

QUANTIFIERS

There are two types of nouns:

countable *three apples, twenty books, two chairs...*

uncountable *hair, money, love...*

Some words do not have a final s when in their plural form: *people, men, mice, feet, children, geese...*

Beware! *hair, furniture, advice, money, luggage, information, experience* but also *politics, news, diabetes, maths, economics, athletics, measles...* are uncountable and therefore singular.

	Large quantity	Small quantity	≠ 0	0 in affirmative sentences	0 in negative sentences or questions
Countable	many	few	some	no	any
Uncountable	much	little	some	no	any
Both	A lot of lots of (colloquial)	A (little) bit of	some	no	any

He didn't give her much money.

They had many children.

He gave her little money.

I eat a bit of chocolate every day.

They had few books.

He's got lots of money. He's got a lot of money.

I don't have any butter, there isn't any left.

There are no traitors = there aren't any traitors.

how much/many...? How many apples did you eat?

too much/many He eats too many sweets / too much candy

so much/many She's got so many friends that she can't see them all

much/many more (than) He earns much more money than she does

too few/little They've got too little food and too few friends.

a few/little has a positive meaning (more than nothing :-) contrary to **few/little** (almost nothing :- (). Compare: *He gave her little money (and he's rich: he's avaricious)* and *He gave her a little money (and he's poor, it was very nice of him. He did what he could to help.)*

Enough + noun he's got enough money

Adjectif + enough he's rich enough (he's got **plenty of** money)

any / some in questions:

using "some" indicates you think the answer is yes: *Have you got some milk?* (you expect the answer is yes because you like milky tea). Some is used for offers and requests. *Would you like some bread?*

Using "any" shows you do not have any expectations (of your host, for example) and simply want information.

Any in affirmative sentences means *no matter which / who / what* : *You can borrow any of my books.*

a few, few, a little or little

..... people came to see the play. It was rather sad.

Come on! We've still got time left to finish this.

Jordi gave veryreasons for closing down the bar.

With time and patience, you'll forget her and be happy again.

..... of that group's songs are excellent but I don't really like most of their music.

I've been to that Indian restaurant times. It's good.

much or many

She's very beautiful and she had boyfriends when she was young.

Lucy didn't eat, she said she wasn't hungry.

There are lions in the zoo but there isn't space for them.

How time have we got? How hours, exactly?

Too people are starving nowadays.

a/an, some, any?

I've got cookbook.

Have we gotchips?

She wants to eatapple.

There iswater in the fridge.

There isn'twhisky left in the bottle.

There was.....bottle of whisky on the shelf.

Compounds

Some +

Any +

No +

-thing

-body

-one

-where

They are used just like some and any.

He lives somewhere near here.

Do you know anything about that boy? She doesn't have anywhere to go. He doesn't know anybody here.

Compare:

Are you looking for someone? (= I'm sure you are) Have you lost something? (= I'm sure you have) et Is there anything to eat? (real question) Did you go anywhere last night? (maybe you stayed at home)

Nothing. *There's nothing interesting! There is nowhere to go.* The negation is already included in the word: don't add "not"!

None / none of: none is a pronoun (no + one). *We looked for some chairs but there was none left. I thought we had some milk but there are none left. None of the students had done the work.*

NOTE there is a difference between ***nothing, nobody*** etc. & ***not ... anything, not ... anybody***: *I don't know anything about it. (= neutral, no emphasis) ≠ I know nothing about it (= more emphatic, maybe defensive)*

Something, anything or nothing?

He's hungry, but there's to eat in the fridge!

I don't want to eat.....

I can see under the table. What is it?

"Pardon? What did you say?" - "....."

Is there interesting to watch on TV tonight?
