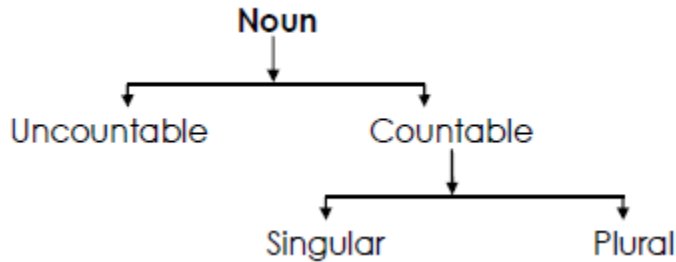


# COUNTABLE AND UNCOUNTABLE NOUN

Nouns are also divided into 2 classes – countable and uncountable noun. You are probably introduced with these two types. Countable Noun can be divided into two types- singular and plural.



It is important to distinguish between countable and uncountable noun. Because some determiners are used with only countable whereas some other with uncountable. Moreover in subject verb agreement you will have to identify singular or plural. To distinguish between countable and uncountable, remember one thing; if you know the plural form of a noun, then it is certainly countable.

## Some aspects on Countable/ Uncountable Noun:

### Rule - 01:

যাদের একক আছে [যেমনঃ *Time, Distance, Weight, Money, Length*], তারা অবশ্যই uncountable। অর্থাৎ এরা কখনোই plural হয় না। কিন্তু এদের এককগুলো আবার countable অর্থাৎ এরা plural হতে পারে।

#### For Example:

How **much distance** have you traveled?

I am five hundred **miles** away from home.

কিছু Uncountable Noun আবার ক্ষেত্র বিশেষে plural হতে পারে অর্থাৎ countable হতে পারে তবে সেইক্ষেত্রে অর্থ change হয়ে যায়। যেমনঃ

*Time, Crop, Food, Water etc.*

### Rule - 02:

*Hundred, Thousand* কিংবা *Million*-এর কখনোই plural হয় না।

#### For Example:

*The total population is over 600 million.*

*Bangladesh has 130 million people. (Not millions)*

কিন্তু নির্দিষ্ট সংখ্যা না বুঝিয়ে অগণিত বোঝাতে আবার এদের সাথে s হতে পারে।

#### For Example:

**Hundreds** of our people starve everyday.

**Thousands** of people starve everyday in our country.

### Rule - 03:

অসংখ্য শব্দ আছে যারা Uncountable Noun। আর একটি কথা মনে রাখবে যে, এরা কখনোই plural হয় না অর্থাৎ s বসে না।

#### For Example:

The demonstrators broke the furniture of his room.

The scenery of Gulmarg is very charming.

#### □ Choose the correct sentence

(C Unit 2003 – 2004)

A. We take decisions based on some informations

B. We take decision based on some information

□C. We take decisions based on some information

D. We take a decision based on some informations

E. Both A. and C. above.

#### □ Choose the correct sentence.

(B Unit 2004 – 2005)

A. I need a few furnitures

B. I do not need many furnitures.

C. I do not need some furnitures.

□D. I need some furniture

□ The ----- of the office will be sold.

(D Unit 2002 – 2003)

□A. furniture B. furnitures

C. pieces of furniture D. pieces and furniture

□ Complete the following sentence: Nasreen, an interior decorator, designs -----

(D Unit 2000-2001)

□A. furniture B. the furniture

C. furnitures D. some furniture

### Rule - 04:

কিছু শব্দের সাথে s থাকা সত্ত্বেও তারা plural form হিসেবে ব্যবহৃত হয় না অর্থাৎ এরা uncountable noun.

*News, Politics, Economics, Ethics Mathematics, Innings etc.*

#### For Example:

Since long no news has been heard.

The Indian team defeated the Australian by an innings.

The murderer was hanged on the gallows.

### Rule - 05:

কিছু শব্দ আছে যাদের সাথে s না থাকা সত্ত্বেও এরা plural form অর্থাৎ countable Noun.

*People, Children, Cattle etc.*

**For Example:**

The people are generally considered to be ignorant fellows.

The cattle were grazing when I went to the hills.

The gentry of that place were invited to the meeting.

### Rule - 06:

কিছু Noun আছে যারা singular এবং plural এ অপরিবর্তিত form এ থাকে। অর্থাৎ plural হলেও এদের সাথে কখনোই s হয় না।

*sheep, deer, pair, dozen, score*

**For Example:**

Yesterday I bought a pair of shoes.

He bought five dozen oranges from Nagpur.

### Rule - 07:

Uncountable Noun এর সাথে কখনো কোনো সংখ্যাবাচক শব্দ বসে না। কিন্তু যদি কখনো কোনো সংখ্যাবাচক শব্দকে uncountable Noun এর সাথে use করতে হয় সেক্ষেত্রে of যুক্ত suitable কোনো শব্দ বসবে।

**For Example:**

I have bought five furniture. (Inc.)

I have bought five pieces of furniture (Cor.)

□ I need ----- soap to wash my dress with.

(D Unit 2002 – 2003)

A. any □ B. a piece of C. a D. much

### Rule - 08:

Kind এবং Type এই word দুটি যখন singular noun এর সাথে বসে সেক্ষেত্রে kind এবং type হিসেবেই use হয়। কিন্তু যদি plural noun এর সাথে বসে সেক্ষেত্রে kinds এবং types হয়ে যায়।

We saw several kind of birds at the wildlife. (Inc)

We saw several kinds of birds at the wildlife.(Cor)

### Rule - 09:

Few,a few,the few.very few.not a few এদের পর plural countable noun + verb plural হয়।

**For Example:**

Professor Stone keeps **few chairs** in his office because he doesn't have room for many.  
John has **very few friends**.

