

27 Uncountable nouns often used wrongly

Activity A

Find the mistakes

Language learners sometimes make mistakes when deciding whether a noun is plural, countable or uncountable, e.g. *There is not enough police on the streets* (*police* is a plural noun) or *I have bought some chewing gums* (*chewing gum* is uncountable). Most of the sentences below contain a mistake of this kind but two are correct. Find the mistakes and correct them. Then look up the words in bold in the dictionary.

Correct any mistakes you find or write 'correct' if you think there are no mistakes:

- 1 I was pleased that she was able to give me so many good **advices**.
- 2 My son is making a good **progress** at school, according to his teacher.
- 3 Last week I bought a new **software** for my computer but I'm having problems installing it.
- 4 Each **luggage** that you have must be placed under the seat in front of you or up on the luggage rack.
- 5 My boss gave me some **feedback** on my presentation but I would also like to hear what you thought of it.
- 6 There is all manner of **equipments** that you need if you want to climb the wall safely.
- 7 Have you heard a **news** from Ben about the strike on Friday?
- 8 The advertisement wasn't very clear so I phoned the company to ask for further **informations** about the job vacancy.
- 9 I am looking for a temporary **accommodation** in the city.
- 10 We need to move some of these tables and chairs because at the moment there is just too much **furniture** in this room.

Activity B

All of the words in bold in the sentences in Activity A are uncountable. Are any of the words countable in your language?