



Materials and Exercises

W17-2020

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1. COMMON MISTAKES - SOME vs ANY

COUNTABLE nouns are those that we can count. 1 2 3 4 ... chairs, tables...
They can be plural and singular.

UNCOUNTABLE nouns are those that we can't count. 1 2 3 4 ... airs?... (It doesn't work)
They are treated as singular.

TYPES OF UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS:

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| - Liquids: | water - milk - oil |
| - Abstract ideas: | advice - chaos - encouragement |
| - Powder and grain | rice - sand - corn |
| - Mass nouns | equipment - furniture - transportation |
| - Natural phenomena | sunshine - rain - weather |
| - States of being | stress - happiness - childhood |
| - Feelings | anger - excitement - enthusiasm |
| - Gas | air - oxygen - steam |

Uncountable nouns can be counted when they are contained or delimited.

water	two bottles of water	oxygen	ten oxygen canisters
rain	a few drops of rain	rice	two kilos of rice
happiness	a moment of happiness	luggage	too many pieces of luggage

Some nouns can be BOTH countable and uncountable:

Example:	COUNTABLE	UNCOUNTABLE
LIGHT	There are five lights in the room.	There is too much light in the room.
ROOM	There are three rooms in my apartment	There is not enough room for all of us.

Other examples of nouns that are both countable and uncountable:

iron	paper	room	experience
glass	work	coffee, beer, tea...	fire
time	chicken	meat	memory
light	hair	fruit	cheese, pizza, ham

DRILL 1.01: Fill the gap with the noun in plural or singular where appropriate.

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. She bought some _____ for me. (orange) | 1. oranges |
| 2. They met a few _____ at the party. (investor) | 2. investors |
| 3. We delivered some _____ to the shops. (milk) | 3. milk |

4. They gave me some good _____. (advice)
5. This house is giving me some _____. (problem)
6. There is some new _____ in the warehouse. (equipment)
7. Will there be any _____ for dinner? (cheese)
8. No, we won't take any _____ with us. (luggage)
9. I have to tell you some good _____. (news)
10. She didn't give me any _____. (encouragement)

4. advice
5. problems
6. equipment
7. cheese
8. luggage
9. news
10. encouragement

DRILL 1.02: Turn the uncountable nouns in the following sentences into countable by containing or delimiting.

1. There is some milk in the fridge. (two)
2. There was some oil in the pantry. (six)
3. There is some advice for you. (two)
4. Earlier today there was some rain. (a few)
5. There was some news on the crisis. (two)
6. Was there any happiness in his life? (many)
7. Is there any equipment in the office? (two)
8. There is some cement in the shed. (three)
9. There is some furniture in storage. (five)
10. There is some luggage in the lobby. (seven)

1. There are two bottles of milk in the fridge.
2. There were six bottles of oil in the pantry.
3. There are two pieces of advice for you.
4. Earlier today there were a few drops of rain.
5. There were two pieces of news on the crisis.
6. Were there many moments of happiness in your life?
7. Are there a lot of pieces of equipment in the office?
8. There are three sacks of cement in the basement.
9. There are five pieces of furniture in storage.
10. There are seven pieces of luggage in the lobby.

DRILL 1.03: Write an sentence using the following words as BOTH countable and uncountable.

	COUNTABLE	UNCOUNTABLE
1. iron	_____	_____
2. glass	_____	_____
3. time	_____	_____
4. paper	_____	_____
5. work	_____	_____
6. chicken	_____	_____
7. hair	_____	_____
8. room	_____	_____
9. beer	_____	_____
10. meat	_____	_____
11. fruit	_____	_____
12. experience	_____	_____
13. fire	_____	_____
14. memory	_____	_____
15. light	_____	_____

DRILL 1.04: Fill the gap with the noun in plural or singular. Each word appears twice.

| chicken | room | memory | fire | hair | work | paper | experience | time | coffee |

1. I need to make some _____ for the new furniture.
2. He ordered some _____ for printing the presentations.
3. He has ten _____ and three pigs in her farm.
4. You have too many _____ on your desk.
5. My apartment has three _____.
6. The butcher has some _____ after working for 20 years.
7. They ordered some _____ as a main course.
8. Life is about having a lot of varied _____.
9. I can't leave the office. I have a lot of _____.
10. She has some very good _____ of the trip.
11. If you exercise your mind you can improve your _____.
12. I need some _____ to work on the presentation.
13. Could I have some _____ with milk and sugar?

1. room
2. paper
3. chickens
4. papers
5. rooms
6. experience
7. chicken
8. experiences
9. work
10. memories
11. memory
12. time
13. coffee

14. She called me more than six _____ yesterday.
15. He was tall and had long grey _____.
16. I have had three _____ this morning to wake me up.
17. I found many _____ in your brush.
18. The road was blocked due to _____ in the pavement.
19. There are a lot of wild _____ in the summer.
20. I will light the _____ if you bring some logs.

