

DETERMINERS

- * The, A, An
- * This, that, these, those
- * Some, any, much, little

A. Introduction

In this unit, you will use the words which help to identify things - to say whether they are known or unknown to the listener, which one(s) the speaker is talking about, whether the speaker is thinking of specific examples or talking in general. You will also work with words which say 'how much' or 'how many'.

There are twenty determiners in the grid given below. Encircle these determiners.

Q	W	E	M	O	S	T	R	M	T	Y	U	I
S	E	V	E	R	Y	S	W	I	U	M	N	B
O	Q	U	I	E	A	C	H	C	S	C	O	O
M	K	M	L	Y	B	O	T	T	E	P	H	T
E	B	N	A	I	K	N	N	A	V	L	I	H
O	N	O	A	N	T	E	N	N	E	I	O	H
K	E	S	W	I	Y	I	H	O	R	T	N	C
N	V	N	N	T	I	T	G	T	A	T	G	H
O	E	W	E	M	I	H	U	H	L	L	U	A
W	R	Y	A	N	N	E	O	E	W	E	L	N
N	N	O	F	L	A	R	N	R	L	E	A	O
A	K	N	M	O	R	E	E	R	L	L	F	U
U	N	E	I	T	H	E	R	U	A	P	R	G

B. Articles

- B.1**
1. The building that I visited today is a museum.
 2. A building in which antiques are kept is called a museum.

● **The word used before building in**

Sentence 1 is and in
Definite article (The)

Sentence 2 is
Indefinite article (a, an)

● **Can you think of a reason why different words are used before building in these two sentences?**

(Clue: Remember what you read in Class IX about 'specific and non-specific items.')

*↓
definite*

*↓
Indefinite*

B.2. Working in pairs, decide which of the following items in italics are definite (or specific) and which are indefinite (or non-specific).

Then complete the following sentences using appropriate articles.

- a) Bangkok is the capital of Thailand.
- b) Australia, a country in the southern Hemisphere, has produced some world-class sportspersons.
- c) A fruit seller does not earn much during the rainy season.
- d) The girl who lives at the corner of our street has been selected for the civil services.
- e) Many countries rely on a type of cocoa produced in Ghana for their chocolate products.
- f) The Amazon is considered to be the largest river in the world, in terms of volume of water.
- g) The Punjab, an important state of North India, has five rivers flowing through it.
- h) 1950 is the year in which India became a republic.

B.3. Read this extract from a story. Fill in the blanks using a, an or the where necessary.

I drove on the Time Machine without changing the lever . At last I stopped; the sun was red and very large and a huge reddish rock was there. The Time Machine, in which I sat, was standing on a sloping beach and I saw the sea stretch to the horizon, but without any waves. No breath of wind stirred and I began to breathe very fast and felt an oppression in my head. I heard a harsh scream and saw a thing like a huge butterfly. But as I turned to look around again, I froze. The reddish mass of rock was moving towards me. I realized that it was a monstrous crablike creature. I felt a tickle on my cheek, as though a fly had lighted there. I struck at this and caught something threadlike. With horror I realized that I had just grasped an antenna of the monster crab. In a moment I had pulled the lever. I placed a time of one month between myself and these monsters.

Ref.: The Time Machine

By H.G.Wells

B.4. In groups of four, read the following description from a geography book, and underline the geographical names.

The Himalayas, the highest mountain range in the world, protect India from the cold winds blowing from central Asia and the People's Republic of China. Mount Everest, the highest mountain peak of the world belongs to this range and is situated in Nepal. To the south of the Himalayas, the great northern plains extend between the mouth of the river's Indus and the Ganga. The Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra start in the Himalayas. The Indus starts in Tibet near Mansarovar Lake. The Ganga rises in the Himalayas and the Brahmaputra, also known as Tsang Po, starts in Tibet. The Ganga and the Brahmaputra join together before flowing into the Bay of Bengal. Between the fertile Indus and Ganga plains are the Aravalli Hills and the Thar Desert.

Now discuss within your groups how the article is used (or not used) before geographical terms, and complete the following table:

Names	Category	Use of the	Conclusion	Other examples
Himalyas	Mountain range	✓	'The' is used before names of mountain ranges	The Alps The Andes
Mount Everest	Mountain Peak	X	No article before specific mountain peaks	K2, Kilimanjaro,
	Cities	X		Pune, Delhi
India Nepal	Countries	X		
People's Republic of China	A country whose name includes words like republic, union, etc. states, kingdoms	✓		The United States, The UK, The People's republic of China, etc.
Indus, Brahmaputra	Rivers	✓		
	Lakes	X	Generally not used	Dal lake
	Deserts	✓		

B.5 You and your friend have been asked to help the quiz-master to prepare questions for a geography quiz in your school. You may choose topics from the list below to prepare your questions :

continents X	oceans ✓ and seas ✓	countries X	deserts ✓
mountains	lakes X	rivers and canals ✓	

Individual ✓
Ranges X

Work in pairs. Each pair should write at least five questions (and their answers), e.g.

What do you cross, when travelling from Europe to the USA?

(The Atlantic Ocean)

You may use an atlas. Remember what you have learned in B.4 about using or not using *the*.

When you have written your questions, your teacher will organize a class quiz.

