Determiners are words that are used with nouns to clarify the noun. They can clarify:

* to define something or someone
* to state the amount of people, things or other nouns
* to state possessives
* to state something or someone is specific
* to state how things or people are distributed
* to state the difference between nouns
* to state someone or something is not specific

There are different types of determiners. There type of determiner depends on the type of noun. Singular nouns always need a determiner. Plural nouns the determiner is optional. Uncountable nouns the determiner is also optional.

There are about 50 different determiners in the English language they include:

* [Articles](http://www.english-the-easy-way.com/A_An_The.htm): a, an, the
* [Demonstratives](http://www.english-the-easy-way.com/Demonstratives_That_This_Those_These.htm): this, that, these, those, which etc.
* Possessives: my, your, our, their, his, hers, whose, my friend's, our friends', etc.
* [Quantifiers](http://www.english-the-easy-way.com/Quantifiers_English_Grammar.htm):few, a few, many, much, each, every, some, any etc.
* Numbers: one, two, three, twenty, forty
* Ordinals: first, second, 1st 2nd, 3rd, last, next, etc.

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**DETERMINERS**

**FUNCTION AND CLASSES OF DETERMINERS**

**Function**  
Determiners are words placed in front of a noun to make it clear what the noun refers to. The word '*people*' by itself is a general reference to some group of human beings. If someone says '***these*** *people',* we know which group they are talking about, and if they say '***a lot of*** *people'* we know how big the group is.

**Classes of Determiners**  
There are several classes of determiners:

[Definite and Indefinite articles](http://www.english4today.com/englishgrammar/grammar/DETERMINERS2.cfm)  
*the, a, an*

[Demonstratives](http://www.english4today.com/englishgrammar/grammar/DETERMINERS5.cfm)*this, that, these, those*

[Possessives](http://www.english4today.com/englishgrammar/grammar/DETERMINERS6.cfm)*my, your, his, her, its, our, their*

[Quantifiers](http://www.english4today.com/englishgrammar/grammar/DETERMINERS7.cfm)*a few, a little, much, many, a lot of, most, some, any, enough, etc.*

[Numbers](http://www.english4today.com/englishgrammar/grammar/DETERMINERS10.cfm)  
*one, ten, thirty, etc.*

[Distributives](http://www.english4today.com/englishgrammar/grammar/DETERMINERS11.cfm)*all, both, half, either, neither, each, every*

[Difference words](http://www.english4today.com/englishgrammar/grammar/DETERMINERS13.cfm)*other, another*

[Question words](http://www.english4today.com/englishgrammar/grammar/DETERMINERS14.cfm)*Which, what, whose*

[Defining words](http://www.english4today.com/englishgrammar/grammar/DETERMINERS15.cfm)*which, whose*