

Quantifiers

We use **quantifiers** when we want to give someone information about the number of something: how much or how many. There are three main types of quantifiers:

1 Quantifiers for countable nouns. For example: (not) many, each, either, (a) few, several, both, neither, fewer, a couple of.

Examples: **Several** balls bounced over the fence.

I gave **each** of my friends an invitation.

2 Quantifiers for uncountable nouns. For example: (not) much, a bit, a little, a great deal of (used with abstract nouns like time or money).

Examples: We don't have **much** milk left.

Nan gave her **a great deal of** money on her birthday.

3 Quantifiers for both countable and uncountable nouns. For example: all, some, more, a lot of, enough, any, most, lots of, less, plenty of.

Examples: Laksari has **lots of** friends.

Armeena has **plenty of** pencils. I can't go out – I've got **no** money.

A Complete these sentences with appropriate quantifiers.

- 1 You can choose that cake or that cake, but not **both** of them.
- 2 He likes **a little** honey in his tea instead of sugar.
- 3 My granny has **several** pairs of glasses, but she still keeps losing them.
- 4 Add **a couple of** drops of lemon juice to the cake mixture.
- 5 Lee was rushing. He didn't have **a great deal of** time because he needed to be back by 7pm.

B Complete these sentences with appropriate quantifiers.

- 1 Don't fight over the chocolates – there's **plenty of/ loads of** them in the box.
- 2 Have you got **enough/ any** money to pay for the bus fare?
- 3 Barney put **loads of/ tons** butter on his toast.
- 4 **All of** the ice cream has been eaten – there's none left!
- 5 Make sure you pack **plenty of/ a load of** warm clothes – it's very cold.



We usually use the quantifier **some** in positive sentences and questions, and the quantifier **any** in negative sentences and questions.

Examples: We have **some** pets at home.

I saw **some** dolphins on holiday.

We don't have **any** pets.

I didn't see **any** dolphins on holiday.

We saw **some** iguanas at the zoo, but we didn't see **any** giant tortoises.

However, we can use **some** for offers and requests.

Examples: Would you like **some** squash?

I would like **some** water, please.

C Complete these sentences with **some** or **any**.

- 1 I don't have **any** felt tips to colour in the picture.
- 2 Do you want to borrow **some** of my felt tips?
- 3 I don't want **any** cake, thank you.
- 4 Please may I have **some** more cake?

