

Grammar L3GLO4

Determiners

Learning Outcome 4: Determiners (e.g. *all the, most, both*)

NOTICING A Read the sentences. Answer the questions below.

1. All the students in my class have their own cell phones.
2. Most students in my class don't live on the university campus.
3. Both the libraries on this campus are very large.
4. Most people in this office work in sales.
5. Both my older sister and my younger brother are students.
6. All the information in this table is up to date.

Which underlined word(s) do you use for ...

- a. two things or people that have something common? _____
- b. every thing or person in a group? _____
- c. nearly all of the things or people in a group? _____

Determiners

When you want to say how many things or people something is true for, you can use words like *all the, most* and *both*.

All the goes before a plural count noun or a noncount noun. It shows that something is true for every thing or person in a group, e.g. a class, a country, a group of objects.

Most goes before a plural count noun or a noncount noun. It shows that something is true for nearly all (but not all) the things or people in a group.

Both goes before a plural count noun (e.g. *both my parents*). You can also use it with a singular count noun in this way: *both* + singular noun + *and* + another singular noun (e.g. *both my mom and dad*). It shows that something is true for two things or people.

B Read the sentences. Choose the correct option.

1. (All the / Both) roads in this area easy to drive on and there are lots of them.
2. Do you have time to read (both / most) the article and the book by tomorrow?
3. (All the / Both) information in that article is correct.
4. (Most / All the) students come to this event, but there are some who don't know about it.
5. (All the / Most) books on this reading list are interesting, but a few aren't very interesting.
6. (Most / Both) food and soft drinks are included in the price, so you don't have to pay for them.

C Think about the place where you study. Make notes about the things below, and write one thing that isn't true. Think about how to use determiners from exercise A.

1. the building(s).
2. the students that study there.
3. what you can do there.

D Work in pairs. Use your notes from exercise C to tell your partner about the place where you study. Can he/she guess which thing is not true?