

COUNTABLE & UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS

Countable Nouns

Countable nouns are things that we can **count**, like people, animals, places, things, or ideas. For example **book**. We can count **books**. We can have one, two, three, or more **books**.

I have 25 **books** on my desk.

A **bicycle** or two **bicycles**. [there are 4 bicycles at my house]

A city or many cities. [I am going to visit 11 cities in Europe next month]

More things that we can count:

animal, cat, dog, lion, elephant, ostrich, sheep, cow, etc.

people, man, person, cousin, grandma, teacher, friend, etc.

a thing, bottle, box, table, charger, pen, sofa, etc.

money [also uncountable], coin, note, euro, dollar, pound, etc.

kitchen, cup, plate, fork, chair, fridge, liter, kilo, spoon, etc.

Singular and Plural

Countable nouns can be singular or plural. They can be used with *a/an* and with *numbers* and many other *determiners* like *the, these, a few, some, my, this, etc.*

Please give me an apple. [not "I want apple"]

Can I have 6 apples, please?

She's got two cats and a dog.

I am going to study Spanish one of *these days*.

We can use **some** and **any** with countable, plural nouns, and uncountable nouns:

I've got some dollars.

I want **some** cookies.

Have you got any pens?

Do you have any money?

Uncountable Nouns

Uncountable nouns are for the things that we cannot count with numbers. Even though uncountable nouns are not single or separate objects, they are always singular. Singular verbs are always used with uncountable nouns. They usually do not have a plural form.

Examples:

air	gold	bread	rain	money
tea	milk	sugar	snow	homework
rice	love	water	rubbish	furniture

These nouns are not used with *a/an* or numbers and are not used in the plural.

Do you have any *chocolate*?

Go and brush your *hair*.

The beaches in Cape Town have nice **sand**.

I want some more *rice*.

She wants **butter** on her bread.

The dogs are playing in the *mud*.



Some Practice

Underline the correct word. Are these nouns countable or uncountable? Choose a, an, or some

1.	countable/ uncountable	[a/ an/ some]	orange
2.	countable/ uncountable	[a/ an/ some]	sand
3.	countable/ uncountable	[a/ an/ some]	butter
4.	countable/ uncountable	[a/ an/ some]	banana
5.	countable/ uncountable	[a/ an/ some]	milk
6.	countable/ uncountable	[a/ an/ some]	tomato
7.	countable/ uncountable	[a/ an/ some]	potato
8.	countable/ uncountable	[a/ an/ some]	mango juice
9.	countable/ uncountable	[a/ an/ some]	egg
10.	countable/ uncountable	[a/ an/ some]	coffee
11.	countable/ uncountable	[a/ an/ some]	music
12.	countable/ uncountable	[a/ an/ some]	grape
13.	countable/ uncountable	[a/ an/ some]	pasta
14.	countable/ uncountable	[a/ an/ some]	chicken
15.	countable/ uncountable	[a/ an/ some]	rice

