

GRAMMAR

Talking about quantities

LEVEL

Elementary (A2)

NUMBER

EN_A2_2023G

LANGUAGE

English

Learning outcomes

- I can categorise nouns as countable and uncountable.
- I can express quantity using a range of basic quantifiers.



Countable nouns

- A noun can be **countable** or **uncountable**.
- With **countable nouns**, we can use *one, two, three etc.* + *noun*. We can count them!
- Countable nouns have **singular** and **plural** forms.

Singular

I have **a nice house**.

He bought **a watch**.

We took **a flight** yesterday.

There's **a bottle** of wine in the fridge.

Plural

He has **two houses**.

They bought **three watches**.

I took **four flights** last year.

There are **five bottles** of wine in the fridge.



Uncountable nouns

- **Uncountable nouns** are nouns that we **cannot** count.
- We do **not** use *one, two, three* with these nouns. They only have **one form**.

Examples

I drink **water** every day.

I listen to **music** on my phone.

The curry comes with **rice**.

She earns **money** from her paintings.



We cannot say:
a/one water or two musics



Categorise

Countable
noun

Uncountable
noun



apple



water



egg



rice



coffee



strawberry



sugar



grape

What are these things?

Match the picture with the word.

Then, **complete** the yellow box. Use **a/an**, if necessary.

1



2



3



4



5



6



Ex.

No.1:
It is a spoon.

a sand

b envelope

c spoon

d wallet

e water

f toothpaste

It is...



A lot of

- We use **a lot of** for **large** amounts.
- We use it in **affirmative** sentences.



There are **a lot of** cars in the car park.

I've got **a lot of** free time at the moment.





A lot of

- We can use **a lot of** with both **countable** and **uncountable** nouns.



I have a lot of **friends**.

She eats a lot of **rice**.





Much and many

- We also use **much** and **many** for large amounts.
- We use them with **negatives** and **questions**.



I **didn't** have **much** free time this weekend.

Did **many** people go to the party?





Much or many?

- We use **much** with **uncountable** nouns.
- We use **many** with **countable** nouns.

Much

I didn't eat much **food** today.

Do you drink much **alcohol**?

He doesn't drink much **water**.

Many

I didn't have many **meals** today.

Do you have many **friends**?

He doesn't have many **hobbies**.



A lot of vs much or many

- For **affirmative** sentences, we usually use **a lot of** and not **much** or **many**.



Are **many** people coming to your birthday party?

Yes! I've invited **a lot of** people.



*I've invited many people
sounds less natural.*



Choose the correct option

1 Did you buy _____ food?

a. much

b. many

2 There aren't _____ parks in this part of town.

a. much

b. many

3 We don't have _____ beer in the fridge. We should go and buy some.

a. much

b. many

4 Were there _____ people at the concert?

a. much

b. many

5 At the end of the month, we don't have _____ money left.

a. much

b. many

Use *much* or *many* with a noun from below

1. I don't read that often. I don't own _____.
2. Hurry, hurry! We don't have _____.
3. You travel a lot for work, don't you? Have you been to _____ in Europe?
4. Natasha is new to her neighbourhood. She arrived two weeks ago, so she doesn't know _____ there.
5. 'Do you have _____?' 'No, I only do yoga.'
6. I know London really well. I've been there _____.



books

countries

hobbies

people

time

times

Write questions

Use the words with ***much*** or ***many*** below.



Remember to use **a verb** in your question!



Tea



Languages



Meat



Plans for the week



Books

Do you have many hobbies?

Do you drink much coffee?

How much or how many?

- We use **how much** or **how many** to **ask** about quantity.



How much money do you need?

How many brothers and sisters do you have?





Match the questions and answer

1 How many people are coming to the party?

2 How much time did you spend on the project?

3 How many countries did you visit during your trip?

4 How much milk do you want in your tea?

5 How many books did you read last year?

a Around 2 hours.

b Just a drop.

c I invited six or seven friends of mine.

d I'm not sure. But at least one a month.

e Three: Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam.



Complete the questions

Use *how much* or *how many*.

1 _____ hours do you spend online every day?

2 _____ money does a loaf of bread cost in your country?

3 _____ jobs have you had in your life?

4 _____ time do you spend outdoors?

5 _____ cousins do you have?





Interview in breakout rooms

1. **Work** in pairs. **Ask** and **answer** the questions. Then, **swap** roles.
2. After the breakout room, **share** one fun fact about your partner.

