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**Determiners**

Determiners are those words that precede a noun to refer to something particular/specific. The different categories such as articles, demonstratives, quantifiers and many others.

- Determiners are words used before a noun to indicate the group of things or people under discussion.
- These include the words 'a', 'the', 'my', 'this', 'some', and 'many'.
- For example, He is a smart boy. In this sentence, 'a' is a determiner. It gives us the idea that the statement is based on a single boy.

**KINDS OF DETERMINERS**

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**Pre-Determiners**

- The words which occur before a determiner to limit the meaning of a noun are called pre-determiners.
- These include half, all, both, double, twice, quite, and rather.
- He will consume **half** of the meal.
- **All** the girls joined the race.
- He drank **half** of the drink.
- **All** of them were enlightened.
- The seminar was attended by **half** of the class.

**Articles**

- Articles denote the specificity of a noun.
- There are two types, the definite and the indefinite article.
- 'The' is the definite article whereas 'a' and 'an' are the indefinite articles.
- The definite article is used before any common noun, specific things or people

- The students were not in the class.
- The Taj Mahal is a marvellous creation.
- The tourists visited the monument.
- The indefinite articles, 'a', 'an' are used before general and indefinite things.
- The article 'a' is used before the words which begin with a consonant or consonant sound and 'an' is used before the words beginning with vowel or vowel sounds.
- The girl bought an apple from the market.
- Ram is an Indian.
- He had an umbrella to protect himself from the heat.
- Sam is an honest man.
- Sheela is a smart lady.

### **Demonstratives**

- The words that are used to talk about persons or things that have already been mentioned are referred to as demonstratives.
- These include this, these, that, those.
- Somu bought this stationery.
- These cats are cute.
- Those puppies are adorable.
- I met my manager this week.

### **Possessives**

- These words are used to show the possession of an object by the subject.
- These include my, mine, hers, his, our, your, his, her, its, and their.
- He is my friend.
- She is my teacher.
- Ram is our boss.
- This is her pet.

## **Ordinals**

- The words that show the positions in a series are called ordinals.
- These include, first, second, next, and last.
- I'll call you next.
- You've secured the first position in the competition.
- He sits on the last bench.
- She was the first person who came to my rescue.

## **Cardinals**

- Cardinals show the number. These are ordinary numbers like one, two, or three.
- There were only five girls.
- The library has around a thousand books.
- The museum has a fossil that is five thousand years old.
- He has ten collections.
- She lived in this house for twenty years.

## **Quantifiers**

- The words that refer to the number of things or amount of something are called quantifiers.
- These include much, some, several, a lot of, both, and all.
- Some people were waiting for you.
- He has enough of his pet.
- She drank a lot of beet juice.
- There was sufficient food for all people.

## **Distributives**

each, every, either, neither.

- The words that refer to every single member of a group are called distributive determiners.
- These include each, every, neither, either.
- He interacted with each student.

- I agree with every word of my friend.
- Each complaint will be addressed.
- Either of the parents has to attend the meeting.
- Neither of the answers is correct.

### Interrogatives

- The words used for asking questions are called interrogative determiners.
- These include what, which, and whose.
- Whose pen is this?
- Which is your sandal?
- What colour is your purse?
- Which book are you studying?
- Whose bag is this?

### Fill in the blanks with a, an, or the:

- (1) \_\_\_\_ good man shows himself in his action.
- (2) Father bought \_\_\_\_ book and \_\_\_\_ ink-pot for me.
- (3) \_\_\_\_\_ pen is to write with.
- (4) It is not \_\_\_\_ cow but \_\_\_\_ ox.
- (5) We could not reach \_\_\_\_ bus – stop in time.

### Answers:

- 1) A good man shows himself in his action.
- (2) Father bought a book and an inkpot for me.
- (3) A pen is to write with.
- (4) It is not a cow but an ox.
- (5) We could not reach the bus-stop in time.

### Exercise:

1. Neither of these keys **opens** the door. (We use a singular verb after neither and either.)
2. Some of my friends **live** abroad. (We usually use a plural verb after some.)
3. Have you got **any butter**?
4. **Many people** have political affiliations.
5. Each of my children **loves** music. (We use a singular verb after each.)
6. **Most shops** are closed on Sundays. (Most is used without of before a noun without a determiner.)
7. **Most of the students** in my class want to become doctors. (We use most of before a noun with a determiner.)
8. I have got **six** red apples.

9. I gave him **three of** the red apples I bought.

10. **Most of Kerala** was submerged in water. (We use most of before geographical names and proper nouns.)