

COUNTABLE, UNCOUNTABLE & IRREGULAR NOUNS

A Trip to the Supermarket

Last Saturday, I went to the supermarket with my family. We needed some food for the week.

First, we bought three apples, two bananas, and four tomatoes. We also bought some bread, some rice, and some cheese. We didn't need any milk because we already had some at home.

There were many people in the supermarket. I saw two children with their mother, and several men waiting at the checkout.

Before going home, we bought two bottles of water and a carton of juice. We also bought some meat for dinner. We had a lot of food, but we didn't buy any eggs because they were too expensive.

GRAMMAR: COUNTABLE AND UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS

1. COUNTABLE NOUNS

Countable nouns are things we can count. We can use one, two, three, etc. with them.

Examples:

- one apple → two apples
- one banana → three bananas
- one egg → six eggs

Countable nouns can be singular or plural.

Singular: Use a/an with a singular countable noun.

- I have a banana.
- She bought an apple.

Plural: Use the plural form when there is more than one.

- I have two bananas.
- She bought five apples.

2. UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS

Uncountable nouns are things that we don't normally count individually.

Examples:

water, milk, rice, bread, cheese, meat, sugar, salt, information, money

We don't normally say:

✗ two waters

Instead, use some, much, a lot of, or a container/quantity expression.

Examples:

- some water
- some bread
- a lot of rice

Uncountable nouns normally do not have a plural -s.

✗ breads → ✓ bread

✗ rices → ✓ rice

✗ informations → ✓ information

3. COUNTABLE OR UNCOUNTABLE?

Some nouns can be countable or uncountable depending on their meaning.

CHICKEN

Uncountable = the food: I ate some chicken.

Countable = the animal: There are three chickens in the garden.

COFFEE

Uncountable = the drink in general: I drink coffee every morning.

Countable = a cup of coffee: We ordered two coffees.

PAPER

Uncountable = the material: I need some paper.

Countable = a newspaper/document: I read two papers.

4. IRREGULAR PLURAL NOUNS

Some nouns do not form their plural by simply adding -s or -es.

Singular	Plural
person	people
child	children
man	men
woman	women
tooth	teeth
foot	feet
mouse	mice
fish	fish
sheep	sheep

Examples:

- There is one person in the room. → There are five people in the room.
- She has one child. → They have three children.
- I can see two men.
- There are two women outside.
- Do we have any milk?

Exercise 1 – Countable or Uncountable?

Write C for countable or U for uncountable.

1. apple _____
2. rice _____
3. bread _____
4. egg _____
5. water _____
6. tomato _____
7. cheese _____
8. banana _____
9. meat _____
10. bottle _____

Exercise 2 – Choose the Correct Option

1. I need some _____.
a) apples b) rice c) eggs
2. There are three _____ on the table.
a) bread b) cheese c) bananas
3. We don't have any _____.
a) milk b) tomatoes c) apples
4. She bought two _____ of water.
a) water b) bottles c) waters
5. I need a _____ of bread.
a) loaf b) bread c) breads

Exercise 3 – Complete the Sentences

Complete each sentence with the correct form of the noun.

1. There are three _____ in the kitchen. (person)
2. I have two _____. (child)
3. There are four _____ in the garden. (woman)
4. I need some _____ for breakfast. (bread)
5. We bought five _____. (apple)
6. There are two _____ at the door. (man)