



Determiners Notes with Answers

What are Determiners?

In grammar, determiners are a type of words that appear before a noun to describe the scene or explain the noun in terms of ownership, amount, definiteness, or specificity. They help in identifying the specific object or things to which a sentence is referring. Words such as **articles** (“the,” “a,” “an”), **demonstratives** (“this,” “that,” “these,” “those”), **possessives** (“my,” “your,” “his,” “her,” “its,” “our,” “their”), **quantifiers** (“some,” “many,” “few,” “several”), and **numerals** (“one,” “two,” “three”) are examples of determiners and can be used to express ideas. They are an integral aspect of English syntax and have a significant impact on how a noun phrase is understood.

[Top](#)

Functions of Determiners

Determiners serve several functions in a sentence:

Specifier: Determiners specify which particular noun is being referred to or provide information about its identity, quantity, or quality. For example:, “The book” specifies a particular book., “Some apples” specifies an unspecified quantity of apples., “My car” specifies ownership.

Quantifier: Determiners indicate the quantity or amount of the noun. For example, “Many books” indicates a large quantity of books., “Few people” indicates a small quantity of people.

Definiteness: Determiners indicate whether the noun is specific or nonspecific. For example: “A book” is nonspecific, referring to any book., “The book” is specific, referring to a particular book.

Possession: Some determiners indicate possession or ownership. For example: “Her pen” indicates that the pen belongs to her.

Demonstration: Determiners can demonstrate proximity or distance. For example: “This house” indicates proximity, “That house” indicates distance.

Quantity and Distribution: Determiners can indicate the quantity or distribution of nouns. For example: “Each student” indicates distribution among individual students., “Every day” indicates the frequency of occurrence.

[Top](#)

Types of Determiners

- **Articles:** Articles are a type of determiner that specify definiteness or indefiniteness of a noun. There are two articles in English: “the” (definite article) and “a/an” (indefinite articles).
- **Demonstratives:** Demonstrative determiners indicate the proximity or distance of a noun in relation to the speaker or listener. Examples: “this,” “that,” “these,” “those”
- **Possessives:** Possessive determiners indicate possession or ownership of a noun. Examples: “my,” “your,” “his,” “her,” “its,” “our,” “their”
- **Quantifiers:** Quantifier determiners specify the quantity or amount of a noun. Examples: “some,” “any,” “many,” “few,” “several,” “all,” “none,” “each,” “every,” “both,” “either,” “neither”
- **Numerals:** Numerals are determiners that express numbers or numerical order. Examples: “one,” “two,” “three,” “first,” “second,” “third,” etc.
- **Interrogatives:** Interrogative determiners are used to ask questions about a noun. Examples: “which,” “what,” “whose”
- **Distributives:** Distributive determiners indicate individual members of a group or distribute the noun among several entities. Examples: “each,” “every,” “either,” “neither”
- **Predeterminers:** Predeterminers precede other determiners and modify their meaning by expressing a specific quantity or amount. Examples: “half,” “both,” “all,” “twice”

Exercise Set 1: Identifying Determiners

a. Identify the determiners in the following sentences:-

25. Their house is bigger than hers.

26. Every student must complete his or her homework.
27. Many people believe that money can't buy happiness.
28. The cat chased its tail.
29. Some birds migrate long distances each year.
30. Every morning, I take my dog for a walk.
31. Some of the cookies were missing from the jar.
32. That dress looks beautiful on you.
33. The children need to clean their rooms.
34. All the players on the team were exhausted after the game.
35. Several people have recommended that restaurant to me.
36. Few politicians are trusted by the public these days.
37. Each member of the group received a prize.
38. Her performance was the best in the entire competition.
39. A little kindness can go a long way.
40. The flowers in this garden are the most beautiful I've ever seen.
41. Both my parents are teachers.
42. Any student who did not finish the test can stay after school.
43. This is the only chance we have to see the exhibit.
44. These are the same shoes I wanted to buy.
45. Can you please deliver those novels I left in the yard?
46. These are some of my chickens.
47. We welcomed a few co-workers to our home for a cookout.
48. Every one of my groupmates knows my anniversary, but none of them sincerely wish me.
49. What credentials do you really have?

