



## Determiner

### What is a Determiner?

A determiner is a word placed in front of a noun to specify, identify, or limit it in some way.

E.g. This car, my book, some water

### Difference Between Determiner & Adjective

Adjective	Determiner
Describes a noun	Specifies a noun
E.g. <i>a clever boy</i> (clever = adjective)	E.g. <i>that boy</i> (that = determiner)

### Types of Determiners

#### 1. Articles

- a, an, the
- Placed before a noun (or before an adjective + noun)

##### a/an:

Used with singular, countable nouns.

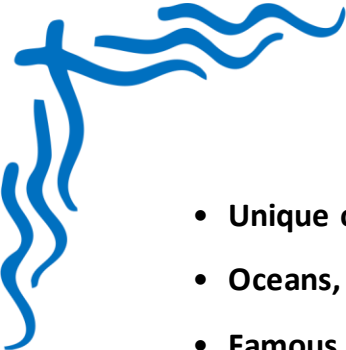
- a before consonant sounds:  
a pen, a dog, a university (consonant sound)
- an before vowel sounds:  
an apple, an hour, an honest person

##### the:

Used when referring to something specific or already mentioned.

Use 'the':

- **Before superlatives:** the best student
- **When a noun represents a whole class:** The tiger is a wild animal.



- **Unique objects:** The Sun, The Earth
- **Oceans, rivers, deserts, mountain ranges:** The Pacific, The Himalayas
- **Famous places/buildings:** The Red Fort, The Taj Mahal
- **Trains, ships, aircraft:** The Titanic
- **Nationalities:** The Indians

## 2. Demonstratives

- this, that, these, those

Near	Far
this (singular)	that (singular)
these (plural)	those (plural)

Used with both countable and uncountable nouns.

This water, Those houses

## 3. Possessives

- **my, your, his, her, its, our, their**

Used to show ownership or possession.

My book, Her pencil, Their house

## 4. Quantifiers

Tell us about quantity or number.

Used with Countable nouns:

- **many, several, few, a few, both, any, some**

many books, several students, a few questions

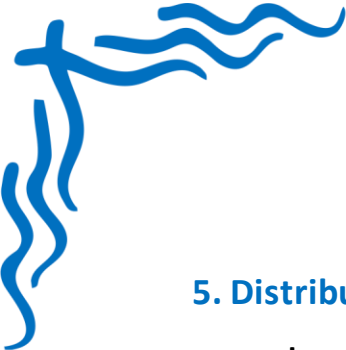
Used with Uncountable nouns:

- **much, little, a little, any, some**

much water, a little rice, some milk

Used with Both:

- **some, any**



## 5. Distributives

- **each, every, either, neither**

Word	Use
each	Individual items in a group
every	General statement about all
either	One of two
neither	Not one of two

Each child received a gift.

Neither boy spoke.

## 6. Interrogatives

Used to ask questions.

- **what, which, whose, how much, how many**

What book? Whose bag? How many pens?

## Points to Remember

- A determiner always comes before a noun or adjective + noun.
- **Adjectives tell what kind of noun;** determiners tell which noun.
- Every noun in a sentence should ideally have a determiner unless it's a proper noun.