

Countable nouns with a/an and some

1 What are these things? Choose from the box and write a sentence.

- 1 an eagle
- 2 a pigeon, a duck and a penguin
- 3 carrots and onions
- 4 a tulip
- 5 Earth, Mars and Jupiter
- 6 chess
- 7 a hammer, a saw and a screwdriver
- 8 the Nile, the Rhine and the Mekong
- 9 a mosquito
- 10 Hindi, Arabic and Swahili

It's a bird.

They're birds.

bird(s)
flower(s)
game(s)
insect(s)
language(s)
planet(s)
river(s)
tool(s)
vegetable(s)

2 Read about what these people do. What are their jobs? Choose from:

chef interpreter journalist nurse plumber surgeon tour guide waiter

- 1 Sarah looks after patients in hospital. *She's a nurse.*
- 2 Gary works in a restaurant. He brings the food to the tables. He
- 3 Jane writes articles for a newspaper.
- 4 Kevin works in a hospital. He operates on people.
- 5 Jonathan cooks in a restaurant.
- 6 Dave installs and repairs water pipes.
- 7 Anna shows visitors round her city and tells them about it.
- 8 Lisa translates what people are saying from one language into another, so that they can understand each other.

3 Which is right?

- 1 Most of my friends are students / some students. (students is correct)
- 2 Are you careful driver / a careful driver?
- 3 I went to the library and borrowed books / some books.
- 4 Mark works in a bookshop. He sells books / some books.
- 5 I've been walking for hours. I've got sore feet / some sore feet.
- 6 I don't feel very well. I've got sore throat / a sore throat.
- 7 What lovely present / a lovely present! Thank you very much.
- 8 I met students / some students in a cafe yesterday. They were from China.
- 9 It might rain. Don't go out without umbrella / without an umbrella.
- 10 People / Some people learn languages more easily than others.

4 Put in a/an or some where necessary. If no word is necessary, leave the space empty.

- 1 I've seen some good movies recently.
- 2 Are you feeling all right? Do you have a headache?
- 3 I know lots of people. Most of them are — students.
- 4 When I was — child, I used to be very shy.
- 5 — birds, for example the penguin, cannot fly.
- 6 Would you like to be — actor?
- 7 Questions, questions, questions! You're always asking — questions!
- 8 I didn't expect to see you. What — surprise!
- 9 Do you like staying in — hotels?
- 10 Tomorrow is a holiday. — shops will be open, but most of them will be closed.
- 11 Those are — nice shoes. Where did you get them?
- 12 You need — visa to visit — countries, but not all of them.
- 13 Kate is — teacher. Her parents were — teachers too.
- 14 I don't believe him. He's — liar. He's always telling — lies.