

# Pronouns and Determiners (Cohesion)



*I can't say why he chose to sleep in our pantry.*

# Cohesion



A **cohesive** text:

- flows smoothly
- makes links between ideas
- makes clear how meanings fit together

When a text has **cohesion**, it **fits together** as a unit of meaning.  
It is not just a list of random sentences.

**Cohesive devices** can help to create cohesion.

**Pronouns** make links to what has already been said and help avoid repetition.

**Determiners** make links to what has already been said.

# Pronouns

**Pronouns** are used in the place of a **noun**.

*Eric had a hat. Eric put the hat on.*  
*Eric had a hat. He put it on.*

Pronouns replace the nouns  
**Eric** and **hat**



*I me she mine his hers*  
*it him*  
*he her yours*  
*its*

# Cohesive devices – Pronouns

**Pronouns** can be used as **cohesive devices**.



They avoid repetition and make links to what has already been said..

**Eric** had found a **hat**. The **hat** was a large one. The **hat** was far too large to fit on **Eric's** head. But **Eric** liked the **hat**. "The **hat** is **Eric's hat**," **Eric** said.

Eric had found a hat. **It** was a large one. **It** was far too large to fit on **his** head. But **he** liked the hat. "**It** is **mine**," **he** said.

*The word in pink is a **determiner**. It comes **before and specifies the noun** (head) telling us whose head it is.*

# Determiners

**Determiners** go *before* a noun.  
They show if a noun is specific or general.

Determiners tell us more  
about the nouns.

*a the my your those  
an its her that this  
some  
any*

*Eric saw **an** elephant - any old elephant*

*Eric was amazed at **the** elephants - the elephants in the zoo*

*Children love elephants - children in general love elephants generally*

***The** children loved **those** elephants – the specified children loved the elephants we know about.*



# Cohesive devices – Determiners



**Determiners** can be used as **cohesive devices**.



They provide cohesion because they **make links** to what has already been said.

the friends that were mentioned earlier

the trick that Eric performed with his hat

**Those** friends who had watched **the** trick asked Eric how he had done it. Eric smiled and shook **his** head. He would never reveal **his** secret.

Eric shook his own head, where the frog had been

Eric's secret about the trick in particular

*Can you spot the determiners? How do they make links to other parts of the text?*



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