

Grammar: Countable and Uncountable Nouns, Connectors (and, or, so, but)

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Nouns

Countable		Uncountable
Meaning:		Meaning:
for things we can count using numbers		for things we can not count using numbers
Singular	Plural	NO singular and plural form
a book an umbrella a university a knife a bus a box	five books ten umbrellas two universities a dozen of knives six buses eight boxes	things that are <i>too small</i> or <i>too difficult</i> to be counted: water, dew, raindrop, milk, oil... flour, salt, pepper,... rice, sugar, ... butter, margarine,.. air, oxygen, ...
a man a woman a tooth a mouse a child	two men ten women two teeth ten mice twenty children	bread, food, fruit, hair, love, hate, anger, knowledge, intelligence, information, garbage, advice, beauty, evidence, work, homework, luck, help, time...

Nouns

Countable	Uncountable
<p>always plural:</p> <p>trousers, pants, pliers, scissors, glasses</p> <p>Singular = Plural</p> <p>fish deer sheep</p>	
Quantifiers	
some, any	some, any
a few/few	a little/little
several	
many	much
a lot of	a lot of

Exercises

Direction: Write the correct forms of the nouns in the parentheses.

1. The baby got two new teeth (tooth).
2. I need some _____ (match) to light the fire.
3. We cooked a lot of mashed _____ (potato) for dinner.
4. Before the actor signed that contract, he discussed it with his two _____ (lawyer).
5. The music building at the university has around 30 _____ (piano). Students need to sign up for practice time.
6. On our trip in the mountains, we saw some _____ (wolf), _____ (fox), _____ (deer), and _____ (sheep).
7. When the _____ (child) were playing a game, they hid behind some _____ (bush).
8. New scientific _____ (discovery) are made in the laboratory throughout the world.

Exercises

Direction: Complete these sentences with *a few*, *a little*, *many*, or *much*.

1. ____ people were interested in the art exhibition last weekend.
2. We don't have ____ bananas, but we have ____ orange juice.
3. There are only ____ days more for us to submit our project.
4. There was an explosion at the factory yesterday and ____ people got injured. The police is still investigating the cause.
5. I didn't use ____ fertilizer for the plants and the results were much better though.
6. January is a cold and dreary month in the Northern States. There is not ____ sunshine during that month.
7. I picked ____ flowers from my garden and made a bouquet.
8. Do you have any cereal?
Sure, there's ____ in the kitchen.

Connectors (and, or, so, but)

Linking ideas	
We use and to link sentences that describe similar actions or situations.	<i>I have a PC and a laptop at home.</i>
We use but to link sentences that describe different ideas/actions or situations.	<i>I use Amazon but I don't use iTunes.</i>
We use so to say that something has happened as a result of something.	<i>She's got a Kindle, so she doesn't buy many books now.</i>
We use or to link sentences that describe two possible actions or situations.	<i>Would you like tea or coffee?</i>

Exercise

Direction: Complete these sentences using and, but, so, and or.

1. I opened the door ____ asked my friend to come in the house.
2. You can travel to the mountain by jeep ____ by motorbike, if you prefer.
3. Jason was going to study for his exam, ____ he declined our invitation to have dinner with our family.
4. The wind was howling outside, ____ it was warm and comfortable indoors.
5. The highway was under construction, ____ we had to take a different route to work.
6. Louis stood up, turned toward me, ____ spoke so softly that I could barely hear what it was.
7. I knew that I should go to bed earlier, ____ I just could not stop reading this exciting novel.
8. My hairstylist is not interested in fashion, ____ she subscribed a fashion magazine to please her customers who like it.