

Year 6 Grammar Revision

Determiners



Determiners: The Rules

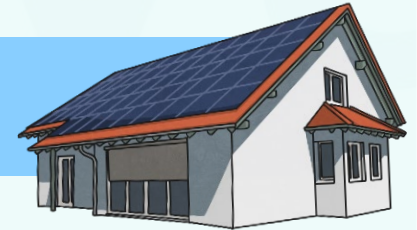
Determiners are words that come before a noun or noun phrase.

There are two types of determiners - specific and general. They introduce the noun and give the reader important information about it.



We have bought **a** new house.

My house is miles from anywhere.



WARNING!

Keep away from **the** derelict house.

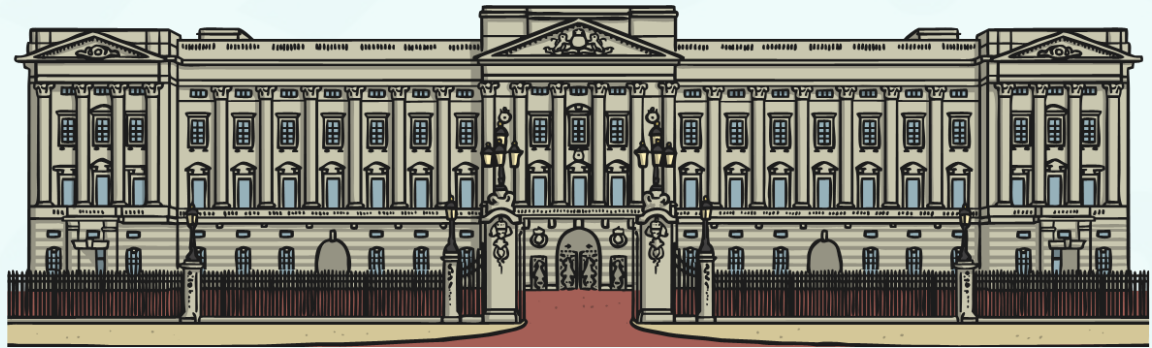
Specific Determiners (The Definite Article): The Rules

Specific determiners refer to a specific noun when the reader knows exactly which noun you are referring to.

The most frequently used specific determiner is 'the'- which is often referred to as 'the definite article'.

→ The Queen lives in Buckingham Palace.

We use 'the' because we are being specific about which Queen.



Demonstrative Determiners: The Rules

Demonstrative determiners are also specific.
They relate to the location of the noun that you are describing.

that

I love **that** shirt.

those



'**that**' indicates that the shirt is nearby.



this

Those children are often mean to me.

these



'**Those**' is used to be specific about which children.

Possessive Determiners: The Rules

Possessive determiners are also specific.
They relate to the ownership of the noun that you are describing.

my

your

her

his

our

its

their



She is wearing **her** carnival outfit.



'her' indicates the ownership of the outfit.



Hands off...it is **my** bun.



'my' is used to indicate the owner of the bun.

Interrogative Determiners: The Rules

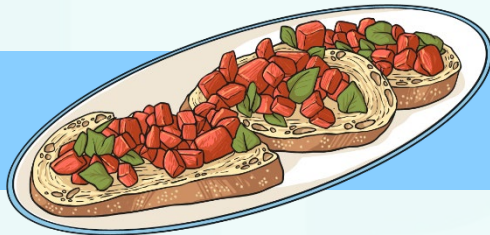
Interrogative determiners are used before a noun or noun phrase to ask questions. We use 'which' or 'what' as determiners to ask a question about a specific group of people or things.

what

What books do you like to read?



which



Which restaurant did you go to?

General Determiners (The Indefinite Article): The Rules

General determiners don't refer to a specific noun. The most frequently used general determiners are 'a' or 'an' - which are often referred to as 'the indefinite article'.

A robot is made of metal.



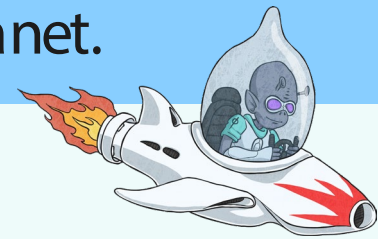
We use 'a' if we are talking generally about robots. If we were being specific about one particular robot then we would use the definite article 'the'.



An alien landed on our planet.



We use 'an' if the noun it precedes starts with a vowel (a, e, i, o or u) to make it easier to say.



