

Quantifiers and Determiners: All, Whole, and Every

INTERMEDIATE

Focus: Usage of everybody/everyone vs all, Everything as a singular subject, Avoiding 'all' alone as a pronoun, Contextual meaning of 'all' as 'the only thing', Whole with singular countable nouns, All with uncountable nouns, Word order with articles and possessives, Meaning differences (complete vs total), Every day vs All day, Duration: the whole day/evening

1. People and Things: Everyone, Everybody, Everything

- **People:** We use **everyone** or **everybody** to talk about a complete group of people. We do *not* usually use "all" alone as a subject to mean people.
 - *Correct:* **Everyone** loved the party.
 - *Incorrect:* ~~All~~ loved the party.
- **Things:** We use **everything** to talk about a situation or all things in a group. It takes a **singular verb**.
 - *Example:* **Everything is** ready. (Not: ~~Everything are~~ ready.)

2. "All" as "The Only Thing"

We can use **all** followed by a relative clause (often without 'that') to mean "the only thing."

- *Example:* **All** I want for breakfast is coffee. (= The only thing I want is coffee.)
- *Example:* **All** he did was sleep.

3. All vs. Whole (Determiners)

There is a difference in word order and which nouns they are used with.

Feature	All	Whole
Word Order	All + the/my + noun	The/My + whole + noun
Uncountable Nouns	Used with uncountable nouns. <i>Ex: All the water was dirty.</i>	Not usually used with uncountable nouns. <i>Incorrect: The whole water...</i>
Singular Countable	Less common here.	Used to emphasize completeness. <i>Ex: I read the whole book.</i>
Plural Nouns	<i>Ex: All the students passed.</i>	<i>Ex: Whole families came.</i> (Less common at B1)

4. Time Expressions: Frequency vs. Duration

- **Every day** = Frequency (How often?). It happens Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat, Sun.
 - *Example:* I go to work **every day**.
- **All day / The whole day** = Duration (How long?). It happens from morning until night on one specific day.
 - *Example:* I was sick yesterday, so I slept **all day** (or **the whole day**).

Practice

Instruction: Complete the sentences using **all**, **whole**, **every**, **everyone/everybody**, or **everything**. Pay close attention to word order and whether the sentence implies frequency, duration, or people.

1. _____ (you/meet) the new boss yet? **Everyone** says he is very nice.
2. I am so tired because I studied _____ night without sleeping.
3. _____ (not/be) clear in the report. We need to rewrite it.
4. Did you eat _____ the cake by yourself? You will feel sick!
5. _____ I need is five minutes of peace and quiet.
6. We went to the beach, but it rained the _____ time.
7. _____ (not/know) the answer to question five, so the teacher explained it again.
8. I go to the gym _____ single day before work.
9. She _____ (not/spend) _____ her money on clothes; she saved some too.
10. Why _____ (you/read) the _____ book in one day? Was it that good?
11. _____ seems to be working correctly with the new computer system.
12. _____ (not/stay) until the end of the concert; some people left early.
13. Did you invite _____ the neighbors to the BBQ?
14. I _____ (not/want) to stay inside _____ summer, so I planned a trip.
15. Is _____ ready to start the meeting now?

Answer Key

1. **Have you met / Everyone** (or Everybody)
2. **all** (or **the whole**)
3. **Everything was not** (or **Everything isn't / Not everything was**)
4. **all** (or **the whole** - *if referring to one specific cake*)
5. **All**
6. **whole** (or **entire**)
7. **Everyone** (or Everybody) **didn't know** (or *Not everyone knew*)
8. **every**
9. **didn't spend / all**
10. **did you read / whole**
11. **Everything**
12. **Everyone** (or Everybody) **didn't stay** (or *Not everyone stayed*)
13. **all**
14. **didn't want / all** (or **the whole**)
15. **everyone** (or everybody)