

NOUNS

- Countable - things we count one by one. These nouns can obviously be used either in the SINGULAR or in the PLURAL.
- There's a knife in the drawer.
- There are some knives in the drawer.
- Uncountable - regarded as a mass and cannot be counted. Therefore, they can only be use in the SINGULAR.
- I take a lot of sugar in my coffee.
- We need some more gasoline.

An uncountable noun can never be preceded by an indefinite article (a or an).

- Ø Gold is a precious metal.
- They bought **some** new equipment.

SOME UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS:

- Substances - salt, flour, water, meat, bread
- Abstraction - love, knowledge, advice, information, happiness
- Diseases - flu, measles, pneumonia, mumps, diabetes
- Sciences - physics, chemistry, statistics, linguistics
- Languages - Portuguese, English, Japanese
- Other - money, traffic, luggage, accommodation, furniture, music, news

Nouns that are ALWAYS in the PLURAL:

- clothes
- glasses
- goods
- jeans pants trousers
- people
- police
- scissors
- pliers

MUCH and MANY

- MUCH
- money
- water
- food

- MANY
- people
- things
- animals

Much and **many** are used in negative and interrogative sentences.

- In affirmative, we usually use
- **a lot, of, lots of, a plenty of**
- (both with countable and uncountable nouns).

Put much or many in the gaps:

- How _____ times does Anne have dinner in a restaurant?
- How _____ money does she usually pay for a meal?
- How _____ different hobbies has Bob got?
- How _____ prizes has he won?
- How _____ special equipment has he got?
- How _____ does Malcolm earn?

FEW and LITTLE

- LITTLE
- hope
- time
- petrol

- FEW
- friends
- opportunities
- candidates

LITTLE and FEW

- **LITTLE** and **FEW** have a negative connotation. They suggest an idea of “not enough quantity” or “not enough number”.
- Oh, dear, I can't make the cake. I have **little** flour and **few** eggs.

There are two different words for the Portuguese word “menos”:
less and fewer

- There is **less** freedom now than in the past.
- Today there are **fewer** cars parked outside than yesterday.

Few and **little** have a negative idea.

A few and **a little** have a positive idea.

- He has **few** friends.
- He has **a few** friends.

- He has **little** money.
- He has **a little** money.

We can use **a few** and **a little** in short answers.

- Have you seen many plays by Shakespeare?
Yes, **a few**.
- Did you buy any cheese? Yes, **a little**.

Fill in the gaps with a few or a little or few or little:

- Report by the school inspectors
- Good points: ___ students fail their exam. ___ classrooms are undity. There is ___ noise during classes. ___ classes are boring. There are ___ students who don't like the school. ___ pieces of school equipment are out of date.
- Bad points: ___ students are late for class. ___ students get "A" grades in exams. ___ teachers give bad lessons. There is ___ equipment in the sports hall. There is ___ rubbish in the corridors. There is ___ noise in the canteen at lunch-time.