•

Answers:

25. Their, her
26. Every, his

27. Many
28. The, its
29. Some, each
30. Every, my
31. Some, the
32. That
33. The, their
34. All, the
35. Several, that
36. Few
37. Each
38. Her
39. A little
40. The, this
41. Both, my
42. Any
43. This, the
44. These
45. Those
46. These, my
47. A few
48. Every, none
49. What



b. Fill in the blanks with the correct determiners:-

25. Can you pass me ____ salt, please?
26. I don't have ____ idea why she left the party so early.
27. ____ children are playing in the park.

28. She hasn't got ____ money left after buying the car.
29. ____ of the students in the class passed the exam.
30. ____ apple a day keeps the doctor away.
31. I would like to buy ____ new shoes, but I can't afford them right now.
32. ____ books on the shelf are covered in dust.
33. He drank ____ water he could find because he was so thirsty.
34. They brought ____ own snacks to the movie.
35. ____ peasant is plowing the field.
36. ____ are some of my school pals.
37. ____ cat is a descendant of one of ____ rare breeds.
38. ____ is my issue, and I am equipped to handle this.
39. ____ marker is this?
40. ____ countries want to be self-reliant.
41. I saw ____ adverse event of ____ vehicle.
42. ____ are dogs.
43. ____ household is a cheerful bunch.
44. They have ____ fans on Instagram.
45. I have ____ brothers and one sister.
46. She wants to travel around ____ world.
47. ____ of my friends are planning to study abroad.
48. ____ time we spend together is precious.
49. Could you please give me ____ information about the tour?

•

Answers:

25. the
26. any
27. The
28. any
29. All

30. An
31. some
32. The
33. all the
34. their
35. The
36. these
37. This, the
38. This
39. Whose
40. All
41. an, a
42. These
43. Your
44. a lot of
45. Two
46. The
47. Some
48. The
49. some

- [Top](#)

Exercise Set 2: Correct Determiner

a. Choose the correct determiner to make the following sentences grammatically correct:-

25. Megan finished her project with _____ (this/these) drawing pens.
26. Today we had _____ Biryani(much/ enough)
27. Priyansh drew _____ painting. (that/much)
28. The ebook is owned by _____. (him/hims)
29. Could you please give me _____ (the/an) laptop?
30. Jack came _____ (first/one) in the classroom.
31. Manny is _____ (a/an) obedient boy.
32. The chairman called _____ (that/some) individuals to his room.
33. Do you remember _____ (whom/whose) sweater this is?
34. The Sultanate Era in India is represented by _____ (an/the) Qutub Minar.
35. She has (fewer/less) _____ opportunities than her colleagues.
36. (Many/Much) _____ people were waiting outside the concert hall.
37. There are (fewer/less) _____ apples in this basket than in that one.
38. I have (many/more) _____ reasons to be happy today.
39. (Fewer/Less) _____ than ten participants showed up for the event.
40. He has (many/more) _____ books than I do.
41. There was (much/many) _____ excitement about the new product launch.
42. The (fewer/less) _____ mistakes you make, the better your work will be.
43. This city has (fewer/less) _____ parks than my hometown.
44. (Many/Much) _____ of the land here is used for farming.
45. She received (many/more) _____ votes than any other candidate.
46. (Fewer/Less) _____ than a quarter of the applicants were accepted.
47. There are (many/more) _____ ways to solve this problem.
48. (Many/Much) _____ of the evidence was inconclusive.

49. We should spend (fewer/less)_____ money on things we don't need.

•

Answers:

25. These

26. Enough

27. That

28. Him

29. The

30. First

31. An

32. Some

33. Whose

34. The

35. fewer

36. Many

37. fewer

38. many

39. less

40. more

41. much

42. less

43. fewer

44. Much

45. more

46. Less

47. more

48. Much

49. less

•

b. Identify the type of determiner in the following sentences:-

25. The car was parked in front of the dilapidated brick building.
26. This cat is the one I was telling you about.
27. Max wondered aloud which taxi would arrive first.
28. Gerald met his partner at a work event.
29. Let's go to that restaurant again.
30. Where do your ideas for your writing come from?
31. Mirin hasn't seen many movies lately.
32. These are my childhood friends.
33. Do you want an extension to finish the major project?
34. Working from a café is a great option—if you order food or coffee and can find a table near an electrical outlet.
35. We can't see the lake because of these trees.
36. I made it to the pool to swim laps several days last week.
37. It is not your fault. I failed to apply brakes.
38. I met a person yesterday mistakenly.
39. His father went outside of the city for a few days.
40. In those days, Enid wore a lot of bright colors.
41. A few days back, we saw a huge lion in the forest.
42. This drink is disgusting!
43. What kind of person does something like that?
44. Each table in the cafeteria has a napkin dispenser on it.
45. Which color do you prefer, blue or red?
46. I have a lot of books in my room
47. There are few things Xan enjoys more than mint chocolate-chip ice cream.
48. Whose shoes were left outside on the lawn?

