

UNIT 12

► Determiners

There are two kinds of determiners.

- 1 The first kind identifies things.
articles – *a/an, the*
possessives – *my, your, our ...*
demonstratives – *this, that, these, those*
- 2 The second kind are quantifiers, expressing *how much* or *how many*.
some, any, no
each, every, either, neither
much, many, more, most
(a) little, less, least
(a) few, fewer, fewest
enough, several
all, both, half
another, other

Determiners that express quantity are dealt with in Unit 6.

each and every

- 1 *Each* and *every* are used with singular nouns. *Each* can be used to talk about two or more people or things. *Every* is used to talk about three or more.
Every/each time I come to your house it looks different.
Each/every bedroom in our hotel is decorated differently.
- 2 In many cases, *each* and *every* can both be used with little difference in meaning.
We prefer *each* if we are thinking of people or things separately, one at a time. We use *every* if we are thinking of the things or people all together as a group.
Each student gave the teacher a present.
Every policeman in the country is looking for the killer.

- enough
- ft.
- 1 When *enough* is used as a determiner, it comes before the noun.
We haven't got enough food.
 - 2 When it is used as an adverb, it comes after the adjective, adverb, or verb.
Your homework isn't good enough.
I couldn't run fast enough.
You don't exercise enough.

Articles

The use of articles is complex as there are a lot of 'small' rules and exceptions. Here are the basic rules.

a/an

- 1 We use *a/an* to refer to a singular countable noun which is indefinite. Either we don't know which one, or it doesn't matter which one.
They live in a lovely house.
I'm reading a good book.
She's expecting a visitor.
- 2 We use *a/an* with professions.
She's a lawyer.

the

- 1 We use *the* before a singular or plural noun, when both the speaker and the listener know which noun is being referred to.
They live in the green house opposite the library.
The book was recommended by a friend.
Mind the baby! She's near the fire.
I'm going to the shops. Do you want anything?
I'll see you in the cafeteria at lunchtime.
'Where's Dad?' 'In the garden.'
- 2 We use *the* when there is only one.
the world the River Thames the Atlantic
- 3 We use *the* for certain places which are institutions. Which particular place isn't important.
We went to the cinema/theatre last night.
We're going to the seaside.

a followed by the

We use *a* to introduce something for the first time. When we refer to it again, we use *the*.
I saw a man on a horse in the park today. The man was tiny and the horse was huge!

Zero article

- 1 We use no article with plural and uncountable nouns when talking about things in general.
Computers have changed our lives.
Hope is eternal.
Children need a lot of exercise.
I hate burgers.
- 2 We use no article with meals.
Have you had lunch yet?
Come round for dinner tonight.
But ... We had a lovely lunch in an Italian restaurant.

PRACTICE

Talking about you

1 Complete the sentences with determiners which make them true for you.

- 1 I have no time to relax.
- 2 Some of my friends think I work too hard.
- 3 All of my teachers think I work hard.
- 4 I spent all the weekend relaxing.
- 5 I have some interests and hobbies.
- 6 All of my hobbies are sports.
- 7 Both of my parents look like me.
- 8 None my family have fair hair.
- 9 My aunt gives each of us birthday presents.
- 10 My grandparents watch TV all the time.

Discussing grammar

2 Work with a partner. What is the difference in meaning between these pairs of sentences?

- 1 I spoke to all the students in the class.
I spoke to each student in the class.
- 2 None of them knew the answer.
Neither of them knew the answer.
- 3 The doctor's here.
A doctor's here.
- 4 There's a man at the door.
There's some man at the door.
- 5 There's a pair of socks missing.
There's a couple of socks missing.
- 6 Whole families were evacuated from their homes.
All the families were evacuated from their homes.

3 Match a line in A with a line in B.

A	B
Would you like	eggs?
Do all birds lay	the egg?
Where did I put	an egg?
I have two cars. Borrow	each one.
It was great to see	everyone.
I have five nieces. I gave £10 to	either one.

A	B
Life	of crime never pays.
A life	they have together is a good one.
The life	is sweet.
Both	my friends like swimming.
All	person in my class is friendly.
Every	my parents are Scottish.

4 T 12.2 Listen and respond to the lines with a sentence from exercise 3.

I don't like cereal for breakfast.

Well, would you like an egg?
A boiled egg and some toast?

T 12.3 Listen and check. Pay particular attention to stress and intonation. Look at the tapescript on p138 and practise the conversations with a partner.

SPOKEN ENGLISH Using demonstratives and determiners

Demonstratives and determiners are often found in idiomatic language. Look at these examples of the demonstratives *this*, *that*, *these*, and *those* from the quiz on p102.

(I like) doing a bit of *this and that*.
Most people have mobile phones *these days*.
I do *those things* I feel like doing.

Find examples of the determiners *each*, *every*, and *all* in the quiz.

5 Demonstratives – *this / that / these / those*

Complete the sentences with the correct demonstrative.

- 1 What's that song you're singing?
- 2 Look at this ladybird on my hand!
- 3 Did you hear that storm in the middle of the night?
- 4 Mmm! These strawberries are delicious!
- 5 Take those dirty shoes off! I've just cleaned in here.
- 6 I can't stand this weather. It's really getting me down.
- 7 Who was that man you were talking to this morning?
- 8 Do you remember when we were young? Those were the days!
- 9 Children have no respect for authority these days, do they?

T 12.4 Listen and check.

these **that** **this**
those

6 Determiners – *each*, *every*, or *all*

T 12.5 Listen to some short conversations. What is each about? Complete the replies. They all contain expressions with *each*, *every* or *all*. Practise the conversations with a partner.

- 1 A What was the meal like?
B ...
- 2 A Did you apologize to all the guests?
B ...
- 3 A They didn't all pass, did they?
B ...
- 4 A Sorry, I only have 50p on me.
B ...
- 5 A When do you think you'll get there?
B ...
- 6 A Do you fancy a quick coffee?
B ...

the answer

T 12.5

- 1 A What was the meal like?
B It was revolting, every bit as bad as you said would be.
- 2 A Did you apologize to all the guests?
B Each and every one of them. I felt I had to.
- 3 A They didn't all pass, did they?
B All but three did. Seventeen out of twenty, that's not bad.
- 4 A Sorry, I only have 50p on me.
B Don't worry. Every little helps you know.
- 5 A When do you think you'll get there?
B All being well, we should be there about six.
- 6 A Do you fancy a quick coffee?
B If it's all the same to you, I'd rather not.