General Determiners – Quantifiers: The Rules

Quantifiers are also general determiners. They tell us the quantity (or amount) of a noun. Number words are also quantifiers.

my

your

her

his

our

its

their

both

much

each

every

all

enough

whole

General Determiners – Quantifiers: The Rules

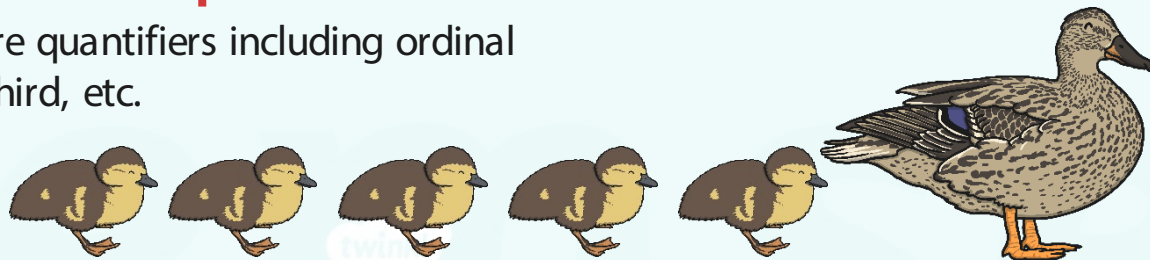
He ate a **whole** pizza.

↑
'whole' indicates the quantity of pizza he ate.



Mother duck had **five** ducklings.

↑
All number words are quantifiers including ordinal numbers, e.g. first, third, etc.



Determiners: The Tricky Bits

Some demonstrative determiners can also be used as pronouns:

this

that

these

those

This phone is mine.

(**This** is used as a determiner - before the noun 'phone')



This is my phone.

(**This** is used here as a pronoun - doesn't come before the noun.)

Determiners: The Tricky Bits

These possessive pronouns are often confused with determiners too:

mine

his

hers

yours

ours

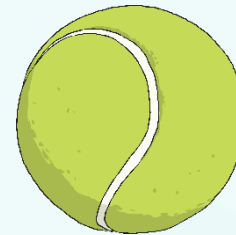
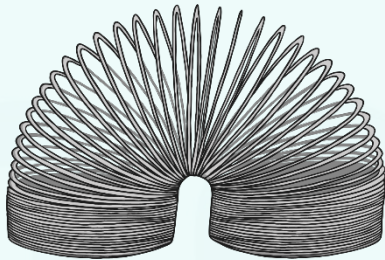
theirs

Is that toy **yours**?

The ball is **hers**.



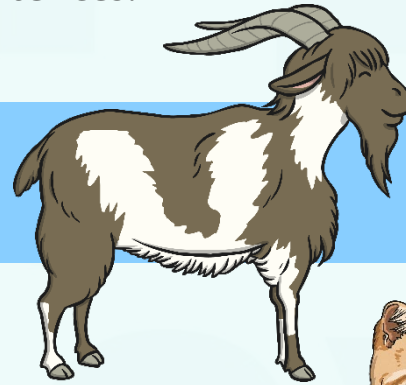
Neither are determiners because they don't come before a noun.



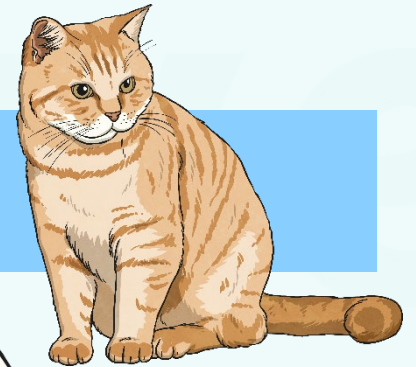
Determiners: Quiz Question

1. Find the determiners in the following sentences:

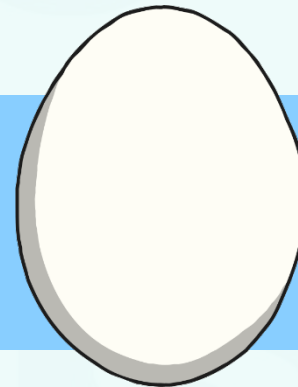
a) The goats hid from a troll.



b) Where is that cat?



c) Helena had three boiled eggs on her plate at breakfast time.



Determiners: Quiz Question

2. Decide where the quantifiers are:

a) We have got some chickens in our garden.



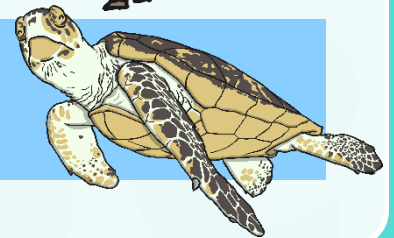
b) After lunch, I had a yoghurt.



c) Santa has many reindeer.



d) There are very few sea turtles left in the wild.



Determiners: Quiz Question

3. Chose which indefinite article, a or an, should be used to fill the gap in each sentence.

a) Cautiously, Gary approached an eagle that had damaged its wing.

b) Queen Elizabeth II has got a daughter called Princess Anne.

c) Being kind is a very important character trait.

Are you feeling
confident with
determiners?

