

CLASS - IV

SUBJECT - ENGLISH GRAMMAR

**Note:** Students are instructed to write the following notes in their English grammar book with pencil.

Students not having the book can practice it in their English practice copy.

## 17. DETERMINERS

Word that comes before a noun to show how the noun is being used is known as determiner.

We have already read about a , an , the. Now, we shall read about possessive determiners(my, our, your, his, her, its and their).



# USING A, AN, THE

| A  | An   | The  |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A is used in front of singular countable nouns ( a person, animal or thing ) which are not specific.</li> <li>• We don't use a before uncountable or plural nouns.</li> <li>• If a noun starts with a consonant sound (b, c, d, f, g, h, j, k, etc.), "a" comes before the noun.</li> </ul> <p><b>EXAMPLES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A cat      • A house</li> <li>• A bird      • A bike</li> <li>• A child      • A boy</li> <li>• A doctor      • A table</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An is used in front of singular countable nouns which are not specific.</li> <li>• We don't use an before uncountable or plural nouns.</li> <li>• If the noun starts with a vowel sound (a, e, i, o, u), "an" comes before the noun.</li> </ul> <p><b>EXAMPLES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An apple      • An hour</li> <li>• An egg      • An aunt</li> <li>• An ant      • An old man</li> <li>• An orange      • An uncle</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We use 'the' in front of all nouns ( It does not matter whether the nouns are singular, plural countable or uncountable ) to describe someone or something specific or unique.</li> </ul> <p><b>EXAMPLES:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The earth      • The moon</li> <li>• The world      • The President</li> <li>• The air      • The CEO</li> <li>• The weather      • The sun</li> </ul> |

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## **POSSESSIVE DETERMINERS:**

A possessive determiner is a word that shows possession and followed by a noun.

1. My, our, your, his, her, its, their are possessive determiners.
2. Possessive determiners are always followed by nouns. But possessive pronouns are never followed by nouns.

| <h1><b>Determiners in English</b></h1>  |           |                |          |
|---|-----------|----------------|----------|
| <p><b>Determiners</b> are used in front of nouns to indicate whether you are referring to something specific or something of a particular type.</p> |           |                |          |
| Possessive  | Ordinals  | Numerals       | Articles |
| My  | First     | One            | A        |
| Our   | Second    | Two            | An       |
| Your  | Third     | Three          | The      |
| His   | Next      | Ten            |          |
| Her   | Last      | Fifty          |          |
| Its   |           | Hundred        |          |
| Their   |           | Thousand       |          |
|   |           |                |          |
| Quantifiers   |           | Predeterminers |          |
| Much  | Several   | All            | Quite    |
| Some  | Little    | All of         | Twice    |
| No  | All       | What           | Double   |
| Any   | Lot of    | Such           | Both     |
| Many  | Plenty of | Rather         |          |
| Enough  | Another   |                |          |

## **WORKSHEET -**

### **A. Find out the possessive determiner in each sentence.**

**Write it in the given blank:**

| <b><u>Sentences</u></b>                     | <b><u>Possessive determiner</u></b> |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. His brother is a very capable person.    | His                                 |
| 2. Our cricket team has won the match.      | Our                                 |
| 3. Her complexion is extremely fair.        | Her                                 |
| 4. Your donkey is carrying a heavy load.    | Your                                |
| 5. Our capital is a very ancient city.      | Our                                 |
| 6. The poor cricket broke its leg.          | Its                                 |
| 7. My weight is around 70 kilograms.        | My                                  |
| 8. Their grandmother passed away yesterday. | Their                               |

### **B. Write a suitable possessive determiner in each blank:**

1. Is that your blouse, Susan?
2. Take off your shoes and come in.
3. My/Our motherland is the best land of all.
4. The face of a woman is her real ornament.
5. Here is my dog. Its tail is curved.

6. His uncle has sent him a wrist watch.
7. My elder brother is a fast bowler.

### **C. Use the possessive determiners in your own sentences:**

1. Your : **Your coat is black.**
2. Their: **Their garden is full of flower plants.**
3. Her: **Her appearance is attractive.**
4. My: **My pen writes smoothly.**
5. Our: **Our sister is gold medallist in science.**
6. Its: **There is a big tree near our house. Its stem is very wide.**
7. His: **His activities are like that of a mad man.**

## **What's the difference?**



### **Possessive adjectives (possessive determiners)**

possessive adjective + noun

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| <b>my</b>    | This is my book.                               |
| <b>your</b>  | Is this your umbrella?                         |
| <b>his</b>   | He lent me his jacket.                         |
| <b>her</b>   | I borrowed her car.                            |
| <b>its</b>   | Do you like my doll?<br>These are its clothes. |
| <b>our</b>   | A lot of our friends<br>came to our party.     |
| <b>their</b> | Their house is lovely.                         |

### **Possessive pronouns**

possessive pronoun (*+ no noun*)

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| <b>mine</b>   | This book is mine.   |
| <b>yours</b>  | Is this yours?   |
| <b>his</b>    | This isn't my jacket. It's his.                                |
| <b>hers</b>   | The car is hers.   |
| -----         | <i>We avoid using "its" alone<br/>as a possessive pronoun.</i> |
| <b>ours</b>   | That car is ours.  |
| <b>theirs</b> | That house is theirs.  |

**D. Each sentence has a possessive word. Find it out and write it in the given blank. Also whether it is a determiner or a pronoun.**

| <b><u>Sentence</u></b>                   | <b>Possessive pronoun</b> | <b>Possessive determiner</b> |
|--|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. That was the happiest day of my life. |                           | My                           |
| 2. Which of these frocks is hers?        | Hers                      |                              |
| 3. Take this orange and remove its peel. |                           | Its                          |
| 4. All these play-things are mine.       | Mine                      |                              |
| 5. Curly hair add to her beauty a lot.   |                           | Her                          |
| 6. New Delhi is my native town.          |                           | My                           |
| 7. Their request cannot be considered.   |                           | Their                        |
| 8. Are these bats and pads theirs?       | Theirs                    |                              |
| 9. Susan lost her shoes yesterday.       |                           | Her                          |
| 10. This is a hat. Its is hers, I think. | Hers                      |                              |