) the others

B) In the exercise below, select between the correct adjective or pronoun.

1. There are three girls in my class. One is a Jane and .......... are Alice and Meg.

☐ (a) others
☐ (b) the other
☐ (c) another
☐ (d) the others

2. Some students had to look up information on the Internet. ................. had to prepare the posters.

☐ (a) Others
☐ (b) Some other
☐ (c) An other
☐ (d) The other

3. One of the sisters was good at singing and ................. sisters were good at playing the piano and dancing.

☐ (a) others
☐ (b) another
☐ (c) the other
☐ (d) the others

4. One of the guests brought a bottle of wine, ................. one brought dessert.

☐ (a) another
☐ (b) the others
☐ (c) some others
☐ (d) others

5. Some people enjoy action movies; .................... don’t.

☐ (a) another
☐ (b) the others
☐ (c) some others
☐ (d) the other
Other / Another / the Other / the Others

A) In the exercise below, select the correct pronoun.

1. b
2. d
3. b
4. a
5. b
6. c
7. d
8. c
9. a
10. c

B) In the exercise below, select between the correct adjective or pronoun.

1. d
2. a
3. c
4. a
5. c