

Countable and Uncountable Nouns



Do you remember what a noun is?

A noun is.....

a person

a place

a 'thing'

Some nouns are **countable** and some nouns are **uncountable**.

Countable nouns



Countable nouns are the nouns we can count.

If there is only one (singular noun) we use **a** or **an** in front of it.

e.g. a lemon, an apple

If there is more than one (plural noun) we usually add **-s** to the noun.

e.g. apples, lemons

If we want to ask about the quantity of a countable noun we use the phrase, *how many?*

e.g. How many apples do you want?

Uncountable nouns

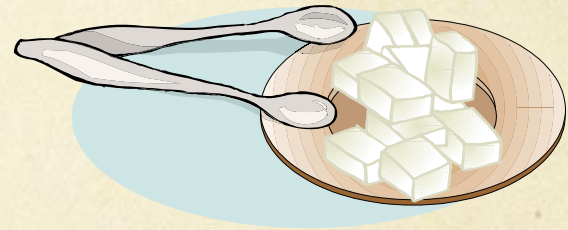
Uncountable nouns are nouns **we cannot or do not count.**

They are always in the singular form so we never use a or an with them.

However, we can use quantity words with them.
e.g. a bag of, a cup of....

If we want to talk about quantity we use the phrase
how much

e.g. How much sugar do you want in your tea?



NOTE

Some nouns can be countable or uncountable.

This depends on if we are talking about a specific item or in general.

e.g. Let's buy two peppers (countable)

Let's buy peppers. (uncountable)



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Nouns	Plural forms	examples
most nouns	+ s	duck → ducks apple → apples
ending in x, ss, ch, sh	+ es	church → churches peach → peaches
ending in a vowel + y	+s	day → days toy → toys
ending in a consonant +y	- y and + ies	cherry → cherries lolly → lollies

Read the conversation and
correct the mistakes



Tom: Let's make a sandwich for lunch. How many bread will we need?

Lee: Four slices will be enough. We will need a cheese and four tomato.

Tom: I like to have ham in my sandwich.

Lee: Okay, how many ham do you want to put in?

Tom: Six slice should be enough.

Lee: Would you like a onion to eat with the cheese?

Tom: No thank you, but will it take long to make as I am hungry.

Lee: No, about five minute.

Have you spotted all the mistakes?

Tom: Let's make a sandwich for lunch. How **much** bread will we need?

Lee: Four slices will be enough. We will need - cheese and four tomatoes.

Tom: I like to have ham in my sandwich.

Lee: Okay, how **much** ham do you want to put in?

Tom: Six slices should be enough.

Lee: Would you like an onion to eat with the cheese?

Tom: No thank you, but will it take long to make as I am hungry.

Lee: No, about five minutes.

Can we count the objects?

Countable ✓

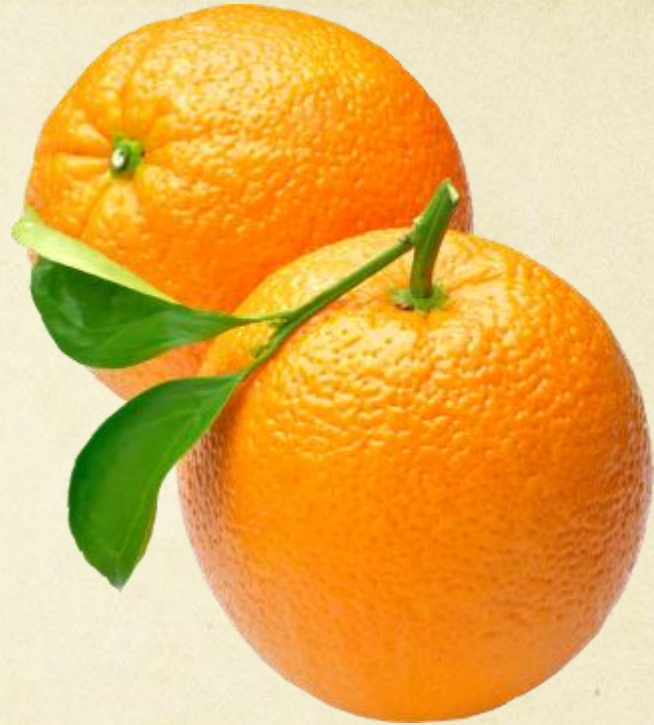
Uncountable ✗



Can we count oranges?



