03 Countable & Uncountable Nouns

There are two types of nouns: countable nouns and uncountable nouns. Countable nouns are people or things that can be counted. A countable noun comes after **a(n)**, **the**, **many**, **a few**, etc. A countable noun has the plural form that usually ends with **-s** or **-es**. **Uncountable nouns** are people or things that **cannot be counted.** An uncountable noun **has no -s** or **-es ending form.** Both plural nouns and uncountable nouns **can stand alone without an article or a possessive adjective** in complete sentences.

	Plural form	a(n)	the	the + plural form	No article	many, much	a few, a little
Countable noun (desk)	desks [✓]	a desk [✓]	the desk [✓]	the desks [✓]	desk [x]	many desks	a few desks
Uncountable noun (money)	moneys [x]	a money [x]	the money [✓]	the moneys [x]	money [✓]	much money	a little money

They/are now conducting/**research**/on **the effects**/of **stress**.

Attention!

Some uncountable nouns that are often found on the TOEIC test include **baggage**, **luggage**, **information**, **traffic**, **furniture**, **equipment**, **machinery**, **merchandise**, and **research**.

Exercises

A **Choose the correct option in brackets for each sentence.**

1 All the (furniture/furnitures) at Living Space Co. is affordable.

2 Fast Pizza has received (complaint/complaints) about its late delivery.

3 Mr. Jeff Slim does not spend (many/much) money on office decorations.

4 I have a few (relative/relatives) who live nearby.

5 The agency offered (information/informations) about the city's tourism industry.

B **Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.**

1 There was _____ traffic downtown this morning.

(A) a few (B) a little (C) many (D) a

2 High Fashion, Inc. on Broadway will have a sale to clear out holiday _____.

(A) merchandises (B) merchandise (C) merchants (D) merchandising

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04 Pronouns

A **personal pronoun** refers to a specific person or thing. There are subject pronouns and object pronouns. The subject pronoun starts a sentence and comes before the main verb in the sentence. The object pronoun comes right after a verb or a preposition in the sentence.

A **possessive pronoun** is used to substitute a noun phrase that indicates a possession relation.

A **reflexive pronoun** is formed by adding the suffix **-self** (or **-selves** in the plural form) to an object pronoun or a possessive adjective. It is used to show that the object of a certain verb is the same person or thing as the subject of a sentence. It is also used to emphasize the subject who does/did the action.

Number	Person	Gender	Personal pronouns		Possessive pronouns	Reflexive pronouns
			Subject	Object		
Singular	1st	male/female	I	me	mine	myself
	2nd	male/female	you	you	yours	yourself
	3rd	male	he	him	his	himself
		female	she	her	hers	herself
		neuter	it	it		itself
Plural	1st	male/female	we	us	ours	ourselves
	2nd	male/female	you	you	yours	yourselves
	3rd	male/female/neuter	they	them	theirs	themselves

We/are looking forward/to reading/**his** latest novel, *Destiny*.

Exercises

A Choose the correct options in brackets for each sentence.

1 Ms. Kelly called (him/he) this morning, but (he/himself) was out of town.

2 (We/Us) are so delighted that you have agreed to work with (us/ours).

3 If you contact (ours/us), (we/us) will send you the new brochure.

4 (I/mine) am sure my grades are worse than (yourself/yours).

B Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

1 If this project goes smoothly, we will have more work with _____ in the future.

(A) they (B) them (C) themselves (D) theirs

2 We regret to tell _____ that we cannot deliver your recent orders.

(A) you (B) us (C) yours (D) yourself

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1. Because of some _____ about the noise, they had to stop the outdoor performance.
   (A) complain
   (B) complaints
   (C) complaining
   (D) being complained

2. The _____ of maintenance has to be reduced during the economic crisis.
   (A) cost
   (B) costly
   (C) costing
   (D) more costly

3. Ms. Page in the Marketing Department is excellent at _____.
   (A) present
   (B) presenting
   (C) presented
   (D) presentations

4. Airport security staff will search _____ for any illegal items.
   (A) luggage
   (B) luggages
   (C) a luggage
   (D) some luggages

5. We shall finally have what is rightfully _____.
   (A) we
   (B) us
   (C) his
   (D) ours

6. A few _____ wrote positive reviews about the new dessert menu.
   (A) critic
   (B) critics
   (C) critical
   (D) criticize

7. Kelly Smith is a prospective candidate for an upcoming _____.
   (A) promote
   (B) promotes
   (C) promotion
   (D) promoting

8. The _____ at the FAL Language Institute should have more than three years of experience.
   (A) instructors
   (B) instructions
   (C) instructing
   (D) instructive

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