

Determiners – notes for teachers

The purpose of this PowerPoint is to give a fairly straightforward explanation of what determiners are and give some practice identifying them. As I have researched the subject and talked to my brother, who read languages at Cambridge, about it I discovered that:

- a) Determiners are a relatively new part-of-speech grouping, and certain words which used to be classified under different headings (for example, adjectives) are now called determiners.
- b) There is some disagreement regarding the full extent of the determiner group.

Slide 2: The verb 'determinate' means 'to make certain of' or 'to identify'. It is used incorrectly here!

Slide 9: Possessive determiners used to be called possessive adjectives.

Slide 12: Quantifier determiners can be subdivided into a further 4 or 5 groups. Some reference works continue to classify ordinal numbers as adjectives rather than determiners.