

Quantifiers

GRAMMAR

LEVEL
Intermediate

NUMBER
EN_BE_3120G

LANGUAGE
English

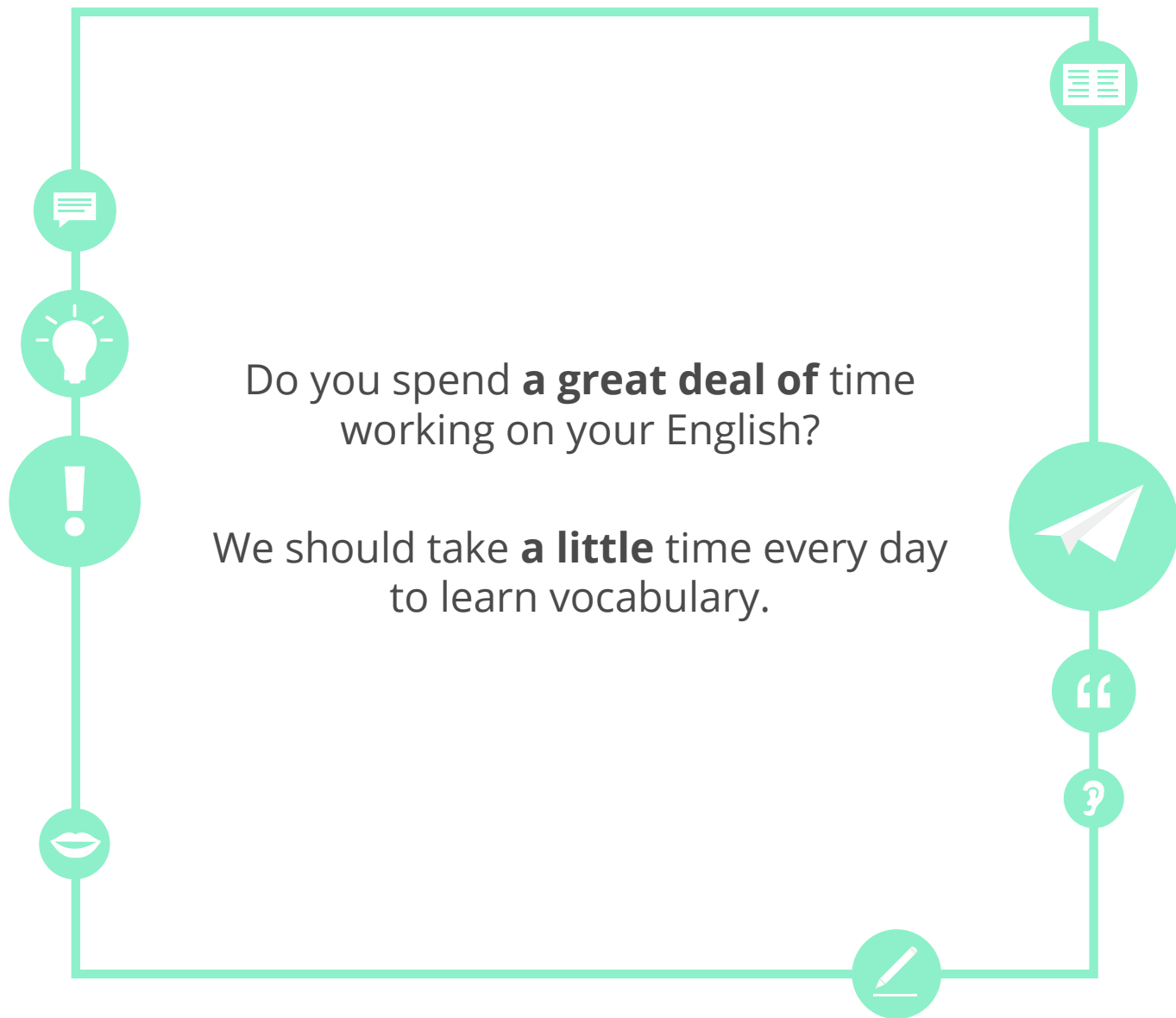




Goals

- Can explain the difference between countable and uncountable nouns, with examples.
- Can accurately select the correct quantifier for a range of straightforward sentences.







Preview and warm-up

- In this lesson, we're going to practise using **quantifiers**.
- We use **quantifiers** to express the **amount there is of something**.



I have **a lot of** work to do.



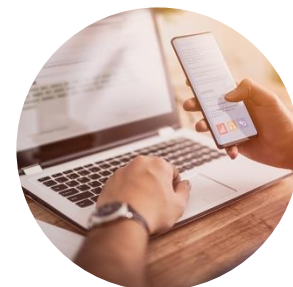
Countable and uncountable nouns

- Remember that nouns are either **countable** or **uncountable**.
- **Countable nouns** can be **singular** and **plural** – *job* and *jobs*.
- **Uncountable nouns** only have **one form** – *work*.



