

English Quantifiers: all, every, each

How would you translate the following phrases to English?

“todos os días”, “cada día”, “o dia todo”

Let's now discuss the words 'all', 'every' and 'each'.

1) The word '**all**' is a quantifier which means **100% of something**. It can be used with countable nouns (used in the plural) and uncountable nouns (used in the singular) and time periods.

a) Countable nouns:

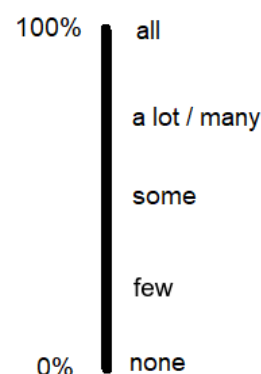
- **All the students** in my class study hard.
- **All my relatives** live in the UK.
- I have to feed **all the animals** in the zoo.
- I think that **all cats** are cute.

b) Uncountable nouns:

- He drank **all the coffee**.
- We sold **all the rice**.
- They stole **all the furniture**.

c) Time periods:

- He was sick **all week**. (= the whole week)
- Yesterday, he lay on the sofa **all day**. He is so lazy! (= the whole day)
- She was on the telephone with her best friend **all morning**! (= the whole morning)
- They spoke English **all the time**. (= the whole time)



2) The word '**every**' is also a quantifier and is used when you consider all the individual members of a group. It must be used with a singular noun.

- **Every student** in my class has passed the test. (= all the students)
- Tom wants to speak to **every employee** in his office. (= all the employees)
- Robert washed **every shirt** that he had. (= all the shirts)

It is also used for repeated, regular events (uses Present Simple).

- I get up at 6 o'clock **every day**.
- There is a train to London **every thirty minutes**.
- **Every time** I go to the supermarket, I forget to take my discount card.
- The supermarket is open **all day, every day**. (= 24/7)

3) The word '**each**' is also a quantifier, which focuses on the actions of individuals in a group. It can be used with a singular noun, or without a noun to avoid repetition.

- **Each student** received a copy of the magazine.
- I have five kids. **Each one** can speak a foreign language.
- There are five worksheets. Please take one of **each**.
- There are 12 students in my class. **Each of them** gave me a present.

'Every' vs 'Each'

- Every student speaks English. (*the same language*)
Each student speaks a foreign language. (*different languages*)
- Every man has a purpose. (*the same purpose*)
Each man has his own purpose. (*different purposes*)
- Every student has a book. (*the same book*)
Each student has a book. (*different books*)

Summary:	all	plural (C) or singular (UC) noun	The whole thing/group
	every	singular noun	All individuals of a group (treated as the same)
	each	singular noun	All individuals in a group (treated as different)

Exercise. Complete with 'all', 'every' or 'each'. Sometimes, more than one is possible.

1. Are you going to stay in the shower _____ day?
2. My brother and my sister _____ has one child.
- 3a. _____ parents want the best for their children.
- 3b. _____ parent wants the best for their children.
4. _____ the houses in my street are green!
5. The baby hasn't stopped crying _____ night.
6. Close your eyes. Now open _____ one slowly: first the left one, then the right one.
7. _____ time she calls him, the line is busy!
8. _____ the brothers work for the same bank, but _____ of them works in a different branch.
9. He gave _____ one of them a free ticket.
10. Doctor: Take one pill _____ four hours.
- 11a. _____ hotel in the town is full.
- 11b. _____ hotels in the town are full.
12. These lemons cost 25 cents _____.
- 13a. _____ student has a pen.
- 13b. _____ student has a different pen.
- 13c. _____ the students have pens.
14. _____ answer is worth 2 points.
- 15a. They are open _____ day, except Sunday.
- 15b. They are open _____ day – they close at midnight.