

Identifying Determiners, Conjunctions and Prepositions in Sentences Help sheet

Key Information

A **determiner** is a word that is used in a noun phrase to indicate whether something specific or of a particular type is being referred to. For example: those, many, his

A **conjunction** is a word which connects two words, two parts of a sentence or two sentences together. For example: and, if, but, because

A **preposition** is a type of word used to express time, place or cause. It is usually placed before a noun. For example: after, under, over

We use determiners with a noun to say which noun or how many of the noun there are.

One type of determiner is an **article**.

An article is a word that comes before a noun or any adjectives in a noun phrase and shows whether the noun is known (specific) or unknown (general).

For example:

The car (The is sometimes called a definite article.)

A banana

An apple (A or an is sometimes called an indefinite article.)

Another type of determiner tells us how many of the noun there are.

This is called a **quantifier** and it can be specific or non-specific.

For example:

many children

some sweets

two cars

Another type of determiner shows us who or what a noun belongs to.

This is called a **possessive determiner**.

For example:

his coat

her pencil case

their shoes

Finally, some determiners shows which specific object or objects are being referred to.

These are called **demonstrative determiners**.

For example:

this dog

that round table

these jumpers

A **conjunction** is a word that connects two words, two parts of a sentence or two sentences together.

There are two main types of conjunction.

A **coordinating conjunction** is a word that joins two parts of a sentence or sentences together, where both are of equal importance and make sense on their own.

For example: **and, but, or**

I enjoyed eating the ice cream **but** now I feel poorly.



The second type of conjunction is a **subordinating conjunction**.

A **subordinating conjunction** is a word that joins two parts of a sentence or sentences together, where the less important part adds information about the other and relies on it to make sense. It does not always need to be positioned between the two parts of a sentence.

For example: **when, if, although**

I want my dinner **when** I get home.



When I get home, I want my dinner.



A **preposition** is a type of word used to express time, place or cause. It is usually placed before a noun.

A **preposition of time** tells you when something happened.

For example: **after, until**

A **preposition of place** tells you where something happened.

For example: **outside, in**

A **preposition of cause** tells you why something happened.

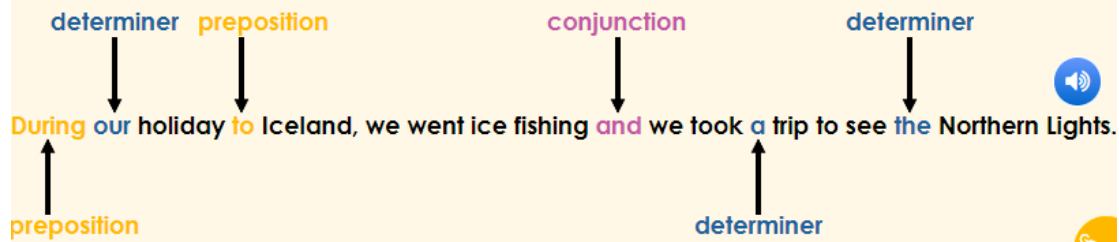
For example: **for, due to**



We can combine our knowledge to identify all the word types within a sentence.



For example:



Write two sentences that contain at least:

one conjunction



one determiner



one preposition



Colour code these features.

Various answers, for example:

We could paint a picture outside or we could bake a cake.
I threw the ball into the basket and everyone cheered.