14. times
15. hair
16. coffees
17. hairs
18. works
19. fires
20. fire

2. GRAMMAR - COUNTABLES and UNCOUNTABLES

	COUNTABLE	UNCOUNTABLE
ARTICLE:	a chair - an apple the chair - the apple	a bottle of wine - a kilo of rice the wine - the rice
NUMBERS	one chair - one apple two chairs - two apples	one bottle of wine - one kilo of rice two bottles of wine - two kilos of rice
DETERMINER	some chairs - some apples any chairs - any apples	some wine - some rice any wine - any rice
THERE + TO BE	COUNTABLE	UNCOUNTABLE
Affirmative	SINGULAR PLURAL There is an apple in the fridge. There are some apples in the fridge.	There is some wine in the bottle. -
Negative	SINGULAR PLURAL There isn't an apple in the fridge. There aren't any apples in the fridge.	There isn't any wine in the bottle. -
Interrogative	SINGULAR PLURAL Is there an apple in the fridge? Are there any apples in the fridge?	Is there any wine in the bottle? -

DRILL 2.01: Form a sentence using THERE + TO BE and A, AN, THE, SOME or ANY.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is _____ peach in the basket. 2. There have been _____ speeches this morning. 3. There will be _____ food at the party. 4. Were there _____ managers at the meeting? 5. There isn't _____ orange car in the garage. 6. Has there been _____ luggage delivered. 7. I came to give you _____ luggage. 8. Is there going to be _____ news today? 9. There was _____ equipment downstairs. 10. Can you give me _____ pasta? | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a 2. some 3. some 4. any 5. an 6. any 7. some 8. any 9. some 10. some |
|---|---|

DRILL 2.02: Put the following singular sentences in the plural using SOME or ANY.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a car parked downstairs. 2. There was excitement in the room. 3. Is there a light at the end of the tunnel? 4. There was energy in the system. 5. There isn't going to be a surprise. 6. There was advice for me. 7. There is news about my situation. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There are some cars parked downstairs. 2. There was some excitement in the room. 3. Are there any lights at the end of the tunnel? 4. There was some energy in the system. 5. There aren't going to be any surprises. 6. There was some advice for me. 7. There is some news about my situation. |
|--|---|

- | | |
|---|---|
| 8. Has there been a strike this month? | 8. Have there been any strikes this month? |
| 9. There hasn't been enthusiasm for the proposal. | 9. There hasn't been any enthusiasm for the proposal. |
| 10. Was there a paper on the floor? | 10. Were there any papers on the floor? |

DRILL 2.03: Ask the questions and respond using THERE + TO BE. Fill the gap with A, AN, THE, SOME or ANY.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Ask me if (FUT "WILL") _____ new arrivals | 1. Will there be any new arrivals? |
| 2. Respond to your question with NO. | 2. No, there won't be any new arrivals. |
| 3. Ask me if (FUT "going to") _____ news. | 3. Is there going to be any news? |
| 4. Respond to your question with NO. | 4. No, there isn't going to be any news. |
| 5. Ask me if (PRES SIM) _____ doctor in the room. | 5. Is there a doctor in the room? |
| 6. Respond to your question with NO. | 6. No, there isn't a doctor in the room. |
| 7. Ask me if (PAST PERF) _____ expectations. | 7. Had there been any expectations? |
| 8. Respond to your question with NO. | 8. No, there hadn't been any expectations. |
| 9. Ask me if (PAST PERF) _____ sunshine. | 9. Had there been any sunshine? |
| 10. Respond to your question with NO. | 10. No, there hadn't been any sunshine. |
| 11. Ask me if (PAST CONT) _____ bottle of wine. | 11. Was there going to be a bottle of wine? |
| 12. Respond to your question with NO. | 12. No, there wasn't going to be a bottle of wine. |
| 13. Ask me if (COND WOULD) _____ happiness. | 13. Would there be any happiness? |
| 14. Respond to your question with YES. | 14. Yes, there would be some happiness. |
| 15. Ask me if (PRES PERF) _____ encouragement. | 15. Has there been any encouragement? |
| 16. Respond to your question with NO. | 16. No, there hasn't been any encouragement. |
| 17. Ask me if (PAST SIM) _____ advice for them. | 17. Was there any advice for them? |
| 18. Respond to your question with NO. | 18. No, there wasn't any advice for them. |
| 19. Ask me if (COND WOULD) _____ open discussion. | 19. Would there be an open discussion? |
| 20. Respond to your question with NO. | 20. No, there wouldn't be an open discussion. |

DRILL 2.04: Write some sentences of your own using THERE + TO BE.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

