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THIRD EDITION



Grammar Practice

for Pre-intermediate Students

with key

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GRAMMAR

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Nouns and determiners

1 Singular and plural nouns

- To make a singular noun into a plural noun, add -s or -es. *Be careful of spelling changes:*
brother → brothers match → matches baby → babies leaf → leaves
- Remember the common irregular plural nouns:
man → men woman → women child → children person → people
foot → feet tooth → teeth deer → deer fish → fish sheep → sheep

▶▶ See Appendix 1: Spelling rules for plural nouns, page 170.

PRACTICE

1a Complete the table.

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
teacher	<i>teachers</i>	person	
potato		bus	
secretary		thief	
beach		box	
half		student	
disco		foot	
dress		place	
sheep		day	

1b Complete the sentences. Use the plural of the word in brackets.

- Are there any good *restaurants* near here? (restaurant)
- I can't find my Where are they? (key)
- I usually have for lunch. (sandwich)
- How many do we need for the salad? (tomato)
- The are in the cupboard, next to the (glass, dish)
- The are on those over there. (dictionary, shelf)
- The are in the living room. (child)
- You can buy fresh at the market. (fish)
- Are there any for me? (message)

Countable and uncountable nouns

- Countable nouns are things that can be counted. They have a singular and plural form: *book* → *books* *glass* → *glasses*
- Uncountable nouns cannot be counted. They do not have a plural form: *one milk* *two waters* *three breads*
- We use *a/an* with singular countable nouns: *Has he got a car?* I'd like *an apple*, please.
- We use *some* with plural countable nouns and uncountable nouns in affirmative sentences: I'd like *some eggs*, please. There's *some water* in the jug.
- We use *any* with plural countable nouns and uncountable nouns in negative sentences and questions: *They didn't have any apples.* Did you buy *any eggs*? They didn't have *any water*. Have we got *any milk*?
- We usually use *some* in questions when we make offers and requests: *Would you like some apples?* Can I have *some more coffee*, please?
- We use *no* to mean 'not one/not any' with singular and plural countable nouns and uncountable nouns. We use *no* with an affirmative verb: There *are no cars* in the city centre. They *had no water*.

PRACTICE

2a Write **C** after the countable nouns and **U** after the uncountable nouns.

friend	C	music		butter	
bread	U	DVD player		furniture	
rice		money		flat	
book		plate		oil	
sugar		cheese		sand	
car		information		banana	
office		bag		shampoo	
soup		vegetable		tea	

2b Marc is going to visit London and his friend is giving him some advice. Complete the sentences. Use *a*, *an* or *some*.

- Don't forget to change *some* money before you go.
- Have you got map of the city?
- Here are addresses of cheap hotels.
- Take umbrella. It often rains in London.
- It's a good idea to take raincoat.
- Pack warm clothes. It's sometimes cold in September.
- Remember to take camera with you – I want to see your photos!

2c Circle the correct answer.

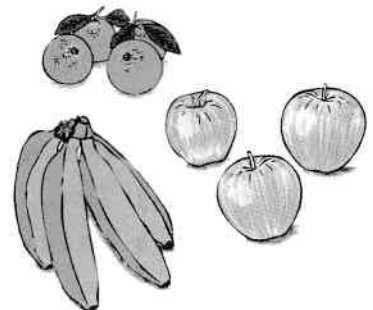
- 0 My sister's married, but she hasn't got *some* / *any* children.
- 1 I eat *some* / *any* fruit every day, usually apples or bananas.
- 2 My father works in *a* / *an* office and my mother's *a* / *an* hairdresser.
- 3 Do you have *a* / *any* homework this evening?
- 4 Would you like *some* / *a* tea?
- 5 I don't put *some* / *any* salt on my food. I don't like it.
- 6 Have you got *a* / *any* brothers or sisters?
- 7 The room's empty. There's *no* / *any* furniture in it.
- 8 There weren't *some* / *any* people at the bus stop. I was the only person there.
- 9 What *a* / *an* terrible smell! Open the window and let in *a* / *some* fresh air.
- 10 Gloria hasn't got *no* / *any* pets, but she'd like a cat.

2d Re-write the sentences. Use *any* or *no*.

- 0 We haven't got any money. We've got no money.
- 1 There isn't any milk in the fridge.
- 2 There are no shops open today.
- 3 He's got no friends at work.
- 4 There aren't any buses after midnight.
- 5 I haven't got any free time tomorrow.
- 6 There's no sugar in my coffee.

2e Complete the conversations. Use *a*, *some*, *any* or *no*.

- A: I'd like (0) some information about trains, please. Are there
(1) trains to Oxford on Saturday afternoon?
- B: Let's see. There's (2) train at 4.35, but there are (3)
trains after that.
- A: OK, the 4.35 is fine. Can I have two return tickets, please?
-
- A: Can I help you?
- B: Yes. I'd like (4) oranges, please.
Two kilos. And (5) bananas.
- A: I'm sorry. We haven't got (6)
bananas today. Would you like
(7) apples instead? We have
(8) special offer today.
- B: Yes, thanks. A kilo, please.



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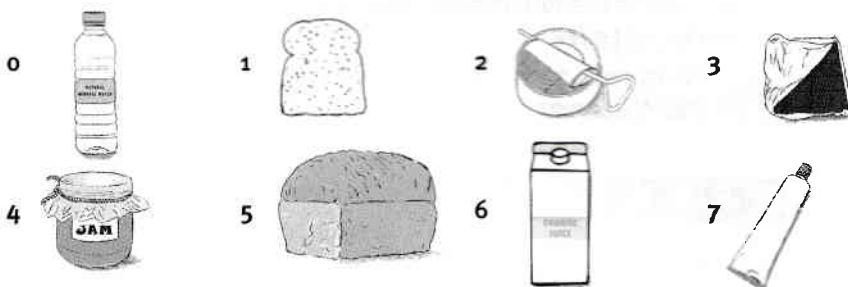
3 Counting uncountable nouns

- We can count some uncountable nouns by using a countable noun + of:
 - a bit of wood a lump of sugar a slice of toast
 - a bottle of water a box of chocolates two cups of tea a glass of milk
 - 250 grams of cheese a litre of milk five kilos of potatoes
- We can also use *a piece of* with some nouns: *a piece of advice* *a piece of furniture*
a piece of information *a piece of luggage* *a piece of music* *a piece of news*
a piece of paper

PRACTICE

3a Label the pictures. Use the words in the box.

bar bottle carton jar loaf slice tin tube



- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 0 a <i>bottle</i> of water | 4 a of jam |
| 1 a of toast | 5 a of bread |
| 2 a of tuna | 6 a of orange juice |
| 3 a of chocolate | 7 a of toothpaste |

3b Complete the conversations. Use a word to count the uncountable noun.

- 0 A: Go to bed early tonight.
B: That's a good *piece* of advice. Thanks.
- 1 A: Hello. Can I help you?
B: Yes, I'd like 300 of cheese, please.
- 2 A: I heard an interesting of news this morning.
B: Really? What?
- 3 A: I want to brush my teeth.
B: There's a new of toothpaste in the cupboard.
- 4 A: Can you give me a of paper, please?
B: Here you are.
- 5 A: A typical family uses 160 of water every day.
B: That's incredible!
- 6 A: You can only take one of hand luggage on the plane.
B: I know!