Lesson 15: Noun Boxes Determiners

In Lesson 14 we found the main word (main noun) in the subject box) What are the other words in the box?

In addition to main words, we can also find

- **determiners**
- describers,
- numbers, and
- prepositional phrases.

One way to define determiners is to say that determiners are everything in the subject that is not a number, a describer, or a main word. This definition is pretty close, but not completely true. Actually determiners are words that tell us that a main word is coming. They may signal whether the main word is **familiar** to us. They may **demonstrate which one**, tell us about "**possession**" , or tell us in general about the **quantity**.

Look at these examples: I have marked each determiner Dt.

What do the determiners signal?

> Determiners are words that tell us that a **main word** is coming.
>
> Is the main word is **familiar** to us?
> **Which one**?
> **Whose** is it?
> **About how many**?

How many?	Are we familiar?	Whose? (possession)	Which one?
_____			
_____			
_____			
_____			

Dt   Dt
A man ran out of the store. The man wore a red jacket.

Dt   Dt
This coffee is good. That coffee is terrible.

Dt
His brother is a teacher.

Dt
Some students always come to class on time.

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Here is a list of common determiners and what they are called in many grammar classes.

Common Determiners

Articles	Demonstrative pronouns	Possessives	Quantity words.
a an the	this that these those	my your his her its our their Maria's	a few a lot of all each every lots of many most some

Facts about determiners

* ✮ Every **singular noun** needs a determiner.
* ✮ **THE** and the **POSSESSIVES** can go with **any noun.**
* ✮ **Pronouns** (it, you, he, she…) **do not** need a determiner.
* ✮ **Gerunds** (-ing nouns) **do not** need a determiner.
* ✮ **Proper names** (Caesar Cardini) **do not** need a determiner.
* ✮ Some determiners go with **singular** nouns, like *pen.*
* ✮ Some determiners go with **uncountable** nouns, like *rice.*
* ✮ Some determiners go with **plural** nouns, like *pens.*
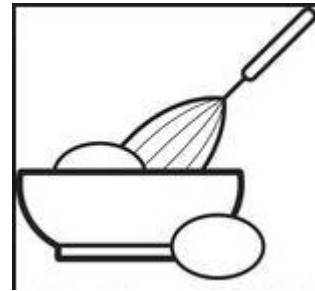
Here are some common determiners.

	SINGULAR 1	UNCOUNTABLE UN	PLURAL PL
a, an,	pen		
each, every	pen		
this, that	pen	rice	
these, those			pens
many, a few,			pens
Ø (no determiner)		rice	pens
a lot of, lots of		rice	pens
some , all, not any		rice	pens
the	pen	rice	pens
my, your, his, her, its, our, their, Maria's	pen	rice	pens

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Lesson 15 Exercise 1

Directions: Identify the X-Words and verbs to find the subject. Put a box around the subject and a * over the main word of the subject.
Over the main word, write **1** if it is singular, **pl** for plural, and **un** for uncountable nouns. Then write Dt over the determiner. Some boxes might not have a determiner.

The Caesar Salad

    * pl X
  Salads are healthy and delicious.

1   A lot of restaurant menus have Caesar Salad.

2   Some people think that Caesar Salad is the best salad in the world.

3   Lettuce, cheese, and croutons become delicious!

4   Lots of people believe that Caesar Salad comes from Italy, the home of Roman emperor Julius Caesar,

5   but it doesn't come from Italy.

6   It comes from Tijuana, Mexico.

7   The salad was invented by a restaurant owner named Caesar Cardini in 1924.

8   Cardini's salad became famous.

9   Romaine lettuce comes first.

10   The lettuce is washed and dried and torn into little pieces.

11   The salad dressing is very important.

12   Many grocery stores will have a Caesar Salad dressing in a bottle.

13   Making your own dressing is much better.

14   Lemon juice comes first.

15   Olive oil is whisked in slowly.

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16   Many cooks add an egg to the dressing.

17   The salad dressing and the lettuce should be mixed well.

18   Cheese comes next.

19   Fresh Parmesan cheese is the best.

20   Croutons (little pieces of dried bread) are added next.

21   Then you should add the magic ingredient—anchovies.

22   These little salty fish are what make a Caesar salad so special.

Lesson 15 Exercise 2

1. Question 6 doesn't need a determiner. Why?
_____

2. Question 13 doesn't need a determiner. Why?

A can of anchovies   _____

3. Question 14 doesn't need a determiner. Why? _____

4. Question 18 doesn't need a determiner. Why? _____

5. What type of determiner does question 8 have? _____

Lesson 15 Exercise 3

Challenge: Find all of the noun boxes in these sentences. Then find the mistakes and correct them. The number of noun boxes is written after each sentence.

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            un*    a Ds    Ds      1*      Dt    pl*
Example:  Food is   very important thing  to  most people . (3)
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1. After a few time, Caesar's salad became famous. (2)

2. Salad are good for us. (2)

3. Everyone know that it is delicious. (2)

4. The restaurant is proud of theirs salad. (2)

5. Order a Caesar salad the next time that you go to restaurant. (4)

Lesson 15 Exercise 4

Match the determiners with the noun. First, write un, pl, or 1 over each noun. Then write all of the determiners that can go with these nouns on the line.

Ø	a	a lot of	those	her	each	some

Example: <u>Ø, a lot of, her, some</u> olive oil

1 _____ cheese

2 _____ money

3 _____ people

4 _____ restaurant

5 _____ restaurants

6 _____ Caesar Cardini

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