

COUNTABLE AND UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS, QUANTIFIERS

FORM AND USE

	SINGULAR	PLURAL	
COUNTABLE NOUN	a chair one chair	chairs two chairs some chairs several chairs a lot of chairs many chairs a few chairs few chairs	Some nouns are called COUNTABLE NOUNS : In the singular, they can be preceded by a/an or one . They have a plural form: -s or -es .
UNCOUNTABLE NOUN	furniture some furniture a lot of furniture much furniture a little furniture little furniture		Some nouns are called UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS : They are NOT preceded by a/an or one . They do NOT have a plural form (NO final -s is added).

Most **UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS** are things which we clearly cannot count. We use **zero article**, or **some**.

Gas, liquid, material	iron water paper air
Grains	rice sugar flour coffee
Abstract ideas	health time fun peace
Feelings	anger pity courage boredom
Activities	travel work research behaviour

Other common UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS which do not normally have plural **-s**, and use a singular verb:

accommodation	experience	information	money
advice	furniture	knowledge	rubbish
equipment	hair	luggage	scenery
work	homework	weather	traffic

PRACTICE

1 Complete *a, an, or some* and circle uncountable nouns.

_____ cup	_____ dog	_____ flower	_____ knowledge	_____ guitar
_____ love	_____ meat	_____ music	_____ ear	_____ oil
_____ photo	_____ advice	_____ river	_____ salt	_____ snow
_____ sugar	_____ women	_____ wool	_____ information	_____ article

2 Complete the sentences with the correct form, singular or plural, of the given nouns. When necessary, choose the correct word in parentheses in some of the sentences.

- 1 *chair* I bought some _____.
- 2 *furniture* I bought some _____.
- 3 *information* There (is, are) a lot of _____ in an encyclopaedia.
- 4 *fact* There (is, are) a lot of _____ in an encyclopaedia.
- 5 *vocabulary* I'm learning a lot of new _____.
- 6 *word* I'm learning a lot of new _____.
- 7 *homework* I have a lot of _____ to do tonight.
- 8 *assignment* The teacher gives us a lot of _____.
- 9 *patience* Teaching children to read requires a lot of _____.
- 10 *news* There (isn't, aren't) any interesting _____ in today's paper.

3 Complete the sentences with **MUCH** or **MANY** and the singular or plural form of the noun.

- 1 How _____ (apple) did you buy?
- 2 Louise drinks too _____ (coffee).
- 3 How _____ (letter) did you get yesterday?
- 4 Billy has a stomach ache. He ate too _____ (sandwich).
- 5 I didn't have _____ (fun) at the party. It was boring.

4 Complete the sentences with **FEW**, **A FEW**, **LITTLE**, or **A LITTLE**.

- 1 She has _____ self-confidence. She has a lot of trouble talking to new people.
- 2 I'm not finished with my work. I need _____ more time.
- 3 I have _____ good friends. I'm not lonely.
- 4 Very _____ people think that there are other planets in our solar system with human life.
- 5 I need to do _____ work before I go out tonight.
- 6 I have got _____ magazines. I prefer books.
- 7 We know very _____ about the deep oceans.
- 8 I still have _____ money in the bank, so I'll wait till January to look for a job.