

Distributives – all – half

Introduction

1) Distributive determiners or simply distributives refer to a group of people or things, and to individual members of the group. They show different ways of looking at the individuals within a group, and they express how something is distributed, shared, or divided.

All people want to love and to be loved.

2) The distributive determiner *all* is used to talk about a whole group, with a special emphasis on the fact that nothing has been left out. *All* can be used as a distributive in several different patterns.

All can be used with uncountable nouns and plural countable nouns by itself. In this usage, it refers to the group as a concept rather than as individuals.

All parents want the best for their children.

All can be used with uncountable nouns and plural countable nouns preceded by *the* or a possessive adjective. In this case, the meaning is shifted towards referring to a concrete, physical group rather than the group as a concept. In these uses, the word *of* can be added just after *all* with no change in meaning.

Have you eaten all the cookies in the jar? = Have you eaten all of the cookies in the jar?

All can be used with plural pronouns preceded by *of*.

All of us are going to be there tonight.

All can be used in questions and exclamations with uncountable nouns preceded by *this/that* or with countable nouns preceded by *these/those*. In these uses, the word *of* can be added just after *all* with no change in meaning.

Look at all this snow out there!

What are all these people doing in our house?

The distributive determiner *half* is used to talk about a whole group divided in two. *Half* can be used as a distributive in several different patterns.

Half can refer to measurements if it is followed by an indefinite article *a/an* and a noun.

*I'll be back in **half an hour**.*

Half can be used with plural pronouns preceded by *of*.

***Only half of us** are going to be there tonight.*

Half can be used with nouns preceded by *the, a/an*, a demonstrative, or a possessive adjective. In this case, the meaning refers to a concrete, physical division. The word *of* can be added just after *half* with no change in meaning.

***Half the people** have already left the party.*

*Putting **half a kilo of sugar** into the topping will ruin the cake.*

*I want **half of that cake!***

*Sorry, but I used **half of your eggs** making breakfast today.*

Short Story Dialogue

– Are **all of you** going to the party tonight?

– No, I think only **half of us** are going. Not **all of us** have free time in the evenings.

– But **all of our staff** are going to be there. I think it would be nice to celebrate

Halloween all together. Think of **all the fun** stuff we could do!

– Yeah, but **half of our employees** are married and have kids. It's tough to find time for things like that.

Independent Practice - Distributives – all – half

1) Find mistakes in the following sentences.

- a. My dad usually runs half miles a day.
- b. All parents want his kids to be happy.
- c. Think of all money that went into the preparation!
- d. Half of the students was present today.
- e. Look at this cute shoes! I want to buy them!

2) Match the sentences.

a. Half of them ignored our dinner party.	1. Are they having a party over there?
b. You'd better not eat this burger.	2. I bought a kilo yesterday!
c. Look at all these balloons!	3. Only half of the reviews are positive.
d. Where are all the apples?	4. Think of all the calories!
e. I don't know if this movie is worth seeing.	5. That was very disrespectful of them.

Independent Practice: Answers - Distributives – all – half

1) Find mistakes in the following sentences.

- a. My dad usually runs half ~~miles~~ a **mile** a day.
- b. All parents want ~~his~~ **their** kids to be happy.
- c. Think of all **the** money that went into the preparation!
- d. Half of the students ~~was~~ **were** present today.
- e. Look at ~~this~~ **these** cute shoes! I want to buy them!

2) Match the sentences.

a. Half of them ignored our dinner party.	5. That was very disrespectful of them.
b. You'd better not eat this burger.	4. Think of all the calories!
c. Look at all these balloons!	1. Are they having a party over there?
d. Where are all the apples?	2. I bought a kilo yesterday!
e. I don't know if this movie is worth seeing.	3. Only half of the reviews are positive.