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| **Grammar Masters: Teacher’s Notes****Topic: Determiners** |
| A determiner specifies a noun as known or unknown, and it goes before any modifiers (e.g. adjectives or other nouns).Examples of determiners are:* articles (*the*, *a* or *an*)
* demonstratives (e.g. *this*, *those*)
* possessives (e.g. *my*, *your*)
* quantifiers (e.g. *some*, *every*).

**Articles*****A/an*** and ***the*** are articles. They are a type of determiner and they go before a noun.*A/an* before a noun shows that what is referred to is not already known to the speaker, listener, writer and/or reader (it is the indefinite article), e.g. *Do you have* ***a*** *car?**Do you live in* ***a*** *house?**No, actually, I live in* ***an*** *apartment.* **An is used where the noun starts with a vowel or vowel sound*****The*** before a noun shows that what is referred to is already known to the speaker, listener, writer and/or reader (it is the definite article):*Where did we park* ***the*** *car? (The speaker and the listener know which car is being referred to.)**We had to paint* ***the*** *apartment before we sold it. (The speaker and the listener know which apartment is being referred to.)**The* makes a noun specific.**Demonstratives**These kinds of determiners show where an object, event, or person is in relation to the speaker. The closeness/proximity described can be physical or psychological. Examples

| **Near the speaker** | **Far from the speaker** |
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| Is **this** Adam’s house? | Is **that** Adam’s house over there? |
| **This** is a nice treat! | **That** must have been a nice treat for you. |

**Possessives**These kinds of determiners show what or who the noun belongs to. For example:  *my, your, his, her, its, our, their, x’s* (possessive *’s*)**Quantifiers**These kinds of determiners show how much of something there is, or how many.For example:***Five*** people were arrested during a riot in London today.There are ***some*** documents here for you. (some means a non-specific, small number or quantity of something.)Do you have ***enough*** milk to make the pudding. (enough means a quantity that is sufficient or adequate for something).**Modifiers**Sometimes a modifier is used to make the determiner stronger or more specific. For example:***Nearly every*** shop in the village was closed for the bank holiday. They were able to give me ***very little*** information about the illness. |

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