I have **a few jobs** to do later.

I have **a bit of work** to do tonight.





Countable and uncountable nouns

Organise these words into countable and uncountable nouns.

furniture

room

information

car

cloud

traffic

chair

weather

Countable

Uncountable



Countable and uncountable nouns

	True	False
1. We can use numbers with uncountable nouns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. We can use <i>a/an</i> with countable nouns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Drinks are normally uncountable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. We can use <i>some</i> and <i>any</i> with countable nouns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. We cannot use <i>some</i> and <i>any</i> with uncountable nouns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. You cannot use uncountable nouns without determiners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Large quantities – countable and uncountable nouns

- Some **quantifiers** can be used with both **countable** and **uncountable nouns**.
- We can use ***a lot of*** and ***lots of*** to describe **large quantities** of **both types** of noun.



You have **a lot of** nice furniture.

The classroom needs **lots of** chairs.





Large quantities – countable and uncountable nouns

- **Plenty of** is another quantifier you can use with both types of noun.



Don't rush. We have **plenty of** time.

There are **plenty of** spaces in the car park.



In the meeting, we had **plenty of** good ideas.



Large quantities – *many*

- We use *many* with **plural countable nouns**.
- We normally use *many* in **questions and with negatives**.
- For **positive statements**, we use *a lot of*, *lots of* or *plenty of*.



How **many** colleagues do you have?

I don't have **many** dresses for work.





Large quantities – *much*

- We use *much* with **uncountable nouns**.
- We normally use *much* in **questions and negatives**.
- For **positive statements**, we use *a lot of*, *lots of* or *plenty of*.



How **much** money did you sell your house for?

There isn't **much** daylight in winter.





Much or many?

	MUCH	MANY
1. How _____ work do you have at the moment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. How _____ people will be at the meeting?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I don't have _____ options unfortunately.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I don't have _____ time today.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Is there _____ hope of us succeeding?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Are there _____ things left to do before we leave?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Large quantities – positive sentences



- We do use ***much*** and ***many*** in **positive** sentences in **formal** English.
- This is often in **books, newspapers** or **academic work**.



There are **many** reasons why he lost the election.
There is **much** unemployment in some cities.



Large quantities – other more formal quantifiers

- We use *a high number of* and *a large number of* for countable nouns.
- We use *a great deal of* and *a large amount of* for uncountable nouns.



A large number of people went to the concert.

She has **a great deal of** work to do.





Fill the gap with the best quantifiers

What might these people say?

1. There are _____
things to
consider.



2. There is _____
money in that
wallet.



3. There are _____
reasons why we
lost.



4. There has
been _____
doubt about the
resignation.





Small quantities – *few*

- We use *few* with **plural countable nouns**.
- Like *many* and *much*, we normally use *few* to express **negative ideas**.



He has **few** friends in the city.

There are **few** customers in the restaurant tonight.





Small quantities – *little*

- We use *little* with **uncountable nouns**.
- Like *few*, *little* expresses a **negative idea**.



There is **little** chance of rain.

He has **little** interest in sport.





Small quantities – a few and a little



- Notice there's a difference between *few* and *a few* and *little* and *a little*.
- *A few* and *a little* both mean *some* or *a small amount*.
- Compare the difference in meaning of these sentences:



I've had **a few** problems at work recently.

I've had **few** problems at work recently.





Small quantities – *a few* and *a little*



- Now compare these two other sentences:



I only eat **a little** food before I go to the gym.

There's **little** food for him to eat.





Fill in the gaps using *few*, *a few*, *little* or *a little*

1. I have _____ orange juice left. There's enough to share.
2. I have _____ good friends. I wouldn't say I'm lonely.
3. He's received _____ training. He can't do anything for his job.
4. There are _____ colleagues that he actually gets on with at work. It's quite sad!
5. We've got _____ bit of time tonight. Do you fancy meeting up?
6. Fiona gave us _____ tips for the presentation. They were so helpful!
7. She has _____ belief in herself. She really needs some more confidence!
8. We see _____ female CEOs in our industry. This needs to change!





Think of something or somewhere that has...

... only a few seats
inside.

... very little rain each
year.

... few problems
making calculations
quickly.

... a little fat in it.



Discussion

What do you think is more important to have: *lots* or *plenty of* in life? What's it better to have *few* or *little* of? Share your ideas as a group!



Money

Problems

Friends

Job satisfaction



Game!

- Guess how much time each member of the class spends doing these things every week.
- Then ask each member a question using the correct quantifier to find out the answer!





Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

no





Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?