an orange



two oranges

Can we count rice?



some rice

Can we count dogs?



a dog



four dogs

Can we count cars?



a car



four cars

Can we count paint?



some paint

Can we count students?



a student



some students

Can we count water?



some water

a/an + countable singular nouns

an + vowel

a + consonant



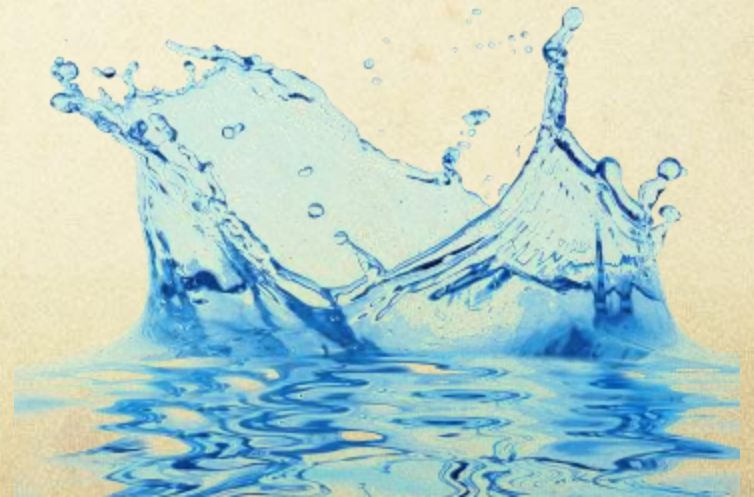


**some: affirmative sentences
with plural nouns**





some: affirmative sentences.
With uncountable nouns



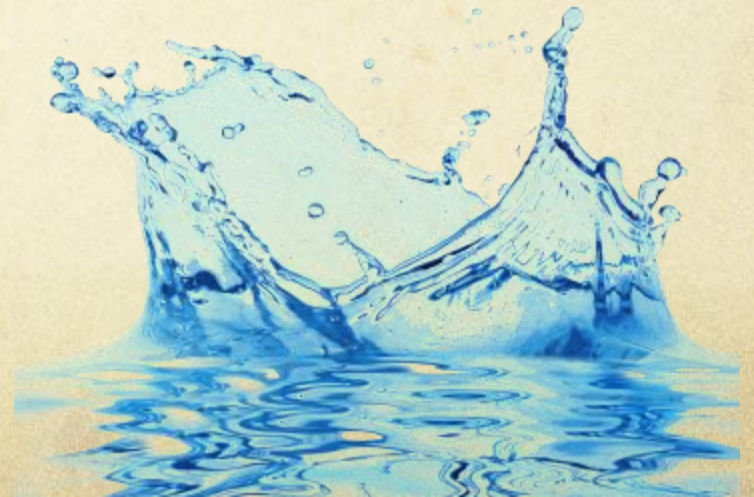
any: negative sentences and questions with plural nouns

negative



any: negative sentences and questions
with uncountable nouns

negative



a lot of with plural nouns and
uncountable nouns



negative

many with countable nouns in negative sentences



negative

much with **uncountable nouns** in **negative sentences**





how many with countable
nouns in questions








how much with uncountable nouns in questions





a – an – some – any

	Countable singular	Countable plural	Uncountable
			
affirmative	a - an	some	some
negative	a - an	any	any
questions	a - an	any	any

much – many – a lot of

how much- how many

	Countable plural	Uncountable
		
affirmative	a lot of	a lot of
negative	many	much
questions	How many	How much

Complete the sentences

- There is _____ new teacher at school.
- This cake needs _____ sugar. 500 grams!!
- _____ students are there in your class? 24
- There isn't _____ butter in the fridge. Only a little bit.
- There were _____ people at the concert! It was a success!

- There are _____ expensive flats in the centre.
Maybe 3 or 4
- _____ water do you drink every day?
- It was good because there weren't _____
mistakes in the exam. Only 2.
- This is _____ interesting story
- How _____ sugar do you want in your tea?
A spoon