

COUNTABLE X UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS QUANTIFIERS (many / much; few / a few; little / a little...)

Countable nouns (e.g. a man, a school, a window)

Singular: a / the school Plural: schools / the schools

Uncountable nouns (milk, homework, information)

Singular: -/some/the homework NO plural form \rightarrow **verb always in singular!!!**

List of common uncountables:

Substances: plastic, iron, wood, paper... Liquids and gasses: water, oxygen... Drinks: coffee, milk, tea, juice...

Food: chicken, yogurt, toast ...

Abstract ideas: happiness, anger, love... **Mass nouns**: equipment, furniture, luggage...

a piece of, two pieces of...

The nouns below are also UNCOUNTABLE:

- work/homework/housework...
- advice
- information
- knowledge
- news

PRACTICE

1 Choose the correct alternative.

- 1 Let me give you an/some advice.
- 2 Kate doesn't like ---/a milk.
- 3 Could you pass me the/--- tea, please?
- 4 There's some/a coffee left.
- 5 There is **a/some** woman waiting outside the cinema.
- 6 We must find a/some information/informations about the departure.
- 7 Money **is/are** very important to him.
- 8 None of the passengers had insured their **baggage/baggages**.

Quantifiers

Countables	Uncountables	Both: C/U	
How many?	How much?	a lot of/lots of	
many	 much (ONLY in 	enough	
 a few (několik) 	negative or	 hardly any ("hardly any" 	
few (málo)	question!!!)	+ positive form of verb)	
 several (několik) 	 a little (trochu) 	 no 	
both (oba)	little (málo)		
 a couple of (pár, "2-4") 	 a bit of (informal; trochu) 		

Centrum jazykového vzdělávání, Masarykova univerzita Žerotínovo nám. 9, 601 77 Brno tel. 549 49 6816, fax 549 49 1070 e-mail: ciy@rect.muni.cz. http://lingua.muni.cz/











PRACTICE

2 Complete the questions			_	
A				
B	people a	are there in your clas	SS?	
C	coffee do you drink a day?			
D	does a d	cup of coffee cost?		
E	languag	es do you speak?		
F	informat	ion has leaked out?		
3 Complete these sentence A It cost me	money	to buy that present		
B We didn't take	pi	ctures when we wer	e on holiday.	
C He always puts	s	alt on his food.		
D They don't have		furniture in their flat	. They've just moved in.	
E Tom drinks	milk -	- at least one litre a	day.	
F We must hurry as we don'	t have	time		
G She is a very quiet persor	ı. She does	n't say		
4 Complete the sentences	with appro	opriate quantifiers.		
A Listen carefully. I'm going	to give you		(jednu radu) advice.	
B Do you mind if I ask you _		(několi	k otázek) questions?	
C The cinema was almost e	mpty. Very		_ (málo lidí) people were there.	
D The weather has been ver	ry dry recer	ntly. We've had	(málo deště) rain.	
E I don't think Jill would be a	good teac	her. She's got	(málo trpělivosti) patience.	
F 'Would you like milk in you	ır coffee?'	'Yes, please	(trochu) '.	
G Can you lend me		(několik) dolla	ars?	