

Unit 4

4.1 Expressions of quantity

Count and uncount nouns

- 1 It is important to understand the difference between count and uncount nouns.

Count nouns	Uncount nouns
a cup	water
a girl	sugar
an apple	milk
an egg	music
a pound	money

We can say *three cups, two girls, ten pounds*. We can count them. We cannot say *two waters, three musics, one money*. We cannot count them.

- 2 Count nouns can be singular or plural.
This **cup** is full.
These **cups** are empty.
Uncount nouns can only be singular.
The **water** is cold.
The **weather** was terrible.

much and many

- 1 We use *much* with uncount nouns in questions and negatives.
How **much money** have you got?
There isn't **much milk** left.
- 2 We use *many* with count nouns in questions and negatives.
How **many people** were at the party?
I didn't take **many photos** on holiday.

some and any

- 1 *Some* is used in positive sentences.
I'd like **some** sugar.
- 2 *Any* is used in questions and negatives.
Is there **any** sugar in this tea?
Have you got **any** brothers and sisters?
We don't have **any** washing-up liquid.
I didn't buy **any** apples.
- 3 We use *some* in questions that are requests or offers.
Can I have **some** cake?
Would you like **some** tea?
- 4 The rules are the same for the compounds *someone, anything, anybody, somewhere, etc.*
I've got **something** for you.
Hello? Is **anybody** here?
There isn't **anywhere** to go in my town.

a few and a little

- 1 We use *a few* with count nouns.
There are **a few cigarettes** left, but not many.
- 2 We use *a little* with uncount nouns.
Can you give me **a little help**?

a lot/lots of

- 1 We use *a lot/lots of* with both count and uncount nouns.
There's **a lot of butter**.
I've got **lots of friends**.
- 2 *A lot/lots of* can be used in questions and negatives.
Are there **lots of tourists** in your country?
There isn't **a lot of butter**, but there's enough.

4.2 Articles – *a* and *the*

- 1 The indefinite article *a* or *an* is used with singular, countable nouns to refer to a thing or an idea for the first time.
We have **a cat** and **a dog**.
There's **a supermarket** in Adam Street.
- 2 The definite article *the* is used with singular and plural, countable and uncountable nouns when both the speaker and the listener know the thing or idea already.
We have a cat and a dog. **The cat** is old, but **the dog** is just a puppy.
I'm going to **the supermarket**. Do you want anything? (We both know which supermarket.)

Indefinite article

The indefinite article is used:

- 1 with professions.
I'm **a teacher**.
She's **an architect**.
- 2 with some expressions of quantity.
a pair of a little a couple of a few
- 3 in exclamations with *what* + a count noun.
What a lovely day!
What a pity!

Definite article

The definite article is used:

- 1 before seas, rivers, hotels, pubs, theatres, museums, and newspapers.
the Atlantic the British Museum
The Times the Ritz
- 2 if there is only one of something.
the sun the Queen the Government
- 3 with superlative adjectives.
He's **the richest man** in the world.
Jane's **the oldest** in the class.

No article

There is no article:

- 1 before plural and uncountable nouns when talking about things in general.
I like potatoes.
Milk is good for you.
- 2 before countries, towns, streets, languages, magazines, meals, airports, stations, and mountains.
I had lunch with John.
I bought *Cosmopolitan* at Paddington Station.
- 3 before some places and with some forms of transport.

at home	in/to bed	at/to work	at/to school/university	
by bus	by plane	by car	by train	on foot

- She goes to work **by bus**.
I was at home **yesterday evening**.
- 4 in exclamations with *what* + an uncount noun.
What beautiful weather!
What loud music!

Note

In the phrase *go home*, there is no article and no preposition.
I **went home** early. NOT ~~I went to home~~.

4 Let's go shopping!

much/many • some/any • a few, a little, a lot of • Articles • Shopping • Prices

STARTER



Play the alphabet game with things you can buy. Continue around the class.

- A Yesterday I went shopping and I bought an apple.
- B Yesterday I went shopping and I bought an apple and some bread.
- C Yesterday I went shopping and I bought an apple, some bread, and a car.
- D Yesterday . . .

THE WEEKEND SHOP

Quantity

- 1 Sarah and Vicky are two students who share a flat. It is Saturday morning, and Sarah has written a shopping list.

