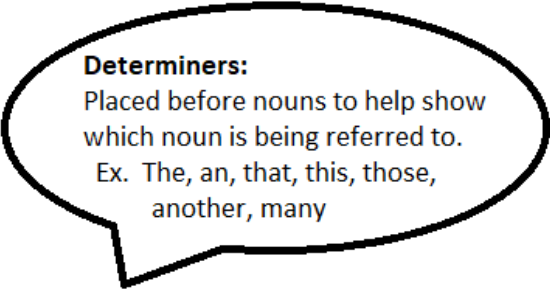


COUNTABLE AND UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS Answer Key.

Objective: Identify countable and uncountable noun, and distinguish between them.

It's important to distinguish between countable and uncountable nouns in English because their usage is different in regards to both determiners and verbs.



Determiners:

Placed before nouns to help show which noun is being referred to.

Ex. The, an, that, this, those, another, many

COUNTABLE NOUNS

Countable nouns are for things we *can count* using numbers. They have a singular and a plural form. The singular form can use the **determiner** "a" or "an". If you want to ask about the quantity of a countable noun, you ask "**How many?**" combined with the plural countable noun.

Singular

Plural

one dog

two dogs

one horse

two horses

one man

two men

- *She has three dogs.*
- *I own a house.*

UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS

Uncountable nouns are for the things that we *cannot count* with numbers. They may be the names for abstract ideas or qualities or for physical objects that are too small or too amorphous (shapeless) to be counted (liquids, powders, gases,

etc.). Uncountable nouns are **used with a singular verb**. They usually do not have a plural form.

EXAMPLES:

tea, sugar, water, air, rice

-We cannot use(a/an) with these nouns. To express a quantity of an uncountable noun, use a word or expression like *some, a lot of, much, a bit of, a great deal of*, or else use an exact measurement like *a cup of, a bag of, 1kg of, 1L of, a handful of, a pinch of, an hour of, a day of*. If you want to ask about the quantity of an uncountable noun, you ask "**How much**"?

- *There has been a lot of research into the causes of this disease.*
- *He gave me a great deal of advice before my interview.*
- *Can you give me some information about uncountable nouns?*

Exercises:

1. Tell whether the underlined noun is countable or uncountable.

1. Would you like some milk with your cereal? uncountable
2. You will need eggs and sugar for this recipe. countable
3. Do you have enough information to write your report?
countable
4. Matt should listen to his coach; he gives good advice. countable
5. The teacher wanted his students to put more effort into their assignments. countable
6. Listening to good music makes your worries go away. uncountable
7. With enough determination, any task is achievable. countable
8. Our living room has so much furniture, there is nowhere to move.
uncountable



2. Write the words in the correct form:

- a. There are three apples (apple) on the plate.
- b. I'd like to taste these cookies (cookie).
- c. Would you like these oranges (orange)?
- d. This cheese (cheese) is too salty.
- e. How much water (water) is there in the bottle?
- f. I usually drink milk (milk) in the morning.
- g. Do you like cucumbers (cucumber)?
- h. How much money (money) have you got?
- i. This meat (meat) isn't fresh.
- j. There are many tomatoes (tomato) in this salad.

3. Correct the mistakes in the following sentences.



- a. These carrot are sweet.
These carrots are sweet.
- b. I don't like teas at all.
I don't like tea at all.
- c. I'd like to cut some pear for this salad.
I'd like to cut some pears for this salad.
- d. There is much waters in this jar.
There is much water in this jar.

e. How many sandwich have you bought?

How many sandwiches have you bought?

f. You can take four potato from the basket.

You can take four potatoes from the basket.

g. Do you eat meats?

Do you eat meat?

h. There is much rices in this dish.

There is much rice in this dish.

i. Where is the breads?

Where is the bread?

j. These berry are very sweet.

These berries are very sweet.



Countable Noun



Can be counted

E.g: an apple, a school, 1 picture, 2 pictures, etc

Can take singular or plural verbs

There is a book on the table.
Those houses are very big, aren't they?

Go with a/an/the/my, etc in the singular

She bought an umbrella.

Can be used alone with some/any/many/few in the plural

I love (some) carrots 



Uncountable Noun



Can not be counted

E.g: sugar, information, water, understanding, etc

Always take singular verbs

There is some water in that pitcher.

Do not go with a/an/two, etc

Can you hear music?

Can be used alone or with some/any/much/little, etc

There is little information about the weather.

Can use a/an, one/two with coffee, tea...when we talk about a cup/glass/bottle

Can I have two teas, please (two cups of tea)

