

Unit 87

All, every and whole

a All everyone everybody everything

We do not normally use **all** to mean **everyone/everybody**:

- **Everybody** enjoyed the party. (*not* 'All enjoyed...')
- Ann knows **everyone** in her street. (*not* '... all in her street')

Sometimes you can use **all** to mean **everything**, but it is usually better to say **everything**:

- He thinks he knows **everything**. (*not* 'knows all')
- It was an awful holiday. **Everything** went wrong. (*not* 'all went wrong')

But you can use **all** in the expression **all about**:

... ..

- **All** I've eaten today is a sandwich. (= the only thing I've eaten)

b We use a *singular* verb after **every/everyone/everybody/everything**:

- **Every seat** in the theatre **was** taken.
- **Everybody looks** tired today.
- **Everything** he said **was** true.

But we often use **they/them/their** after **everyone/everybody**:

We say **the/my/her** etc. before **whole**. Compare:

the whole book / **all the book** **her whole life** / **all her life**

You can also say 'a whole ...':

- Jack ate **a whole chocolate cake** last night. (= a complete cake)

We do not normally use **whole** with uncountable nouns:

all the money (*not* 'the whole money')

d Every/all/whole with time words

We use **every** to say how often something happens. So we say **every day** / **every week** / **every Monday** / **every ten minutes** / **every three weeks** etc.:

- We go out **every Friday night**.
- The buses run **every ten minutes**.
- Ann goes to see her mother **every three weeks**.

All day / **the whole day** = the complete day:

- We spent **all day** / **the whole day** on the beach.
- I've been trying to find you **all morning** / **the whole morning**.

Note that we say **all day** / **all week** etc. (*not* 'all the day / all the week')

For **all** see also **Units 82 and 106**.

the whole book / **all the book** **her whole life** / **all her life**