T 4.1 Read and listen to their conversation.

- V It says here *milk*. How much milk do we need?
 S Two pints.
 V And eggs? How many eggs?
 S A dozen.
 V And what about potatoes? How many potatoes?
 S A kilo's enough.
 V And butter? How much?
 S Just one packet.

GRAMMAR SPOT

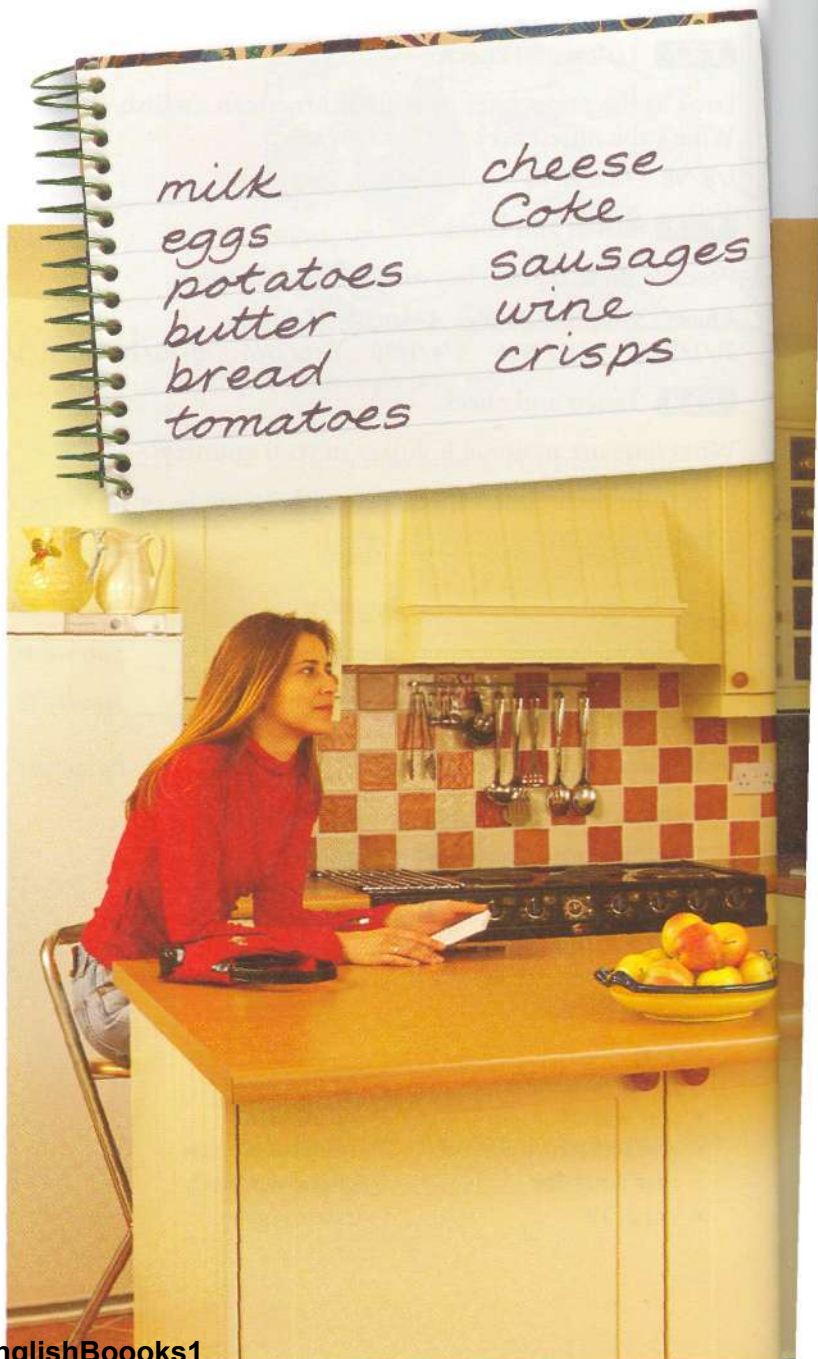
Can we count milk (one milk, two milks)?
 Can we count eggs (one egg, two eggs)?
 When do we say *How much . . .*?
 When do we say *How many . . .*?

