

When placed in front of a noun, a **determiner** limits the noun's reference.

Consider the highlighted words in the following sentence:

*Miranda could not decipher the text message displayed on her cell phone.*

The words *the* and *her* are determiners because they refer to **specific things**, the nouns *message* and *phone*.

### Types of Determiners

**Determiners** are classified into several types. They include **definite and indefinite articles, demonstrative adjectives, and possessive adjectives.**

#### Definite and Indefinite Articles

**Definite and indefinite articles** describe persons or things. Use the definite article *the* to describe **specific persons or things.**

- 1) **The** chef specialized in French cuisine.
- 2) **The** refrigerators are stored in a warehouse.

Use the indefinite articles *a* or *an* to describe **a person or thing in general.**

- 1) **An** hour passed without interruption.
- 2) **A** bicycle was stolen last night.

#### Demonstrative Adjectives

**Demonstrative adjectives** describe how **near** or how **distant** a person or thing is to the speaker. The distance between the person or thing and the speaker may be either physical or psychological.

# ADJECTIVES PART 2

## Determiners

There are **four demonstrative adjectives**:

Singular	Plural
this (near)	these (near)
that (distant)	those (distant)

Consider the highlighted words in the following sentences:

- 1) **This** student deserves recognition for his extensive research.  
The demonstrative adjective *this* refers to a person, the noun *student*, who is near the speaker.
- 2) Please do not cross **that** line.  
The demonstrative adjective *that* refers to a thing, the noun *line*, that is further away from the speaker.

### Possessive Adjectives

**Possessive adjectives** describe **who possesses** a person or thing.

There are **eight possessive adjectives**:

Singular	Plural
my	our
your	your
his	their
her	
its	

The following sentences show how **possessive adjectives** can replace **possessive nouns as adjectives**:

- 1) **Sheila's** brother will not be joining us for dinner. (**possessive noun as adjective**)  
**Her** brother will not be joining us for dinner. (**Possessive adjective**)
- 2) The team listened to **the president and manager's** recommendations. (**possessive nouns as adjectives**)  
The team followed **their** recommendations. (**Possessive adjective**)