3. GENERAL VOCABULARY

VOCABULARY TO DELIMIT UNCOUNTABLES:

In order to delimit or quantify uncountables we can often use the word "piece":

Advice	Two pieces of advice
Furniture	Five pieces of furniture
Equipment	One piece of equipment

However to sound more native we need to be able to use more specific words. Here are some examples:

rice	grain	Can you think of other nouns you could use with these words? <i>eg: cup, spoonful, bag,</i>
bread	loaf	
sugar	spoonful	
pizza	slice	
wine	glass	
beer	pint	
tequila	shot	
flowers	bunch	

DRILL 3.01: Complete the sentence with the best option. (Say the sentences out loud)

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Please go to the market and buy two _____ of bread. | 1. loaves, slice |
| 2. The investors want a _____ of the pie. | 2. slice, piece |
| 3. He made me take a _____ of medicine. | 3. spoonful |
| 5. I collected a _____ of clothes for charity. | 5. bunch |
| 6. He is growing and he drinks a _____ of milk everyday. | 6. pint, bottle, litre, glass |
| 7. She offered me a _____ of champagne. | 7. glass |
| 8. I had a _____ of sand in my eye. | 8. grain |
| 9. The kitchen is full of _____ of sugar. | 9. grains |
| 10. I would like a _____ of ham for my sandwich. | 10. slice |
| 11. She had a couple of _____ of whisky. | 11. shots or glasses |
| 12. These people are a _____ of incompetent idiots. | 12. bunch |

DRILL 3.02: Write your own sentences in the PLURAL.

- | | |
|-------------|-------|
| 1. loaf | _____ |
| 2. grain | _____ |
| 3. spoonful | _____ |
| 4. slice | _____ |
| 5. glass | _____ |
| 6. pint | _____ |
| 7. shot | _____ |
| 8. bunch | _____ |

4. LISTENING EXERCISE

Go to the following link and listen to the video.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DYu_bGbZiiQ

It is a humours example that illustrates how difficult it is to commuicate on conference calls.
Watch the video.
Make a note of the names of the participants.
Make a note of all the problems that the participants have with the conference call system.
Have you ever experienced any of these problems?

5. MICRO MBA

CONFERENCE CALLS

Many non-native speakers find conference calls in English challenging. The key thing to remember is: Conference calls are difficult for everyone! It doesn't depend on your level of English. Here are some tips to manage and moderate these meetings more effectively:

- Know your technology. Join five minutes early and check all the buttons.
- Always introduce yourself. "Hi, it's Sam here."
- Make everyone aware who is on the call
- Engage in small talk, tell a story while you are waiting. Be human, be yourself
- Talk on the phone like you talk in a presentation - with energy and intonation.
- Begin with a summary or an agenda. Don't waste any time. Be focused
- Address people by their names
- Mute when not speaking
- Use signal words throughout the discussion eg: firstly, secondly, moving on, to conclucde etc...

6. BUSINESS EXPRESSIONS

COMMON EXPRESSIONS:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A business objective that one cannot achieve by working harder, one has to invent new strategies. | <p><i>Our budget this year \$1m. But we have a S____ T____ of \$1.5m</i></p> <p>stretch target</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A person who generates significant business by closing deals or attracting new clients and abundance. Almost by magic. | <p><i>Ana has always been the R_____ in our department. She closes all the biggest deals.</i></p> <p>rainmaker</p> |

DRILL 6.01: Fill the gap with the best business expression.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Only one sales team has managed to reach the _____. 2. The family has a _____ of one million dollars to buy an house. 3. She is a very talented manager she might be the _____ we need. 4. He is not ambitious enough he will never reach his _____. 5. They hired a new manager who happened to be a true _____. 6. Some shamans of old tribes were literal _____. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. stretch target 2. stretch target 3. rainmaker 4. stretch target 5. rainmaker 6. rainmakers |
|---|--|

DRILL 6.02: Ask the questions and respond. (Say the sentences out loud)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask me if I have set a stretch target for my business. 2. Respond to your question with NO. 3. Ask me if there is a rainmaker in my company. 4. Respond to your question with YES. 5. Ask me if the new employee is a rainmaker 6. Respond to your question with YES. 7. Ask me if he will achieve his stretch targets. 8. Respond to your question with NO. 9. Ask me if you expect me to reach a stretch target. 10. Respond to your question with NO. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have you set a stretch target for your business? 2. No, I haven't set a stretch target for my business. 3. Is there a rainmaker in the company? 4. Yes, there is a rainmaker in the company. 5. Is the new employee a rainmaker? 6. Yes, the new employee is a rainmaker. 7. Will he achieve his stretch targets? 8. No, he won't achieve his stretch targets. 9. Do you expect me to reach a stretch target? 10. No, I don't expect you to reach a stretch target. |
|--|---|

DRILL 6.03: Write some sentences using these EXPRESSIONS. (Say the sentences out loud)

1. _____
2. _____

7

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To arouse emotionally or sexually.
<i>This actor really T_____ me O_____.</i> | <p>to turn on (SEPARABLE)</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To suddenly attack physically or verbally.
<i>He T_____ O_____ his friends.</i> | <p>to turn on (INSEPRABLE)</p> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To stop being aroused emotionally or sexually | <p>to turn off (SEPARABLE)</p> |

Bad breath really T_____ him O_____.

