

CAE – Nouns and articles

1.Countable and uncountable nouns - tick the appropriate box.

- Which type of nouns do we use to talk about things we think of as mass? ☐countable ☐uncountable
- Do we use singular or plural verbs with them? ☐singular ☐plural

2.Rank the following nouns as countable or uncountable - tick the appropriate box.

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| ☐ C | ☐ U | rice |
| ☐ C | ☐ U | furniture |
| ☐ C | ☐ U | suggestion |
| ☐ C | ☐ U | knowledge |
| ☐ C | ☐ U | information |
| ☐ C | ☐ U | money |
| ☐ C | ☐ U | luggage |
| ☐ C | ☐ U | strawberry jam |

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| ☐ C | ☐ U | bread |
| ☐ C | ☐ U | bookshelf |
| ☐ C | ☐ U | advice |
| ☐ C | ☐ U | news |
| ☐ C | ☐ U | hair |
| ☐ C | ☐ U | dollar |
| ☐ C | ☐ U | suitcase |
| ☐ C | ☐ U | traffic jam |

3.Remember the nouns we discussed before. Read the example sentences and tick the correct option.

- I'd like to run an internet business, (C)
- He has no interest in the world of business. (U)

Depending on the context, nouns ☐can ☐cannot be either countable or uncountable.

4.Look at the sentences containing a / an – the – no article and tick the correct option.

A car drove past here five minutes ago.

The cars were parked illegally in the city centre.

Money doesn't necessarily bring happiness – but it's better to cry in on a yacht than in a tiny flat.

1. to talk about one of something when we assume the listener / reader doesn't know which specific thing we use: ☐a / an ☐the ☐no article
2. to talk about a specific example of something we think is known to both ourselves and the listener / reader we use: ☐a / an ☐the ☐no article
3. to talk about things generally we use: ☐a / an ☐the ☐no article

4. Are these nouns used with *is* or *are*? Tick the appropriate box.

trousers	☐ is	☐ are	economics	☐ is	☐ are
news	☐ is	☐ are	athletics	☐ is	☐ are
maths	☐ is	☐ are	genetics	☐ is	☐ are
army	☐ is	☐ are	aerobics	☐ is	☐ are
jury	☐ is	☐ are	band	☐ is	☐ are
scissors	☐ is	☐ are	community	☐ is	☐ are
audience	☐ is	☐ are	staff	☐ is	☐ are
politics	☐ is	☐ are	family	☐ is	☐ are

5. Tick the correct option for each sentence.

1. All of the chocolate in this country ☐ taste ☐ tastes the same.
2. All children ☐ love ☐ loves chocolate.
3. Both ☐ look ☐ looks disgusting.
4. The whole town ☐ was ☐ were shocked by her death.
5. Neither type ☐ is ☐ are particularly nice.
6. Neither you nor she ☐ like ☐ likes them.
7. Practically none of this stuff ☐ is ☐ are as bad as you say.
8. Each of the walkers ☐ was ☐ were well over sixty.
9. Every person I asked ☐ say ☐ says that they are going to enjoy the walk.

6. Explain the difference in meaning.

1a. **A few** people came to the party.

1b. **Few** people came to the party.

2a. There's **a little** time left.

2b. There's **little** time left.

3a. **Some** of the information was incorrect. (used in affirmative sentences)

3b. Would you like **some** tea? (used in interrogative sentences)

4a. I haven't got **any** news whatsoever. (used in negative sentences)

4b. **Any** news you have could be useful. (used in affirmative sentences)