3.2: Functional Categories

"Particles [like infinitival *to]* ,auxiliaries [like *do* (cf. *Do* you want to smoke?)] , determiners [like *the]* , pronouns [like *they]*, and complementizers [(i.e. complement-clause introducing particle) like *that* (cf. I said *that* I was tired)] are **functional categories** because words belonging to these categories have essentially grammatical function." (Radford,1997:38)" and "have no obvious antonyms". (Radford,1997:38)

3.2.1 :Determiners

Items as in the bold-printed in (1) are called determiners (i.e. belonging to the category of **determiner** , abbreviated to **D**, or sometimes to **DET**) because they determine the referential or quantificational properties of the italicized noun expression which follows them:

(1)
(i) I bought **a** *new battery* from **the** *local garage*.
(ii) I prefer **this** *painting* to **that** *photo*.
(iii) **My** *studio apartment* is bigger than **your** *garage*.
(iv) **All** *comedians* tell **some** *bad jokes*.

Quantifying determiners ,such as **all** and **some** ,are sometimes regarded as a subcategory of quantifiers. Referential Determiners refer to a specific entity assumed to be known by the hearer.