- To stop listening to someone or to stop thinking about something. to switch off (INSEPARABLE)
At the end of a hard day at work I like to watch TV and S_____ O_____.
- To arrive or appear somewhere. to turn up (INSEPARABLE)
We T_____ U_____ at the party unannounced.
- To refuse a request or offer. to turn down (SEPARABLE)
She T_____ D_____ the offer to manage the operations.
Did she really T_____ it D_____?

DRILL 7.01: Fill in the blanks. (Say the sentences out loud)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Could you _____ the volume please? It's too loud. 2. After work I like to _____ and rest. 3. His colleagues _____ him because he had been lying. 4. Listening to political arguments totally _____. 5. You can just _____ to the meeting if you have time. 6. Nice long holidays _____ me _____. 7. I have a headache. Please _____ the lights. 8. I told you to _____ the computer at the end of the day. 9. He is going to _____ the air conditioning. 10. The lesson was boring. I couldn't help _____. 11. Mike _____ late at the party. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. turn down 2. switch off 3. turned on 4. turns me off 5. turn up 6. turn me on 7. switch off, turn off 8. switch off, turn off 9. turn down 10. switching off 11. turned up |
|---|---|

DRILL 7.02: Ask the questions and respond. (Say the sentences out loud)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ask me if going to the gym turns me on. 2. Respond to your question with NO. 3. Ask me if I am turned off by boring people. 4. Respond to your question with YES. 5. Ask me if I turned up at the conference. 6. Respond to your question with NO. 7. Ask me if I switched off during my holidays. 8. Respond to your question with YES. 9. Ask me if I turned down his offer to help. 10. Respond to your question with NO. 11. Ask me if my friends turned on each other. 12. Respond to your question with YES. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does going to the gym turn you on? 2. No, going to the gym doesn't turn me on. 3. Are you turned off by boring people? 4. Yes, I am turned off by boring people. 5. Did you turn up at the conference? 6. No, I didn't turn up at the conference. 7. Did you switch off during your holidays? 8. Yes, I switched off during my holidays 9. Did you turn down his offer to help? 10. No, I didn't turn down his offer to help. 11. Did your friends turn on each other? 12. Yes, my friends turned on each other. |
|--|--|

8. PRONUNCIATION

BOYS NAMES				GIRLS NAMES			
1970		2020		1970		2020	
David	/déivid/	Muhammad	/məháməd/	Susan	/susən/	Olivia	/olívia/
Paul	/póol/	Noah	/nóa/	Julie	/djúly/	Sophia	/sofía/
Andrew	/ándru/	George	/djórdg/	Karen	/karən/	Lily	/líly/
Mark	/márk/	Oliver	/ólívar/	Jacqueline	/djáclin/	Ava	/éiva/
John	/djón/	Charlie	/chárly/	Deborah	/débra/	Mia	/mía/
Michael	/máikol/	Harry	/hárry/	Tracey	/tréicy/	Isla	/áila/
Stephen	/stíven/	Leo	/lío/	Jane	/djéin/	Amelia	/amília/

Ian	/ián/	Arthur	/árthər/	Helen	/hélen/	Freya	/fréya/
Robert	/róbert/	Jack	/dják/	Diane	/dáian/	Isabella	/isabéla/
Richard	/rícharð/	Freddie	/frédy/	Sharon	/sharən/	Emily	/emily/

DRILL 8.01: To practice your pronunciation you have two options:

- You can find a partner to practice together.
- You can use the voice memo app on your phone to record yourself. Listen to the recording and repeat this until you are happy with your pronunciation.

1. Robert played with Richard in the orchard.
2. Arthur and Michael saw Tracey buying a pricey jumper.
3. Deborah and Freya invited Ava and Isla to share their holiday home on an island.
4. Andrew grew up in a home with few windows.
5. Ian and Leo turned up at Jacqueline and Freddie's anniversary.

9. READING EXERCISE

Now please go to Chapter 3 of The Adventures of Ana Badiola.

Read the text carefully and make sure you understand everything.
 Take note of all the vocabulary, phrasal verbs, expressions etc. in context.
 Make sure you can answer the ten comprehension questions.