

This is great! There aren't any cars ahead of us today.

I've only got a little fuel left so we need to stop soon.

There are only one or two cars on this side of the road.



There are a lot of cars on the road today.

There's too much traffic today.

Luckily I've got plenty of time before our next meeting!

Presentation

Use quantifiers to talk about different amounts and quantities.

Larger quantities

Use *a lot of*, *lots of*, *loads of* and *plenty of* with uncountable and plural nouns.

There are **a lot of** cars on the road today.

I've got **plenty of** time. (= more than enough time)

Note that *plenty* is always used with a positive meaning.

Use *too much* with uncountable nouns and *too many* with countable nouns to say there is more than we want:

There's **too much** traffic today.

There are **too many** cars.

Smaller quantities

Use *several*, *one or two*, *a couple*, *a few* and *not many* with plural nouns. (*Several* refers to a larger quantity than *one or two*, etc.)

I've only got **a little** fuel left, so we need to stop soon.

There are only **one or two** cars ahead.

Use *a little* and *not much* with uncountable nouns.

I've only got **a little** fuel left.

I haven't got **much** fuel left.

Some

Use *some* to talk about neutral, non-specific quantities with uncountable and plural nouns:

I need **some** more fuel. There are **some** service stations ahead.

Zero quantity

Use *not any* with plural and uncountable nouns to talk about zero quantity:

There **aren't any** other cars today.

I **don't have any** fuel.

Questions about quantity

Use *much* or *many* to ask about quantities:

Were there **many** cars on the road today?

Was there **much** traffic?

Exercises

1 Complete the sentences about the pictures using the words in the box.

too much any plenty few many several



- 1 Would you like any more to eat? There's still _____ of food left.



- 2 There are too _____ cars on the road these days.



- 3 A: Is that OK?
B: No, that's _____ actually.



- 4 The match was cancelled because there were too _____ players.



- 5 A: Why are you stopping at the garage?
B: We don't have _____ petrol left.



- 6 I've still got _____ jobs to do before I can play with the children.

2 Choose the correct option.

- I don't have much / many fuel left. Let's stop at a garage.
- We have a few / a little sandwiches for lunch.
- There are plenty of / several buses to the city centre. One leaves every five minutes.
- I don't have much / many stamps. Let's buy some / any more.
- I've got too much / too many food on my plate. Do you want some?
- The supermarket didn't have any / some bananas.
- I only want a little / too much milk in my coffee.
- A lot of / A few companies are based in this part of the city. It's very popular because of the location.
- It was very quiet at the park. We only saw one or two / loads of other people.
- Were there much / many cars on the road today?

3 Rewrite the sentences so the meaning is the same, using the word in bold.

- There are a lot of new houses in this area. **loads**
There are loads of new houses in this area.
- I've only been to the new shopping mall one or two times. **couple**
I've only been to the new shopping mall _____ times.
- There aren't many biscuits in the tin. **few**
There _____ biscuits in the tin.
- They have no electricity. **any**
They _____ electricity.
- You have more than enough money in your wallet. **plenty**
You have _____ money in your wallet.
- Were there lots of tourists at the beach? **many**
Were there _____ at the beach?