

Of with determiners

Determiners like some, any, each, every, either, neither, all, both, much, many and most can be used directly before nouns, without of.

Have you got any sugar? (NOT Have you got any of sugar?)

Most people like children. (NOT Most of people like children.)

But if we want to put one of these determiners with an article, a possessive or a demonstrative, we have to use of.

Compare:

Some people want a new system. (NOT Some of people want a new system.)

Some of these people want a new system. (NOT Some these people want a new system.)

Each child needs education. (NOT Each of child needs education.)

Each of my children was given a toy. (NOT Each my children was given a toy.)

Neither answer is correct. (NOT Neither of answer is correct.)

Neither of these answers is correct. (NOT Neither these answers is correct.)

Notes

The determiners no and every are not used before of. Instead we use none and everyone.

He has no friends.

None of his friends remembered his birthday. (NOT No of his friends remembered his birthday.)

Every boy has handed in his work.

Every one of the boys has handed in his work. (NOT Every of the boys has handed in his work.)