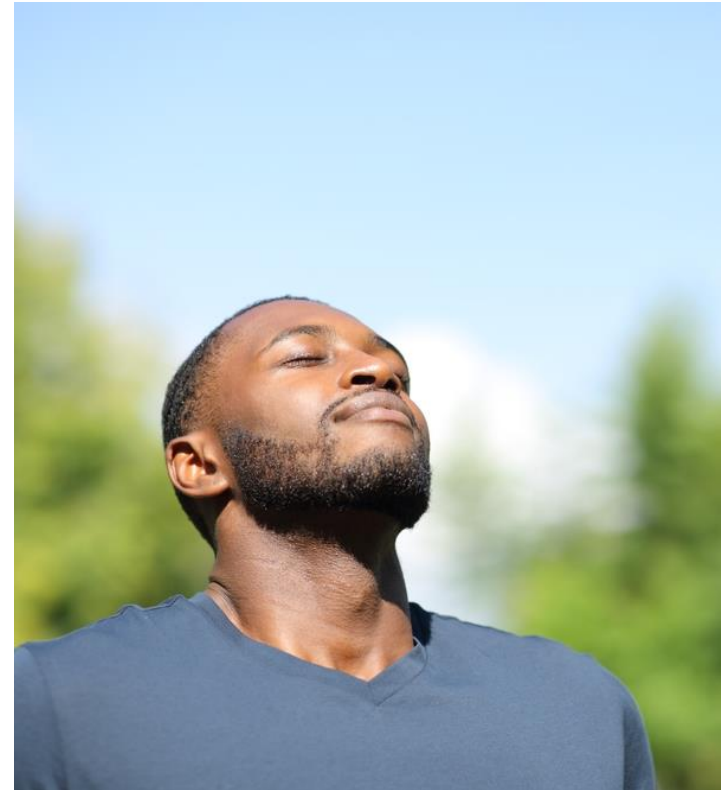
1 **How many** hours do you spend online every day?

2 **How much** money does a loaf of bread cost in your country?

3 **How many** jobs have you had in your life?

4 **How much** time do you spend outdoors?

5 **How many** cousins do you have?





End of the lesson

Idiom

a bit much

Meaning: not fair or not reasonable

Example: It's **a bit much** asking me to work both Saturday and Sunday!



Additional practice



Categorise the nouns



1

rice

2

friend

3

plate

4

water

5

apple

6

money

7

plant

8

air

Countable noun

Uncountable noun



Complete the questions with *much* or *many*



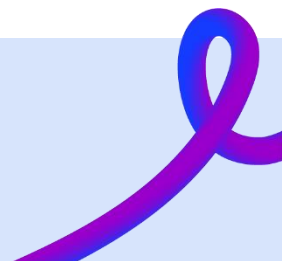
1 How _____ onions do you need for the soup?

2 How _____ time did you spend outside?

3 How _____ people are we inviting to the party?

4 How _____ rice should we cook for the curry?

5 How _____ does a pint of milk cost?





Choose the correct option



1 I don't drink _____ alcohol anymore.

a. much

b. many

2 How _____ flour do we need?

a. much

b. many

3 How _____ litres of water do you drink?

a. much

b. many

4 He eats _____ meat during the week.

a. a lot of

b. many

5 There aren't _____ good restaurants in the area.

a. much

b. many



Answer key

P. 5: **Countable:** apple, egg, grape, strawberry

Uncountable: water, sugar, rice, coffee

P. 6: 1. c, 2. d, 3. a, 4. f, 5. b, 6. e

P. 12: 1. a, 2. b, 3. a, 4. b, 5. a

P. 13: 1. many books
 2. much time
 3. many countries
 4. many people
 5. many hobbies
 6. many times

P. 16: 1. c, 2. a, 3. e, 4. b, 5. d

P. 17: 1. How many
 2. How much
 3. How many
 4. How much
 5. How many



Answer key

P. 22: **Countable:** friend, plate, apple, plant

Uncountable: rice, water, money, air

P. 23: 1. How many

 2. How much

 3. How many

 4. How much

 5. How much

P. 24: 1. a, 2. a, 3. b, 4. a, 5. b



Summary

Countable nouns

- A noun can be **countable** or **uncountable**.
- With **countable nouns**, we can use *one, two, three etc.* + *the noun*. We can count them!
- They have **singular** and **plural** forms → *I took **a** flight yesterday; I took **four** flights last year.*

Uncountable nouns

- **Uncountable nouns** are nouns that we **cannot** count.
- We do **not** use *one, two, three* with these nouns.
- They only have **one form** → *I drink **water** every day.*

A lot of

- We use ***a lot of*** for **large** amounts. We use it in **affirmative** sentences.
- We can use ***a lot of*** with **both** types of noun → *I have **a lot of** friends; She eats **a lot of** rice.*

Much and many

- We also use ***much*** and ***many*** for **large** amounts. We use them with **negatives** and **questions**.
- Use ***much*** with **uncountable** nouns → *I didn't eat **much** food today.*
- Use ***many*** with **countable** nouns → *I didn't eat **many** meals today.*



Vocabulary

flight

curry

to earn

to invite

project



Notes

