

3.2 BARRIERS TO INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

Exercise 1. Read the chapter about barriers to intercultural communication “From the Intercultural Perspective” (page 72-82) by Fred E. Jandt from his book “An Introduction to Intercultural Communication” and complete the chart summarizing information from the text in groups.

Summary/ definition of the concept	What effect does it have on intercultural communication?
Anxiety	
Assuming similarities instead of differences	
Ethnocentrism	
Stereotypes	
Prejudice	

Racial Profiling	
Nonverbal misinterpretation/Silence	
Experiential Equivalence	
Conceptual Equivalence	

#2 SUDANESE LOST BOYS

Which of the barriers to intercultural communication do the lost boys face in the USA? Detail the barrier and how they experience it.

- Barrier I:
- Barrier II:
- Barrier III:
- Barrier IV:

LANGUAGE FOCUS

In 1994, a young man with cigarette burns and the tattoo of an eagle on his arm was arrested by police who cited the burns and tattoo as proof that he was in a Chinese gang.

- *Burns and a tattoo are two things - why is it proof and not proofs then?*

Uncountable Nouns



There weren't many people at the party so they had bought too much wine.

We use different quantifiers depending on whether the noun is countable or uncountable. Pretty simply, you can easily count people, one person, two people etc.

However, you can't count wine in the same way - you could count glasses or bottles but not wine itself.

Why does this matter?

Whether the noun is countable or uncountable will decide which quantifiers you can use. Additionally, uncountable nouns do not take plurals; this is a mistake I hear quite frequently.

How do I tell?

Countable nouns are objects and things, which is why they are able to be easily counted. Uncountable nouns, on the other hand, are usually abstract concepts (*knowledge*, *advice*) or things or objects which are of a substance such that it is difficult to count (*sand*, *milk*).

Quantifiers

Countable	Uncountable	Both
many a few	much a little	lots of a lot of

I didn't like that beach. There were too many tourists who left too much litter.

ACTIVITY

1. Select whether the noun is either countable or uncountable from the word bank.

book	proof	evidence	news	homework
traffic	city	time	intelligence	information

Countable	Uncountable
	traffic

2. Identify which of the options is correct.

- a) There are many books
There are much books
- b) There is too few evidence
There is too little evidence
- c) Callum gives lots of homework
Callum gives lots of homeworks
- d) I haven't seen that movie many times

I don't have much time to watch movies

3. Since uncountable nouns do not take plural form, take each word you placed in the uncountable column and make it plural.

i.e. There are many traffics X There are many traffic jams ✓



#5 DISCUSS

Our class discussions are student-led today. Write down here any questions that you would like the class to explore in small group discussions.

1	
2	
3	
4	