49. Be sure both kids get a bath tonight.

•

Answers:

25. Article (the)
26. Demonstrative (this)
27. Interrogative (which)
28. Possessive (his)
29. Demonstrative (that)
30. Possessive (your)
31. Quantifying (many)
32. Demonstrative (these)
33. Article (an, the)
34. Article (a,an)
35. Demonstrative (these)
36. Quantifying (several)
37. Possessive (your)
38. Article (a)
39. Possessive (his)
40. Demonstrative (those)
41. Article (a, the)
42. Demonstrative (this)
43. Interrogative (what)
44. Distributive (each)
45. Interrogative (which)
46. Quantifying (a lot)
47. Quantifying (few)
48. Interrogative (whose)
49. Distributive (both)

- [Top](#)

Common Challenges and Pitfalls:

a. Misunderstanding Context:

It is normal to struggle with comprehending context when using determiners, especially when attempting to differentiate between “few” and “a few,” as well as “little” and “a little.” The subtle meanings that each provides in a certain situation are where the differences reside. “Few” implies a scarcity or insufficiency of the noun it modifies, while “a few” suggests adequacy despite being limited in quantity. Similarly, “little” signifies a lack or scarcity, whereas “a little” indicates a sufficient amount, albeit small. These minute differences are sometimes difficult for learners to understand, which can cause confusion or misinterpretation. In order to ensure accurate and efficient expression, mastery of determiners necessitates paying attention to contextual clues that explain the intended meaning. Therefore, it is essential for precise and clear communication to comprehend the subtle applications of determiners in various contexts.

b. Idiomatic Usage:

Learners face difficulties when it comes to idiomatic determiner use since some statements or phrases use articles (“a” or “the”) in ways that are fixed and not consistent with normal usage. For example, phrases like “have a seat,” “take a look,” and “make a difference” have established usages even if the determiners may not fit the usual determiner patterns. These idiomatic nuances can be difficult for non-native speakers to understand, which can cause confusion or improper usage when communicating. It is necessary to be familiar with the particular determiner usage of these idiomatic expressions in order to understand them, as they could deviate from literal interpretations or accepted grammar norms. Gaining expertise in such idiomatic usage improves language skills and makes it easier for learners to communicate informally or colloquially.

Exercise Set 3: Multiple choice questions

a. Choose the correct option for the following multiple choice questions:–

25. books are missing from the library.

- (a) A
- (b) Any
- (c) This
- (d) Some

25. She has not solved sums.

- (a) much
- (b) any
- (c) more
- (d) a

25. This book is mine but book is yours.

- (a) that
- (b) this
- (c) any
- (d) every

25. boys have done their work.

- (a) That
- (b) These
- (c) Any

(d) A

25. He didn't make progress.

- (a) many
- (b) some
- (c) much
- (d) every

25. He has forgotten of the details.

- (a) any
- (b) every
- (c) first
- (d) some

25. The minister visited flood-affected area.

- (a) some
- (b) every
- (c) either
- (d) any

25. villa is this?

- (a) What
- (b) Which
- (c) Whose
- (d) Any

25. He is the boy who has joined this gym.

- (a) first
- (b) every

- (c) any
- (d) some

25. I met her week.

- (a) those
- (b) any
- (c) this
- (d) first

25. novel is very interesting.

- (a) Some
- (b) This
- (c) Any
- (d) Those

25. the boys joined the race.

- (a) Some
- (b) All
- (c) Few
- (d) None of these

25. Suddenly lights went out.

- (a) an
- (b) a
- (c) the
- (d) any

25. The dog is animal.

- (a) the
- (b) a
- (c) an
- (d) which

25. people visit this temple now.

