

# Grammar reference

## UNIT 1

### COUNTABLE AND UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS; DETERMINERS

#### Countable and uncountable nouns

- Countable nouns can be singular or plural.  
*card → cards phone → phones*
- A few countable nouns have irregular plurals.  
*child → children woman → women*  
*person → people*
- Uncountable nouns are always singular.  
*bread, information, news, homework, money, water*
- We use other words to count these nouns.  
*a slice of bread*  
*a piece of information/news/homework*  
*a great deal of money*  
*two glasses of water*
- Some nouns can be both countable and uncountable.  
*There's a strange noise coming from that box.*  
*I don't like noise when I'm working.*  
*There's a hair in my soup!*  
*I've got long hair.*  
*Do you want a coffee?*  
*Coffee is my favourite drink.*

#### Determiners: some, (not) any, no, (not) many, (not) much, plenty of, (not) a lot of, several

- We use **some, any, no, plenty of, (not) a lot of** with plural countable nouns and uncountable nouns.  
*I've got some biscuits and some cheese.*  
*We haven't got any apples or any milk.*  
*There are no oranges and the shop has no fruit juice.*  
*I've bought plenty of vegetables and plenty of cheese.*  
*There are a lot of people here today but there isn't a lot of food.*
- We use **any** in questions and negatives.  
*Is there any cake?*  
*I don't need any help.*
- We sometimes use **some** in questions, when we offer something and if we expect the answer Yes.  
*Would you like some tea?*
- We use **(not) many** with countable nouns, in positive and negative sentences and questions.  
*Many students enjoy meeting in this café.*  
*We don't have many places to meet our friends.*  
*Do you go to many parties during the holidays?*
- We use **(not) much** with uncountable nouns in negative sentences and questions.  
*My brother isn't much help around the house.*  
*Do you watch much sport on television?*
- We use **several** with plural countable nouns, usually in positive sentences.  
*I've got several friends in the States.*

### Practice

#### 1 Choose the correct word(s) in each sentence.

- How **much** / **many** teenagers came to the party?
- Toby has been to that club **many** / **any** times.
- I haven't got **a lot of** / **several** homework tonight so I can watch a film when I finish it.
- I went out twice at the weekend so I've got **no** / **any** money to spend today.
- Sassy goes to France quite often, I think she has **several** / **much** friends there.
- I can't find **any** / **many** information about the times of the trains.
- We haven't got **no** / **much** bread, but there's **several** / **plenty of** cake.
- Do you know what's happening at the school? Have you heard **many** / **any** news today?

#### 2 Six of the sentences are incorrect. Rewrite them in the correct form.

- Angela has coloured her hairs pink. It's great.
- Do you prefer coffee or fruit juice?
- We had several fun when we went to the beach.
- Did you get much help with your homework?
- I put any sugar in my tea, but it tastes sweet.
- Don't make a lot of noises when you come in late.
- There's no any place for children to play here.
- We had much trouble with our car on holiday.

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#### 3 Fill the spaces with the words from the box.

a lot of   any   much   no  
several   some   **some**   **some**   **some**

- Katie:** Dad, I haven't got (1) ..... money. Can you lend me (2) ..... ?
- Dad:** Haven't you got (3) ..... money from your birthday? (4) ..... people gave you money, I know.
- Katie:** I had to spend (5) ..... it on things for school at the beginning of term, and I bought Mum (6) ..... perfume last week, so I've got (7) ..... money left now. It isn't (8) ..... fun going out when you can't even buy an ice cream.
- Dad:** OK, here you are.
- Katie:** Thanks, Dad, you're a star.