



Countable and Uncountable Nouns

Grammar > Beginner 3



Exercise 1 – Learning

There are countable nouns and uncountable nouns in English.

Countable Nouns

Countable nouns are nouns that you can count using numbers. They have a singular form and a plural form, and we use a determiner (**a/an**) before them.

- a dog → dogs
- a tree → trees
- a coin → coins
- a man → men

Use “**How many?**” to ask the number of those nouns:

Ex: How many dogs do you have?



Uncountable Nouns

Uncountable nouns include **fluids** (water, air), **materials** (wood, metal), **general categories** (furniture, information), and **concepts** (philosophy, love). These nouns are usually not individual objects.

Use “**How much?**” to ask the amount of those nouns:

*Ex: **How much** water do you want?*

*Ex: **How much** wood do you need to build this house?*

To reply to these questions, you need to use **units**:

- How much water do you want?
- Two **glasses** of water, please.

- How much wood do you need to build this house?
- 5,000 **square meters** of wood.



We **don't** say "Two waters, please." and "5,000 woods." We use units such as '**glasses**' and '**square meters**.'

Use **singular** verbs with uncountable nouns, but use **plural** verbs with units of uncountable nouns:

- uncountable noun: How much **water** *is* in the closet?
- uncountable noun with unit: There *are* 10 **bottles** of water.

Tip: Unfortunately, not all objects fit into the rules described. For instance, to count paper, you cannot say "1 paper, 2 papers"; you have to say "1 **piece** of paper, 2 **pieces** of paper." So keep these rules in mind, but don't be surprised if you encounter nouns that do not follow them!



Exercise 2 – Identifying

Identify if the words in bold are countable or uncountable nouns.

1. How many **children** are in the class?
2. How much **tea** do you want to drink?
3. I always put **butter** on my toast.
4. Do you have any **advice** for me?
5. How is your **health**?
6. Does your school have **computers**?
7. How many **trees** are in the forest?
8. How much **soup** do you want?



Exercise 3 – Sentence Construction

Use what you learned in class to create sentences with your tutor.

Example: soup, bowls of soup. → How much soup is there?/How many bowls of soup are there?

Content:

1. pillows.
2. furniture.
3. bags of garbage.
4. garbage.
5. slices of pizza.
6. pizza.