



Countable / uncountable nouns





Language focus Countable and uncountable nouns

Look at the examples and underline the correct options below.

I'd like **a cheeseburger**, please.

Would you like **rice** with that?

- Countable nouns have a singular or plural form. You can / cannot count them.
- Uncountable nouns only have a singular form. You can / cannot count them.
- You can / cannot use a or an before an uncountable noun.

There are 2 kinds of noun in English:



- **Countable**
- Things you can count (singular or plural)
- One apple, two apples, three apples...

There are 2 kinds of noun in English:



- **Uncountable**
- Things you can't count (they can't be plural)
- Butter, meat...
- Some nouns can be countable or uncountable but the meaning is different.
- Example: chocolate

There are 2 kinds of noun in English:



- **Countable and uncountable?**
- Some words can be countable or uncountable with a difference in meaning.
- e.g.
- Iron
- Cake
- Chicken
- time













9 Put these words in the correct groups. Use a dictionary to help you.

chocolate broccoli potato rice coffee juice aubergine omelette
salmon milk sugar salt prawn fruit chicken sandwich lettuce
pizza spaghetti salad meal food tomato curry vegetable

countable	both	uncountable
meal	chocolate	broccoli
potato	coffee	rice
aubergine	salmon	juice
omelette	fruit	milk
prawn	chicken	sugar
pizza	coffee	salt
salad		lettuce
tomato		spaghetti
vegetable		curry
		food

A / AN / SOME / ANY



Type of sentence	Countable	Uncountable
+ We need	an apple some apples	some butter some milk
- We don't need	a tomato any tomatoes	any rice any sugar
? Do we need	a tomato? any tomatoes?	any rice? any sugar?

A / AN / SOME / ANY



- Use **a / an** with singular countable nouns.
- Use **some** with plural countable nouns and uncountable (+ sentences)
- Use **any** with plural countable nouns and uncountable nouns in – or ? sentences.
- We can also use **some** in ? to ask for and offerings:
 - Can I have some coffee?
 - Do you want some biscuits?

How much / how many...?



- Use *How much...?* with uncountable nouns.
- *How much water do you drink?*
- Possible answers:
 - *I drink **a lot** of water.*
 - *I drink **quite a lot**.*
 - *I don't drink **much** water. (**not much**)*
 - *I don't drink **any** water.*

How much / how many...?



- Use *How many...?* with plural countable nouns.
- *How many students do you have?*
- Possible answers:
 - *None.*
 - ***Not many*** (students).



A Complete the sentences with *some* or *any*.

1. I buy _____ juice at the store.
2. He doesn't have _____ children.
3. I want _____ strawberries for lunch.
4. Is there _____ butter in the basket?
5. There aren't _____ flowers in the garden.



B Complete the phrases with the correct words from the box.

water bowl loaf tea soup bread cup bottle

1.



a _____ of _____

2.



a _____ of _____

3.

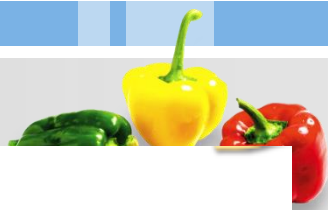


a _____ of _____

4.



a _____ of _____



Circle the errors and rewrite the sentences correctly.

Example: There isn't any milks in the freezer.

There isn't any milk in the freezer.

1. I had some coffees last night.

2. My brother drinks two glass of milk every day.

3. You need a piece of paper and any pencils for the test.

4. There aren't any bread in the bakery.

5. Is there some tea in the pot?

Choose a / an / some



- some

Milk

- some

Biscuits

- a

Chair

- some

Coffee

- some

Pasta

- some

Money

- some

Students

- some / a

Toast

- some

Wine

- some

Cars

- some

People

- some

Homework

- some / an

Ice cream

- an

Orange

- some

Fruit

- some

Fish
