

COUNTABLE & UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS

A2 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Practice | 35-45 minutes

Learn and practise | Talk about food, quantities and containers.

1. READ: Making a shopping list

Read the conversation. Notice the bold nouns and quantity phrases.

Dan: What do we need for lunch, Mia?

Mia: Some **bread** and two **tomatoes**.

Dan: Have we got any cheese?

Mia: Yes, there's some **cheese** in the fridge.

Dan: Okay. I'll buy **a loaf of bread** and the tomatoes.

Mia: Thanks. Can you get **a bottle of water** too?

2. GRAMMAR: Things and amounts

Countable nouns have singular and plural forms. Uncountable nouns usually have no plural form.

Type	Use	Example
Countable	a / an; numbers; plural -s	an egg; three eggs
Uncountable	some; no a / an directly	some rice; some water
Container / measure	a ... of; two ... of	a bottle of water

Usually uncountable: **bread, rice, cheese, milk, money, information**.

Use **How many eggs?** but **How much rice?**

Count amounts: **two slices of bread; a piece of cheese; two bottles of milk**.

A. CHOOSE

Circle the correct form. The example answer is bold: some **rice** / rices.

1. three egg / eggs

2. some bread / breads

3. a / some water

4. a piece of cheese / cheeses

5. two bottle / bottles of milk

6. How much / many apples?

7. How much / many money?

8. some information / informations

Read each answer aloud. Check the subject, the noun or the clue.

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Use it | Complete a context, write sentences and speak with a partner.

B. COMPLETE: Lunch for four

Choose the correct word or phrase in brackets.

We need (1) _____ (a / some) bread and four (2) _____ (egg / eggs).

There is some (3) _____ (cheese / cheeses) in the fridge.

Let's buy two (4) _____ (bottle / bottles) of water.

We have a bag of (5) _____ (rice / rices), but we don't need it today.

How (6) _____ (much / many) tomatoes shall we buy?

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1-2: Correct the noun or quantity phrase.

Example: two bottle of water **two bottles of water**

1. I need a bread.

2. We have three tomato.

3-4: Make questions with How much or How many. Example: rice / we need **How much rice do we need?**

3. eggs / you need

4. water / we need

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU

Write three items for a shopping list. Use a plural noun, an uncountable noun and a container.

Example: **We need three apples. We need some rice. We need a bottle of milk.**

E. SPEAK WITH A PARTNER

1. Plan a simple lunch for two. Agree on food and quantities.

Ask: **How many tomatoes? How much bread?**

2. Tell another pair your shopping list. Use a container or measure.

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Answer key | Keep this page separate during student practice.

1. READ: Making a shopping list

Sample target language from the conversation:

Mia: Some **bread** and two **tomatoes**.

Mia: Yes, there's some **cheese** in the fridge.

Dan: Okay. I'll buy **a loaf of bread** and the tomatoes.

Mia: Thanks. Can you get **a bottle of water** too?

A. CHOOSE

- | | |
|------------|----------------|
| 1. eggs | 2. bread |
| 3. some | 4. cheese |
| 5. bottles | 6. many |
| 7. much | 8. information |

B. COMPLETE: Lunch for four

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| 1. some | 2. eggs |
| 3. cheese | 4. bottles |
| 5. rice | 6. many |

C. CHANGE THE SENTENCES

1. I need some bread. / I need a loaf of bread.
2. We have three tomatoes.
3. How many eggs do you need?
4. How much water do we need?

D. WRITE ABOUT YOU / E. SPEAK

Personal answers will vary. Check the target grammar.

Sample: We need three apples. We need some rice. We need a bottle of milk.

Teacher note: Some uncountable nouns can be countable for varieties or servings. Keep the basic food context clear; do not imply that these nouns can never be countable.