

List of determinatives in English

The traditional view is that the determinatives (a heterogeneous bunch of mostly short words, often referred to as articles, quantifiers, demonstratives, or traditionally ‘limiting adjectives’) are a tiny category. But they are a bit more numerous than many people might imagine. Here are 70 items that would be classed as determinatives in *A Student’s Introduction to English Grammar* and *The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language*, plus a few of the numerals at the end. When we start listing the numerals, all of which have the external syntax of determinatives, naturally we give up pretty fast: numeral names in English are made up as needed according to syntactic rules, without any length limit, so listing all of them would take literally forever. (For a detailed study of the rules for constructing numeral names, see J. R. Hurford, *The Linguistic Theory of Numerals*, Cambridge University Press, 1975.)

A few determinatives (and of course most of the numerals) contain spaces in their spellings. It doesn’t seem feasible to explain the syntax of items like *a certain* or *a great many* in a way that treats *certain* and *great* as merely adjectives. Some of them also belong to other categories, such as adjective or adverb. *Various*, for example, is an adjective in *We looked at the various items on sale*, but a determinative (in a partitive fused determiner-head construction) in *Various of the ingredients were poisonous*.

<i>a</i>	<i>less</i>	<i>somewhat</i>	
<i>a certain</i>	<i>least</i>	<i>such</i>	
<i>a few</i>	<i>many</i>	<i>sufficient</i>	
<i>a great many</i>	<i>many a</i>	<i>that</i>	
<i>a little</i>	<i>more</i>	<i>these</i>	
<i>all</i>	<i>most</i>	<i>this</i>	
<i>another</i>	<i>much</i>	<i>those</i>	
<i>any</i>	<i>neither</i>	<i>the</i>	
<i>anybody</i>	<i>last</i>	<i>us</i>	
<i>anyone</i>	<i>next</i>	<i>we</i>	
<i>anything</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>you</i>	
<i>anywhere</i>	<i>none</i>	<i>what</i>	
<i>both</i>	<i>nobody</i>	<i>whatever</i>	
<i>certain</i>	<i>no one</i>	<i>which</i>	
<i>each</i>	<i>nothing</i>	<i>which</i>	
<i>either</i>	<i>nowhere</i>	<i>whichever</i>	
<i>enough</i>	<i>once</i>	<i>whichever</i>	
<i>every</i>	<i>twice</i>	<i>various</i>	
<i>everybody</i>	<i>thrice</i>	Numerals:	<i>zero</i>
<i>everyone</i>	<i>said</i>		<i>one</i>
<i>everything</i>	<i>several</i>		<i>two</i>
<i>everywhere</i>	<i>some</i>		<i>three</i>
<i>few</i>	<i>somebody</i>		<i>a hundred</i>
<i>fewer</i>	<i>someone</i>		<i>4,325</i>
<i>fewest</i>	<i>something</i>		<i>2,734,291</i>
<i>little</i>	<i>somewhere</i>		<i>...</i>