**Fill in the gap with any one of the following-**

Although southern California is densely populated, \_\_\_\_\_ live in the northern part of the state.

- A. a little people B. a few the people  
□C. few people D. a little of people

**Rule - 10:**

little/bit, a little / a bit ,the little, very little, not a little (এদের পর singular uncountable noun + verb singular হয়।)

**For Example:**

There is **little time** to waste.  
My brother used to help a lot, but now he gives me **little advice**.  
Give me **little butter**, please.

**Fill in the gap with any one of the following-**

\_\_\_\_\_ is currently available to researchers and physicians who study and treat acromegaly, a and obesity.

- A. The little information B. Few information  
□C. Little information D. A few information

**Rule - 11:**

Use of **Some / Any**: Some ব্যবহৃত হয় positive / affirmative sentence এ, কিন্তু Any ব্যবহৃত হয় negative এবং question এ।

**For Example:**

John has **some** money.  
John doesn't have **any** money.

**Rule - 12:**

Countable এবং Uncountable Noun এর সাথে determiner এর ব্যবহার জানাটা ও জরুরী। কারণ কোন কোন determiner আছে যারা শুধু Countable এর সাথে use হয়, কোন কোন determiner আছে যারা শুধু Un countable এর সাথে use হয় আবার কেউ কেউ আছে যারা countable এবং uncountable দুটোর সাথেই বসে।  
নিচের ছকটি ভালোমত খেয়াল কর :

| Countable Noun      | Uncountable Noun             |
|---------------------|------------------------------|
| few, a few, the few | Little, a little, the little |
| Many                | Much                         |
| number of           | amount of                    |
| several             |                              |
| another             |                              |
| both                |                              |
| a lot of            | a lot of                     |
| a, an, the          | the                          |
| all (of the)        | all (of the)                 |
| some (of the)       | some (of the)                |
| a great deal of     | a great deal of              |
| almost all (of the) | almost all (of the)          |
| any                 | any                          |

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Some (of the)

a lot of

a great deal of a great deal of

almost all (of the) almost all (of the)

any any

□ Choose the correct option to fill the blank space in the sentence (B Unit 2005 – 2006)

“There is --- on the roads today.”

A. too many traffic B. very much traffic

□C. too much traffic D. few traffics

□ I don’t have ----- spare time these days.

(B Unit 2001 – 2002)

A. many □B. much

C. some D. more

□ I'm trying to calculate ----- (*D Unit 2004-05*)

- A. how many money you owe me
- B. you owe me how much money
- C. you owe me how many money
- D. how much money you owe me

□ Choose the correct sentence. (*D Unit 2001-02*)

- A. Less people get American visas now a days
- B. Less people get American visas now a days
- C. Few people get American visas now a days
- D. Fewer people get American visas now a days

□ Choose the most suitable answer:

**The police have collected ----- about the crime.**

**(*D Unit 1997 - 1998*)**

- A. many information B. many informations
- C. a lot of information D. a lot of informations

□ How many errors are there in the following sentence? (*C Unit 2001 - 2002*)

**Certain infections are made by both viral and bacterial elements that makes treatment of those infection difficult.**

- A. 1 □B. 2 C. 3 D. 4 E. 5

*Exercise: Correct the words if the underlined word is used incorrectly.*

1. Intergalactic adventures are what *many* of today's animation consists of.
2. *Little* scientists doubt the existence of an ozone hole over the polar regions.
3. Yachting attracts *many* of the world's most famous and wealthy people.
4. There are adult literacy classes for the workers, *much* of whom never graduated from high school.
5. The rhinoceros has *few* natural enemies.

6. The artist Vincent van Gogh received *little* recognition during his lifetime.
7. Heavy fines and jail sentences have made *few* difference in preventing antelope poaching.
8. Tropical fish and song birds give *many* pleasure to people who need to relax.
9. *Scientists* have managed to clone that kind of protein *genes*, but only as an *exercise* in basic *research*.
10. The most renowned of America's *metalworker*, Samuel Yellin, designed the *ironwork* for the New York Federal Reserve *Bank*.
11. The *childrens* were counting *the toys* they had collected during the *festivities*.
12. On the *outskirts* of *the town*, *calf* are frequently seen grazing in the *meadows*.
13. The police *officer* gave some *advices* on crime *prevention* at the community *meeting*.
14. One *series* of grammar *book* that was used in the experimental *class* was written by the *students* themselves.
15. Ultrasound bounces sound *wave* off the internal structure of the body.
16. A landslide at a mining site uncovered a brownish yellow stone which yielded 650 *gram* of gold.
17. For two *century*, Madrid's Plaza Mayor has served as the city's chief forum.
18. Putting radio collars on bears helps scientists to gather important *informations* concerning the bears' movements.
19. Lorenzo Ruiz, the first Filipino *saints*, was born about 1600 in Binondo to a Chinese father and a Tagala mother.
20. America was discovered and inhabited *thousands of years* before the Europeans arrived.

*Answer Key:*

1. much 2. Few 3. correct 4. many 5. correct  
6. correct 7. little 8. much 9. researches  
10. metalworkers 11. children 12. calves  
13. advice 14. books 15. waves 16. grams  
17. centuries 18. information 19. saint 20. correct