Countable and Uncountable Nouns – Rules

COUNTABLE NOUNS	UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS
+ can be counted	**- _____ be counted**
+ singular/ + plural: *a biscuit-two biscuits* *a fox-two _____*	**+ singular/- plural:** *(some) sugar* *NOT: ~~one sugar-two sugar~~*
+ a/an (in the singular): ***a** fox, **an** apple*	**- ~~a/an/one/two~~:** *I like to drink _____* *NOT: ~~I like to drink a tea.~~*
+ some/any/many/few or alone (in the plural): *She likes apple**s**.* *I'm going to buy (some) _____.*	**+ some/any/much/little/the or alone**: *Remember to buy milk.* *Remember to buy (some) _____.*
+ singular AND plural verbs: *The book _____on the table.* *The books _____on the table.*	**+ (generally) ONLY singular verbs:** *Honey _____from bees.* *The news _____good.* *Gymnastics _____fun to watch.* *Maths _____difficult.*
	! A few nouns are ONLY used with verbs in the _____: *My trousers are torn.* *Her scissors were stollen* *His new glasses help him see better.*

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COUNTABLE NOUNS Singular and plural spelling rules	
Regular plurals	**Irregular plurals**
Most words → + s *Pocket-pockets* *Snake-snakes* **Words that finish in -ch, -x, -s, -o → + es** *Watch-watches* *Box-_____* *Potato-_____* **BUT** *Radio-radios* **Words that finish in a consonant + y → + _____** *Baby-babies* **BUT words that finish in a vowel + y → + _____** *Toy-toys* **Words that finish in -f/-fe → + _____** *Loaf-loaves* *Life - lives* **BUT words that finish in -ff → + _____** *Cliff-cliffs*	*Child-children* *(Wo)man-(wo)men* *Foot-_____* *Tooth-_____* *Goose-_____* *Mouse-_____* *Louse-_____* *Ox-_____* *Sheep-_____* *Deer-_____* *Fish-_____* *Cactus-_____* *Phenomenon-_____* *Criterion-_____*

TYPES OF UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS *bread/ justice/ milk/ copper/ oil/ gold/ peace/ weather/ furniture/ luggage/ rice*
Types of food: spaghetti, yoghurt, _____ **Liquids**: water, coffee, wine_____ **Materials**: silver, wood, crystal_____ **Abstract nouns:**freedom, love, beauty, _____ **Other:** news, advice, information, _____

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Uncountable nouns → countable nouns *bowl/ slice /bag / bar/ carton/ loaf/ packet/ piece*
Rice→ a _____ of rice Soap/Chocolate→ a _____of soap/chocolate Advice/cake/furniture→ a _____ of furniture Milk→ a _____of milk/eggs Bread→ a _____of bread

QUANTIFIERS					
SOME	**MANY**	**MUCH**	**ANY**	**A LOT OF**	**NO**
C+U Affirmative Interrogative (questions/requests/ offers)	C Negative Interrogative	U Negative Interrogative	C+U Negative Interrogative	C+U Affirmative	C+U Affirmative

LITTLE	**A LITTLE**	**FEW**	**A FEW**
U Affirmative (almost nothing)	U Affirmative (some, a small amount)	C Affirmative (almost none)	C Affirmative (some, a small number)

*C=countable, U=uncountable

Complete the sentences with the correct quantifier. Use the table above for help.

1. Would you like _____ coffee? (*offer)*
2. Can I have _____ juice, please? *(request)*
3. He's got _____ bread.
4. Have you got _____ tea? We haven't got _____ tea./We _____no tea.
5. Mary's got _____books *(a large number of)*
6. There is _____fruit in that bowl *(a large amount of)*
7. How _____ books have you got? I haven't got _____ books.
8. How _____ money have you got? I haven't got _____ money.
9. I've got _____eggs, I can make an omelette. *(positive meaning = enough)*

BUT

10. I have got _____ friends, I feel lonely. *(negative meaning = not enough)*
11. I have got _____ time, we can meet today *(positive meaning = enough)*

BUT

12. I've got very _____ time, I'm busy *(negative meaning = not enough)*

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