8 much, many, a lot of

1 *much, many, a lot of* with a noun

much	+ uncountable nouns	*I don't eat much sugar.* *Hurry up. There isn't much time.*
many	+ plural nouns	*I don't eat many sweets.* *Are there many students from Japan?*
a lot of	+ plural nouns and uncountable nouns	*They sell a lot of vegetables.* *He doesn't earn a lot of money.* *Do you have a lot of homework today?*

We use *much, many* and *a lot of* to talk about a large amount or number. The exact amount or number is not important.

- We can use *a lot of* in positive and negative sentences and questions:
  *Lewis has got **a lot of** friends.*
  *We haven**'t** got **a lot of** time.*
  ***Are** there **a lot of** students from Japan?*
- We usually use *much* and *many* in negative sentences and questions:
  *Hurry up! We haven**'t got much** time.*
  ***Are** there **many** students from Japan?*

NATURAL ENGLISH In everyday English, we don't use *much* or *many* in positive sentences. We prefer *a lot of*:
*There are **a lot of** tourists here in the summer.*

2 *much, many, a lot* without a noun

We can use *much* and *many* without a noun, when it is clear what we are talking about:
*Why don't you buy it? It doesn't cost **much**.*
*'Can I have some of your sweets?' 'No, I haven't got **many**.'*

When we use *a lot* without a noun, we don't need *of*:
*We learned **a lot** in today's lesson.*

3 *how much?* or *how many?*

- We use *how much* and *how many* to ask about an exact amount or number.
  We use *how much* with uncountable nouns:
  ***How much** sugar do I need?*
- We use *how many* with countable nouns:
  ***How many** bedrooms are there in the hotel?*
- We use *how much* to ask about prices:
  ***How much** is it? It's fifteen euros.*
  ***How much** does it cost? It costs ten dollars.*

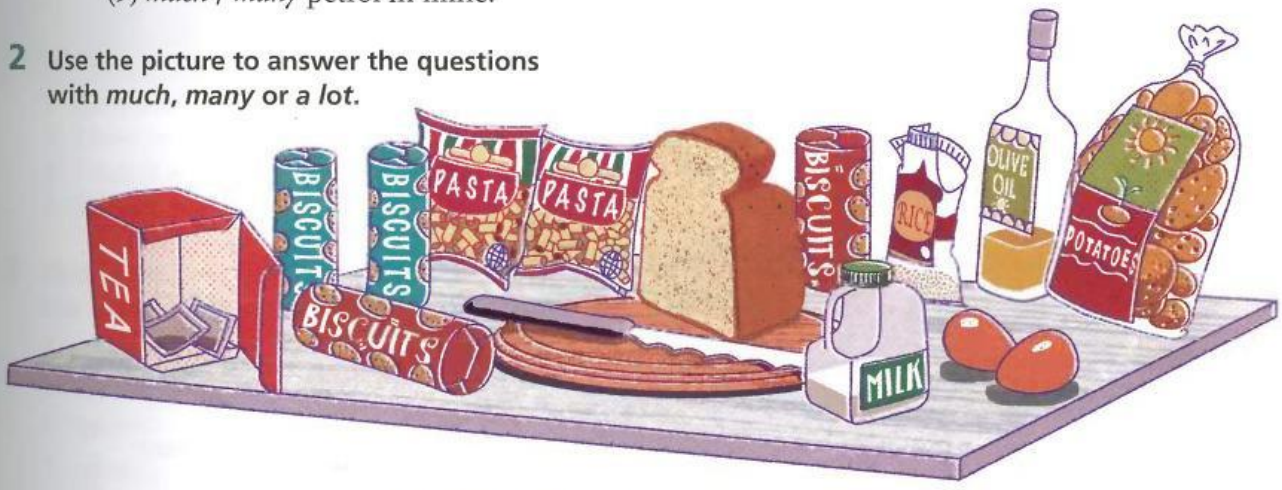
LIVEWORKSHEETS

Practice

1 GRAMMAR IN USE **Choose the correct words in *italics* in the conversation.**

SAM Where shall we go shopping this afternoon? Shall we just go to the town centre?
ALI I don't know. There aren't (0) *much* / (*many*) shops in the town centre.
I think the big shopping centre is better – there are (1) *a lot of* / *much* shops there.
SAM Mmm. But we haven't got (2) *much* / *many* time really, and it takes half an hour to drive there.
ALI I know, but I need to buy (3) *many* / *a lot of* presents for my family, and I don't have (4) *much* / *many* money. There are (5) *many* / *a lot of* cheap shops in the shopping centre.
SAM Are there (6) *many* / *much* people in your family, then?
ALI Well, there aren't (7) *many* / *much* adults, but I've got (8) *much* / *a lot of* younger brothers and sisters.
SAM OK, let's go to the shopping centre. But can we go in your car? There isn't (9) *much* / *many* petrol in mine.

2 **Use the picture to answer the questions with *much, many* or *a lot*.**



0 Have we got any milk? *We haven't got much.*
1 Have we got any rice? .....
2 Have we got any potatoes? .....
3 Have we got any olive oil? .....
4 Have we got any pasta? .....
5 Have we got any bread? .....
6 Have we got any biscuits? .....
7 Have we got any eggs? .....
8 Have we got any tea bags? .....

3 **Complete the questions with *How much?* or *How many?* Then write true answers for you.**

0 *How many* uncles have you got? *I've got three./I haven't got any./I haven't got many.*
1 ..... aunts have you got? .....
2 ..... work have you got at the moment? .....
3 ..... good friends have you got? .....
4 ..... chocolate do you eat? .....
5 ..... exercise do you do? .....
6 ..... coffee do you drink? .....

LIVEWORKSHEETS