▶▶ Grammar Reference 4.1 p133

- 2 Match these quantities with the shopping list.

a bottle of red	six cans
just one white loaf	six pork ones
200g of Cheddar	four big ones
four packets	

Continue the conversation with a partner.



3 **T 4.2** Read and listen to the rest of the conversation.

V Do we need anything else?

S Let's have a look. We've got some apples, but there aren't any grapes. And there isn't any coffee, but we've got some tea.

V Is there any orange juice left, or did somebody finish it?

S There's a little, but there isn't much, so we need some more.

V And vegetables? Have we got many vegetables?

S Well, I can see a few carrots, but there aren't many onions.

V Oh, and don't forget we need a lot of crisps. My nephews are coming tomorrow!

S Right, then. I think that's everything. Let's go! By the way, how much money have you got?

GRAMMAR SPOT

- Find seven count nouns (CNs) and four uncount nouns (UNs) in the conversation.
- Tick (✓) the correct columns.

We use ...	with CNs	with UNs	in positive sentences	in questions	in negative sentences
some	✓	✓	✓	✓(sometimes)	✗
any					
much					
many					
a lot/lots of	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
a few					
a little					

- Look at the forms of *something/someone*, etc. The rules are the same as for *some* and *any*. Find two examples in the conversation in exercise 3.

some any	+	thing one/body where
-------------	---	----------------------------

▶▶ Grammar Reference 4.1 p133

PRACTICE

Discussing grammar

- Complete the sentences with *some* or *any*.

- Have you got _____ brothers or sisters?
- We don't need _____ olive oil.
- Here are _____ letters for you.
- I need _____ money.
- Is there _____ petrol in the car?

- Complete the sentences with *much* or *many*.

- Have you got _____ homework?
- We don't need _____ eggs. Just half a dozen.
- Is there _____ traffic in your town?
- I don't know _____ students in this class.
- How _____ people live in your house?

- Complete the sentences with *a little*, *a few*, or *a lot of*.

- I have _____ close friends. Two or three.
- He has _____ money. He's a millionaire.
- 'Do you take sugar in coffee?' 'Just _____. Half a spoonful.'
- 'Have you got _____ CDs?' 'Hundreds.'
- I'll be ready in _____ minutes.
- She speaks good Spanish, but only _____ Russian.

Questions and answers

4 Look at Sarah and Vicky's bathroom. Ask and answer questions with a partner about these things:

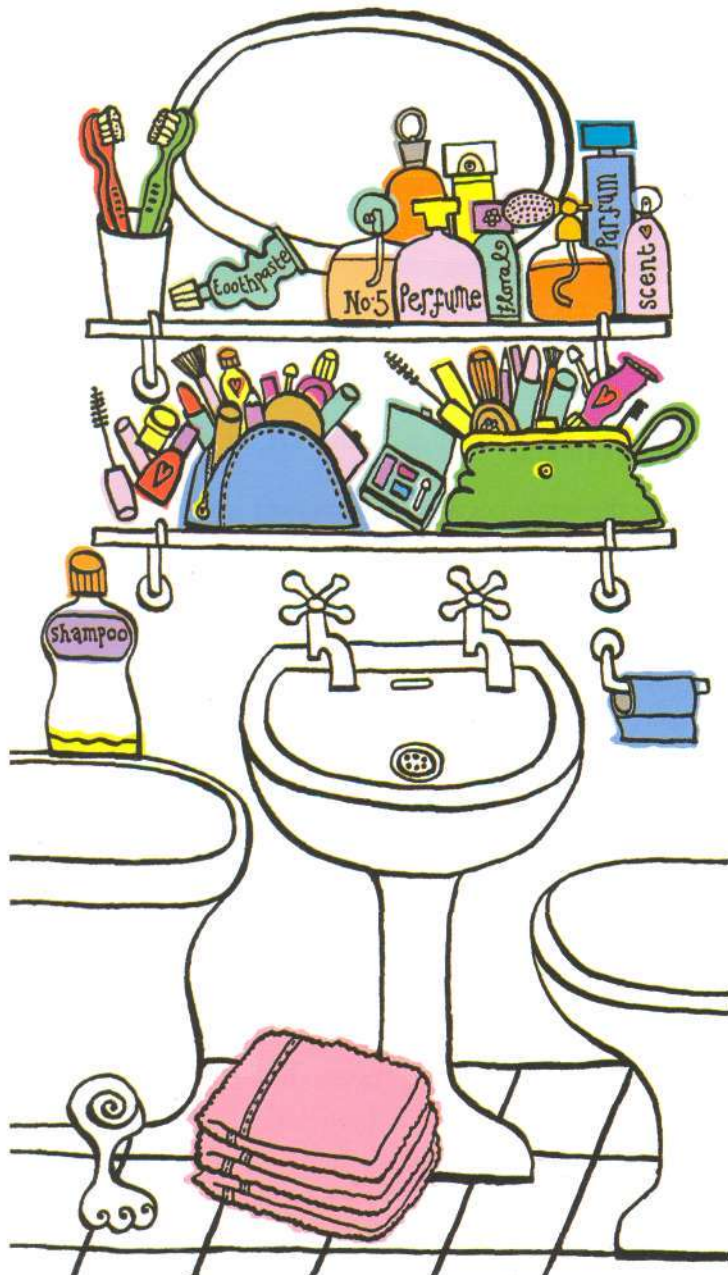
- make-up
- toothbrushes
- hairbrushes
- shampoo
- toothpaste
- soap
- towels
- toilet paper
- bottles of perfume

