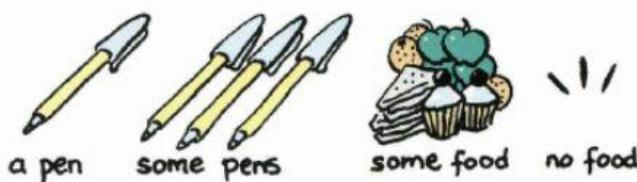


# A, some, any, no

## 1 Look at these pictures:



## 2 We use **a** with singular countable nouns (e.g. pen, car, friend):

*I bought a pen yesterday.*

*Do you have a car?*

*He doesn't have a friend.*

(For countable and uncountable nouns, see Unit 53.)

## 3 We use **some** or **any** with plural countable nouns (pens, friends, books):

*I bought some new pens yesterday.*

*John doesn't have any friends.*

*Do you have any books about Africa?*

## 4 We use **some** or **any** with uncountable nouns (e.g. money, information, advice, news, music, coffee, milk, toast, bread, food, water, snow):

*I haven't got any money.*

*Did the teacher give you any advice?*

*I would like some coffee, please.*

## 5 POSITIVE

We normally use **some** in positive sentences:

*She took some photos.*

*I'd like some information, please.*

But we sometimes use **any** like this:

*You can leave at any time.* (= It doesn't matter when you leave.)

*Take any book.* (= It doesn't matter which book you take.)

## 6 NEGATIVE

We usually use **any** in negative sentences:

*I didn't see any good films last year.*

*We haven't got any food.*

We sometimes use **no**, instead of **not ... any**:

*I'm sorry, there are no buses to the museum.*

*The shops are shut, and we've got no food.*

## 7 QUESTIONS

We use **any** in questions:

*Do you speak any Russian?*

But we use **some** in requests:

*Can you give me some information?*

We also use **some** when we offer something:

*Would you like some coffee?*

## Practice

### A Put the words in brackets ( ) in the correct order to make sentences.

► A: Can I help you, sir?

B: Yes, please. I'd like to buy some furniture for my living-room.

(to buy – for my living – room. – furniture – I'd – some – like)

1 A: Shall we go into town this afternoon?

B: Why? .....

(shops open today. – any – There – aren't)

2 A: .....

(Can I – cheese, please? – some – have)

B: Of course. How much would you like?

3 A: .....

(any – in Cambridge? – museums – Are there)

B: I don't know. We can find out at the Tourist Information Centre.

4 A: I'd like to go to Bristol, please.  
B: Certainly, madam. ....  
(any – You – train from platform 9. – can take)

5 A: I'd love to go to South America.  
B: Really? ....  
(you speak – Spanish? – Do – any)

6 A: I'm hungry! We haven't eaten all day. Look at that wonderful restaurant!  
B: Wait a moment! ....  
(money – with us. – We haven't – any – brought)

**B** Make the following statements negative. Use *not* ... *any*.

► We've got some photos of our holiday.  
.....  
.....  
1 She gave me some advice.  
.....  
.....  
2 There are some good films at the cinema this week.  
.....  
.....  
3 You'll find some cake in the cupboard.  
.....  
.....  
4 Maria had some heavy luggage with her at the airport.  
.....  
.....  
5 There are some letters for you today.  
.....  
.....  
6 We saw some snow on the mountains this morning.  
.....

**C** Tom and Tina are writing a shopping list. Complete the dialogue with *a*, *some*, *any* or *no*.

Tom: We haven't got (►) *any* .... eggs so we need to buy (►) *some* ....  
Tina: No, no. There are (1) .... in the fridge, but there's (2) .... cheese.  
Tom: OK, cheese. Now, we've got (3) .... fruit in the sitting room but we haven't got enough for the weekend so we need to buy (4) .... more. What else?  
Tina: We want to have (5) .... salad for lunch, I think.  
Tom: Yes, of course. So we need (6) .... lettuce. Oh, and (7) .... tomatoes because there aren't (8) .... in the kitchen.  
Tina: We must buy (9) .... bottle of oil as well.  
Tom: OK, and I want to buy (10) .... newspaper because there's (11) .... football match on TV this afternoon but I don't know what time it starts.  
Tina: But there are (12) .... football matches today because the weather is so bad. We can go and see (13) .... film instead.  
Tom: Oh, all right. Anyway, are there (14) .... more things to put on the list?  
Tina: No, I think that's everything. I hope you've got (15) .... money because I haven't got (16) ....  
Tina: OK. Put (17) .... coat on and get (18) .... shopping bag and we're ready.