C. Determiners with countable and uncountable nouns

C.1. Add a suitable noun to each of the following determiners in the box below.

a ____	both ____	few ____	much <u>water</u>
all <u>students/information</u>	each ____	little <u>time</u>	neither ____
an ____	either ____	many ____	no <u>apples/rice</u>
another ____	enough <u>chairs/time</u>	more <u>books/knowledge</u>	any <u>questions/feedback</u>
every ____	most <u>students/information</u>	several ____	one ____
some <u>pens/water</u>	two (etc) ____	a lot of <u>ideas/patience</u>	

C.2. Now get into groups of four, compare your answers, and decide which of the determiners can be used with

a, both, few, many, each, either, two (etc)
neither, several, one, another, every countable nouns only

much, little, a bit of, a lot of, _____ uncountable nouns only

Some, all, enough, more, any,
most, plenty of, no _____ both countable and uncountable nouns

Fill in the table below as you do this activity

Countable (C)	Uncountable (U)	Both (C) and (U)
a pen	some water	some pens / some water

C.3. Given below is a picture of a beautiful scene you saw on your trip to Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. Write an email to your friend Harsh, in Bangalore, describing the scene. To help you write your e-mail, first match the determiners in the box with items from the picture. (X indicates that the word does not require a determiner.) Apart from the determiners given in the box, you can also use other suitable determiners.



two, three (etc), an, a, the, several, many, very little, every, each, X

three mango groves

Several ghats

the river ganga

many prayer flags

Several ascetics

many boats

many tourists

many temples

Several devotees

a team of security officials

X sand

D. Determiners - Summary

D.1. Kishore stayed with a family during his holiday. As Kishore, write a letter to your parents using the information given below. You will also have to use appropriate determiners in your letter.

Karan Awasthi: 26, hotel manager (five star hotel), recently married, lives in Gurgaon

Wife: Nayantara, fashion designer, post graduate from Delhi University

Shared interests: reading and music, enjoy films together, Karan likes to travel, so does Nayantara. Not happy with present house, plan to move, seen houses but not yet decided. Planning holiday - Ranikhet and Ramgarh.

816, C-block

Gurugram

Haryana

13 February 2011

Dear Mom and Dad

I am having a good time here with the Awasthis. They are

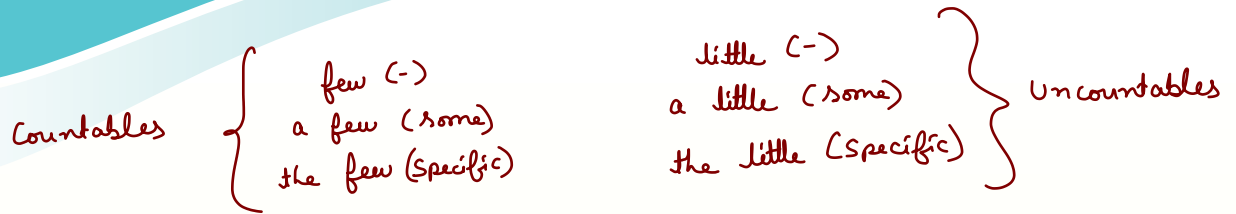
Yours affectionately,

D.2. The following paragraph has not been edited. (There is one error or omission in each line). The errors have been underlined and the omissions marked with a '/'. Write your corrections in the space provided. The first correction has been done as an example.

The area of / Atlantic Ocean south of Florida	the
has been <u>an</u> tricky one for travellers.	_____
In the days of sail, ships crossing / area	_____
often found themselves becalmed for / periods.	_____
To save drinking water, <u>more</u> horses on board	_____
would be thrown into / sea.	_____
Nevertheless, <u>any</u> sailors died of thirst.	_____
One of / unique sea-going mysteries ever,	_____
<u>an</u> 103-foot sailing ship was found floating,	_____
abandoned with <u>the</u> life-boat missing.	_____
In the last 100 years <u>much</u> than 50 ships	_____
<u>and</u> 20 aeroplanes have disappeared in the Bermuda triangle.	

D.3. Read the dialogue and fill in the blanks by using words which will help to make the meaning clear.

- A. (1) _____ two chairs look so shabby. Don't you think we need to get a (2) _____ of new ones?
- B. We'll talk about it a (3) _____ later, I have (4) _____ important piece of work to complete tonight. I can't spare (5) _____ time right now.
- A. I saw (6) _____ exquisite chair at 'WOODCRAFT'. I think they would fit beautifully in (7) _____ drawing-room.
- B. WOODCRAFT! It is (8) _____ most expensive show-room in town.
- A. But they have authentic teak furniture, or we could choose (9) _____ set of chairs in rosewood ; (10) _____ idea may be to buy some cane chairs.
- B. I guess it would be useful to spend a (11) _____ more on furniture which would last for (12) _____ years.



- A. So, when can you spare a (13) _____ hours to visit WOODCRAFT with me?
- B. We could go (14) _____ Saturday or Sunday.

D4. Choose the appropriate option from the box to complete the given sentences.

1. I have been to _____ doctor, whose name appeared in the *New York Times*.
2. I had left _____ green shirt on the bed, but I can't find it now.
3. Is there _____ fitness centre near your house?
4. _____ example helps understand concepts better.
5. _____ cultural diversity attracts tourists from all over the world.
6. That house at the corner of the street belongs to _____ people who are standing near its gate.
7. He has hardly read _____ book.
8. He drove with _____ care and hence was fined by the traffic police.
9. _____ milk is required for a cup of tea.
10. _____ of the mango trees in their garden bear fruit twice a year.
11. _____ student of this class is a scholar badge holder.
12. My _____ sister is taller than me.
13. The _____ monkeys that escaped from the Delhi zoo were found eating bananas in a fruit shop.
14. I spent money I had.
15. You may have of the four watches.