

What to do today

IMPORTANT Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.

1. Read a poem

- Read *Hero Dad*. Read it twice: once in your head, once out loud.
- What is the poem about? What things has the Dad not done? What does he do that makes him a hero to his daughter?

2. Remind yourself about determiners

- Use the *PowerPoint on Determiners* or, if this is not possible, remind yourself using the *Revision Card*.
- Complete *Determiners: Identify and Choose*.

3. Write about an imaginary adventure

- Read the *Writing Brief*.
- Write about an imaginary adventure with your family and friends. Underline the determiners that you have used in your writing. The *Determiners List* might help you spot them.

Well done. Share your writing with a grown-up. Show them the determiners that you have used. You can check your answers to *Determiners: Identify and Choose* at the end of this pack.

Try these Fun-Time Extras

- Find out more about Grace Nichols poetry on this website: <https://childrens.poetryarchive.org/explore/?key=Grace+Nichols>
- Practise reading the poem. Use *Tips for Reading Aloud* to help you. Share your reading with someone else.

Hero Dad

He's never scaled the foothills
of the Himalayas or climbed Mount Everest.

Never parachuted from a plane
or circumnavigated the planet.

Never swam the breadth of any river
or explored the North Pole.

But to his daughter
rapping him up from his deep dreaming
to rid her bedroom ceiling
of that spider creeping by in furtive spurts
sending jiggles down her nerves –

He is a hero all right – a sleepy-eyed knight
mounting that high horse of a stool
a paper napkin his only armour –
See how he catches the eight-legger
and sets it free to weave a safer harbour.

Grace Nichols



Revision Card - Determiners

A **determiner** tells us a bit more about a **noun**.

- **Determiners** go next to their **noun** or at the beginning of a **noun phrase**.
- They don't carry the meaning but they do influence it.



a brown dog
the brown dog
my brown dog
her brown dog
that brown dog

Thinking about the way **determiners** change the meaning.

This is a cake.

It is no particular cake.

This is my cake.

The cake is all mine!

This is that cake.

The cake is the one I told you about.



Determiners tell us a bit more about the **noun**.
They can change the meaning in subtle ways.

A **determiner** tells us a bit more about a **noun**.
We still need the **noun**. The **determiner** works with it.



This rabbit is undercover.

His mask is black.

The mask is his.

Look carefully at the **determiners**. The **determiners** go in front of the **nouns**.

This is not a **determiner**.
It has replaced the **noun** (rabbit's).
Determiners work with **nouns**. They do not replace them.

Determiners: Identify, Choose, Use

A Check your understanding – Underline the determiners in each sentence

- 1) *My dad has never jumped out of a plane.*
- 2) *My mum has never walked along a tightrope between two buildings.*
- 3) *Our family does not climb any mountains on the way home from school.*
- 4) *The cat does not battle those ferocious dogs from next door.*
- 5) *My gran does not canoe down any rapid waters.*
- 6) *The dog does not solve crimes for the grateful police force.*
- 7) *My sister has never defused an unexploded bomb.*
- 8) *I think my family is a rather ordinary family.*

B Build your skills - Choose the best determiner for each sentence

- 1) *I am scared of _____ dark. (a/the)*
- 2) *I would never touch _____ spider. (a/the).*
- 3) *_____ dad uses a paper napkin to pick up spiders. (my/some)*
- 4) *_____ mum checks under the bed before Emma goes to sleep. (the/her)*
- 5) *My brother and I asked _____ gran to tell us a ghost story. (our/its)*
- 6) *My cat is afraid of _____ loud noises. (any/that)*
- 7) *It is _____ amazing feeling, travelling on a plane. (a/an)*
- 8) *I would love to climb _____ highest mountain in the world. (a/the)*

Writing Brief



Write about an imaginary adventure with your family or friends
Underline the determiners you have used.

You could describe your mum flying a plane, or your friend exploring a jungle.

- Describe it as if it happened last month and after each few sentences, go back and undermine the determiners you have used.*
- Do they influence the meaning in the way you intended?*

Determiners List

Determiners give different types of information about their noun.

Articles	Possessives	Quantifier/ Numbers	Demonstratives
a an the	my your his her its our their	some any no every one two	this that these those



a brave dog

her heroic rescue

that terrifying spider

An amazing adventure

Write your imaginary adventure here. Underline the determiners you have used. Do they influence the meaning in the way you intended?



Determiners: Identify, Choose, Use - Answers

A Check your understanding – Underline the determiners in each sentence

- 1) My dad has never jumped out of a plane.
- 2) My mum has never walked along a tightrope between two buildings.
- 3) Our family does not climb any mountains on the way home from school.
- 4) The cat does not battle those ferocious dogs from next door.
- 5) My gran does not canoe down any rapid waters.
- 6) The dog does not solve crimes for the grateful police force.
- 7) My sister has never defused an unexploded bomb.
- 8) I think my family is a rather ordinary family.

B Build your skills - Choose the best determiner for each sentence

1. I am scared of _____ dark. (a/**the**)
2. I would never touch _____ spider. (a/**the**).
3. _____ dad uses a paper napkin to pick up spiders. (**my**/some)
4. _____ mum checks under the bed before Emma goes to sleep. (the/**her**)
5. My brother and I asked _____ gran to tell us a ghost story. (**our**/its)
6. My cat is afraid of _____ loud noises. (**any**/that)
7. It is _____ amazing feeling, travelling on a plane. (a/**an**)
8. I would love to climb _____ highest mountain in the world. (a/**the**)

Reading Aloud Tips



- Speak clearly - appropriate volume, speed & enunciation
- Face the audience and make eye-contact
- Use actions, move your body position, and change the expression of your face
- Use voice for effect - try varying tone and volume
- Learn the poem to allow a more energetic performance
- Try to judge how the performance is being received by watching your audience