

Grammar reference

Unit 4

Countable and uncountable nouns

- Most nouns are countable. They have singular and plural forms.
one girl – two girls one car – two cars
- Some nouns are uncountable. They don't have a plural form.
bread, milk, homework, music

a/an, some and any

	singular countable	plural countable	uncountable
+	I've got an orange.	I've got some potatoes.	I've got some pasta.
–	I haven't got an orange.	I haven't got any potatoes.	I haven't got any pasta.
?	Have you got an orange?	Have you got any potatoes?	Have you got any pasta?

- We use *a* with singular countable nouns, or *an* when the noun starts with a vowel.
*a banana a dog a guitar
an orange an elephant an egg*
- We use *some* and *any* with plural countable nouns and uncountable nouns when we don't know how much there is of something or it's not important. We usually use *some* for affirmative sentences and *any* for negative sentences and questions.
*I've got some apples and some bread.
I haven't got any bananas or any pasta.
Have we got any oranges? Have we got any cheese?*

1 Complete the sentences with a/an, some or any.

- We've got red car.
- I've got bananas.
- Ana doesn't like fruit.
- Can I have orange, please?
- They haven't got biscuits.
- Have you got green pen?

there is / there are

	singular	plural
+	There's a supermarket.	There are some chips on the tray.
–	There isn't a supermarket.	There aren't any chips on
?	Is there a supermarket?	Are there any chips?
+	Yes, there is.	Yes, there are.
–	No, there isn't.	No, there aren't.

- We use *there is* (*there's*) with singular countable and uncountable nouns.
There's a cinema. There's some cheese.
- We use *there are* with plural countable nouns.
There are four pizzas.
- In questions and negatives we use *any* with plural and uncountable nouns.
Is there any milk? There aren't any books.

2 Use the information to write questions and short answers about the two places.

	Hessle	Cottingham
a sports centre	X	✓
good restaurants	✓	X
a cinema	X	✓

Is there a sports centre in Hessle? No, there isn't.

much / many / a lot of

	countable plural	uncountable
+	There are a lot of apples.	There's a lot of cheese.
–	There aren't many apples.	There isn't much cheese.
?	How many apples are there?	How much cheese is there?

- We use *much*, *many* and *a lot of* to talk about quantity.
- We use *much* in negative sentences with uncountable nouns and *many* in negative sentences with countable nouns.
There isn't much milk and there aren't many apples.
- We use *a lot of* in affirmative sentences to describe a large quantity of something.
There are a lot of apples and there's a lot of meat.
- We use *how much/many* to ask about quantity.
*How many sisters have you got?
How much money have you got?*

3 Complete the sentences with much, many or a lot of.

- How *many* students are there in your class?
There are 35.
- Has Jenny got any good DVDs?
Yes, she's got good DVDs.
- There isn't orange juice – only one bottle!
- Are there any shops in your town?
Yes, there are shops.
- How pasta can you eat?