Have they got much make-up?

Lots.

Is there any soap?

I can't see any.



something/someone/somewhere

5 Complete the sentences with the correct word.

some	+	thing
any		one/body
every		where
no		

- 1 'Did you meet _____ nice at the party?'
'Yes. I met _____ who knows you!'
- 2 'Ouch! There's _____ in my eye!'
'Let me look. No, I can't see _____.'
- 3 'Let's go _____ hot for our holidays.'
'But we can't go _____ that's too expensive.'
- 4 'I'm so unhappy. _____ loves me.'
'I know _____ who loves you. Me.'
- 5 I lost my glasses. I looked _____, but I couldn't find them.
- 6 'Did you buy _____ at the shops?'
'No, _____. I didn't have any money.'
- 7 I'm bored. I want _____ interesting to read, or _____ interesting to talk to, or _____ interesting to go.
- 8 It was a great party. _____ loved it.

T 4.3 Listen and check.

Town survey

6 Work in groups. Talk about the good things and bad things about living in your town. Make a list. Compare your list with the class.

Good things

There are a lot of cafés and restaurants.

There are some good shops.

We can go on lots of walks.

Bad things

But we haven't got any good clubs.

There aren't many . . .

There's only one . . .

There isn't anywhere that we can . . .

MY UNCLE'S A SHOPKEEPER

Articles

T 4.4 Read and listen to the text.

GRAMMAR SPOT

- 1 Find examples of the definite article (*the*) and the indefinite article (*a/an*).
- 2 Find examples of when there is no article.

▶▶ Grammar Reference 4.2 p133

PRACTICE

Discussing grammar

- 1 In pairs, find one mistake in each sentence.
 - 1 He's postman, so he has breakfast at 4 a.m.
 - 2 The love is more important than money.
 - 3 I come to the school by bus.
 - 4 I'm reading one good book at the moment.
 - 5 'Where's Jack?' 'In a kitchen.'
 - 6 I live in centre of town, near the hospital.
 - 7 My parents bought the lovely house in the country.
 - 8 I don't eat the bread because I don't like it.
- 2 Complete the sentences with *a/an, the*, or nothing.
 - 1 I have two children, _____ boy and _____ girl. _____ boy is twenty-two and _____ girl is nineteen.
 - 2 Mike is _____ soldier in _____ Army, and Chloë is at _____ university.
 - 3 My wife goes to _____ work by _____ train. She's _____ accountant. I don't have _____ job. I stay at _____ home and look after _____ children.
 - 4 What _____ lovely day! Why don't we go for _____ picnic in _____ park?
 - 5 'What did you have for _____ lunch?' 'Just _____ sandwich.'

My uncle's a shopkeeper. He has a shop in an old village by the River Thames near Oxford. The shop sells a lot of things – bread, milk, fruit, vegetables, newspapers – almost everything! It is also the village post office. The children in the village always stop to spend a few pence on sweets or ice-cream on their way home from school.

My uncle doesn't often leave the village. He hasn't got a car, so once a month he goes by bus to Oxford and has lunch at the Grand Hotel with some friends. He is one of the happiest men I know.