- (a) A
- (b) That
- (c) Few
- (d) Little

25. She is good girl.

- (a) an
- (b) a
- (c) any
- (d) few

25. Would you like to buy books?

- (a) this
- (b) few
- (c) those
- (d) that

25. daughter is beautiful.

- (a) A
- (b) Any
- (c) Your
- (d) Many

25. I shall meet him the week.

- (a) many
- (b) any
- (c) every
- (d) next

25. He has daughters.

- (a) some
- (b) two
- (c) these
- (d) which

25. They had guests already.

- (a) any
- (b) some
- (c) that
- (d) first

25. There was water in the jug.

- (a) all
- (b) which
- (c) a little
- (d) either

25. I agree with word he says.

- (a) every
- (b) much
- (c) an

(d) a few

25. of the two girls should come here.

- (a) Some
- (b) Every
- (c) Either
- (d) Each

25. answer is correct.

- (a) Many
- (b) Neither
- (c) Few
- (d) What.

Answers:

25. (d) Some

26. (b) any

27. (a) that

28. (b) These

29. (c) much

30. (d) some

31. (b) every

32. (c) Whose

33. (a) first

34. (c) this

35. (b) This

36. (b) All

37. (c) the

38. (c) an

- 39. (c) Few
- 40. (b) a
- 41. (c) those
- 42. (c) Your
- 43. (d) next
- 44. (b) two
- 45. (b) some
- 46. (c) a little
- 47. (a) every
- 48. (c) Either
- 49. (b) Neither



b. Dialogue completion

Complete the following dialogues with appropriate determiners:-

Dialogue 1

Person 1: Did you bring _____ snacks for the picnic? I'm feeling quite hungry already.

Person 2: Yes, I brought _____ sandwiches and _____ (a) fruit salad. I also packed a bag of chips and _____ couple of cookies.

Person 1: Great! I forgot to bring _____ water bottle. Can I have some of your juice?

Answers:

Person 1: Did you bring any snacks for the picnic? I'm feeling quite hungry already.

Person 2: Yes, I brought some sandwiches and a fruit salad. I also packed a bag of chips and a couple of cookies.

Person 1: Great! I forgot to bring my water bottle. Can I have some of your juice?

Dialogue 2

Person 1: How was _____ concert last night? I heard it was quite an event.

Person 2: It was amazing! _____ band played _____ new songs and _____
(the) audience loved them. _____ atmosphere was electric!

Person 1: I wish I could've gone. I heard the tickets sold out quickly. Maybe next time we can go together.

Answers:

Person 1: How was the concert last night? I heard it was quite an event.

Person 2: It was amazing! The band played some new songs and the audience loved them.
The atmosphere was electric!

Person 1: I wish I could've gone. I heard the tickets sold out quickly. Maybe next time we can go together.

Dialogue 3

Person 1: I can't find _____ keys anywhere!

Person 2: Did you check _____ pockets of _____ jacket?

Person 1: Yes, I did. I think I left them on the table in _____ living room.

Person 2: Let's go look for them together. We'll find _____ soon.

Answers:

Person 1: I can't find my keys anywhere!

Person 2: Did you check those pockets of your jacket?

Person 1: Yes, I did. I think I left them on the table in the living room.

Person 2: Let's go look for them together. We'll find them soon.

Dialogue 4

Person 1: How many books did you buy at the bookstore?

Person 2: I bought _____ books. They had a great selection.

Person 1: That's a lot! Did you get _____ novels?

Person 2: Yes, I bought _____ mystery novels and _____ science fiction books.

Person 1: Sounds like you had _____ successful trip.

Answers:

Person 1: How many books did you buy at the bookstore?

Person 2: I bought several books. They had a great selection.

Person 1: That's a lot! Did you get any novels?

Person 2: Yes, I bought a few mystery novels and a couple of science fiction books.

Person 1: Sounds like you had a successful trip.

Dialogue 5

Person 1: Did you see _____ people at _____ party last night?

Person 2: No, there weren't _____ of people. It was a small gathering.

Person 1: Did you have _____ fun though?

Person 2: Yes, despite _____ small crowd, we had a great time.

Person 1: That's what matters most.

Answers:

Person 1: Did you see many people at the party last night?

Person 2: No, there weren't a lot of people. It was a small gathering.

Person 1: Did you have any fun though?

Person 2: Yes, despite the small crowd, we had a great time.

Person 1: That's what matters most.

[Top](#)