

In English grammar, words that refer to people, places, or things are called **nouns**. They can be classified in many ways.

One way to classify nouns is according to whether they can be counted or not. Many English mistakes are related to this point. By reading through this page, you will understand:

- what countable and uncountable nouns are
- how to use them correctly in a sentence

Countable (or count) nouns are words which can be counted. They have a singular form and a plural form. They usually refer to things. Most countable nouns become plural by adding an 's' at the end of the word.

For example:

Singular	Plural
chair	chairs
bottle	bottles
student	students

Uncountable (or non-count) nouns are words which cannot be counted. Therefore, they only have a singular form. They have no plural forms. These words are thought of as wholes rather than as parts. They usually refer to abstractions (such as confidence or advice) or collectives (such as equipment or luggage).

For example:

Singular
money
furniture
information

Using Countable & Uncountable Nouns

When using countable or uncountable nouns, pay attention to articles and adjectives! Some articles and adjectives can be used with both countable and uncountable nouns. However, others can be used with only countable or only uncountable nouns.

Used with Countable Nouns Only	
a	a doctor, a pen, a meal, a class, a college
many	many cups, many books, many libraries, many flights
few	few questions, few tables, few apples, few holidays, few countries
a few	a few questions, a few problems, a few issues, a few issues

Used with Uncountable Nouns Only	
much	much money, much time, much food, much water, much energy
little	little trouble, little equipment, little meat, little patience
a little bit of	a little bit of confidence, a little bit of sleep, a little bit of snow

Used with Countable & Uncountable Nouns		
the	countable	the monkeys, the schools, the teachers, the boats, the bananas
	uncountable	the cheese, the machinery, the luggage, the grass, the knowledge
some	countable	some tables, some stores, some grapes, some cities, some nurses
	uncountable	some time, some news, some bread, some salt, some mail
any	countable	any forks, any socks, any bathrooms, any waiters, any beliefs
	uncountable	any advice, any soap, any transportation, any gold, any homework
no	countable	no magazines, no chocolates, no pilots, no rings, no markers
	uncountable	no trouble, no grass, no scenery, no money, no furniture
a lot of	countable	a lot of animals, a lot of coins, a lot of immigrants, a lot of babies
	uncountable	a lot of help, a lot of aggravation, a lot of happiness, a lot of fun
lots of	countable	lots of computers, lots of buses, lots of parties, lots of colleges
	uncountable	lots of cake, lots of ice cream, lots of energy, lots of laughter
enough	countable	enough plates, enough onions, enough restaurants, enough worries
	uncountable	enough courage, enough wisdom, enough spaghetti, enough time
plenty of	countable	plenty of houses, plenty of concerts, plenty of guitars, plenty of
	uncountable	plenty of oil, plenty of sugar, plenty of cheese, plenty of space

List of Uncountable Nouns (These are sample uncountable nouns only! There are many more.)

General	Food	Subjects/Fields	Abstract
homework	food	mathematics	advice
equipment	flour	economics	help
luggage	meat	physics	fun
clothing	rice	ethics	recreation
furniture	cake	civics	enjoyment
machinery	bread	art	information
gold	ice cream	architecture	knowledge
silver	cheese	music	news
cotton	toast	photography	patience
glass	pasta	grammar	happiness
jewelery	spaghetti	chemistry	progress
perfume	butter	history	confidence
soap	oil	commerce	courage
paper	honey	engineering	education
wood	soup	politics	intelligence
petrol	fish	sociology	space
gasoline	fruit	psychology	energy
baggage	salt	vocabulary	laughter
hair	tea	archaeology	peace
traffic	coffee	poetry	pride

Weather
thunder
lightning
snow
rain
sleet
ice
head
humidity
hail
wind
light
darkness

Sports
golf
tennis
baseball
basketball
soccer
football
cricket
hockey
rugby
chess
poker
bridge

Languages
English
Portuguese
Hindi
Arabic
Japanese
Korean
Spanish
French
Russian
Italian
Hebrew
Chinese

Activities
swimming
walking
driving
jogging
reading
writing
listening
speaking
cooking
sleeping
studying
working