If you have time, go over
the most difficult slides again



Answer key 1/2

Exercise p. 6

Countable: cloud, room, chair, car

Uncountable: furniture, traffic, information, weather

Exercise p. 7

1. false 2. true 3. true 4. true 5. false 6. false

Exercise p. 12

1. much, 2. many, 3. many, 4. much 5. much 6. many

Exercise p. 15 – other answers are possible

1. There are **many** things to consider.

2. There is **a lot of** money in that wallet.

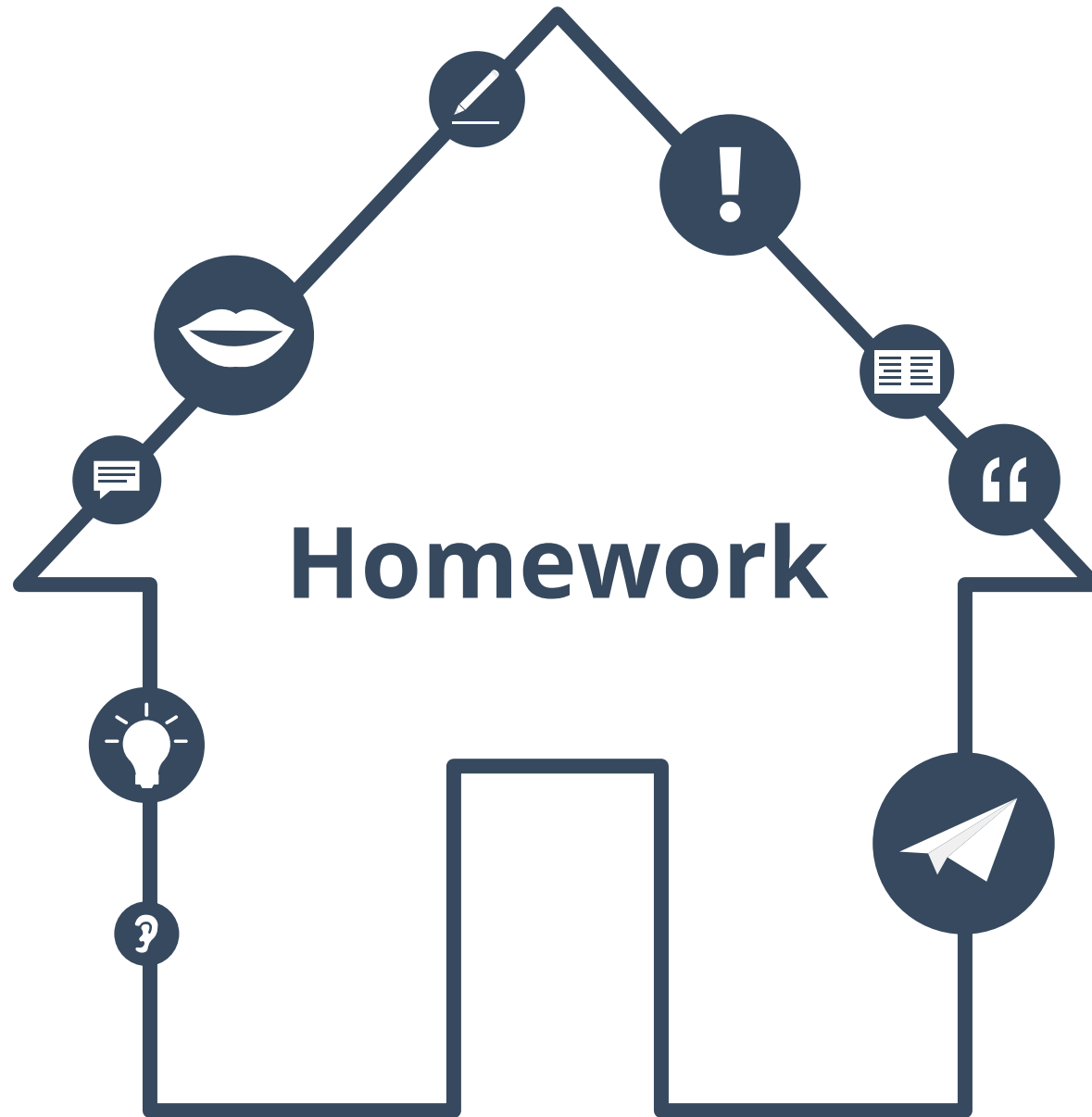
3. There are **a number of** reasons why we lost.

4. There has been **a great deal of** doubt about the resignation.



Answer key 2/2

- Exercise p.20**
1. a little
 2. a few
 3. little
 4. few
 5. a little
 6. a few
 7. little
 8. few





Categorise

uncountable

many

a few

much

a number of

a large number of

[illegible]



Homework answer key

Exercise p. 27

Countable: many, a few, a number of, a large number of
Uncountable: much, a little, little, a great deal of, a large amount of



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