

## 8 *much, many, a lot of*



They sell a lot of vegetables here but they don't sell much fruit.

### 1 *much, many, a lot of* with a noun

<b>much</b>	+ uncountable nouns	<i>I don't eat much sugar. Hurry up. There isn't much time.</i>
<b>many</b>	+ plural nouns	<i>I don't eat many sweets. Are there many students from Japan?</i>
<b>a lot of</b>	+ plural nouns and uncountable nouns	<i>They sell a lot of vegetables. He doesn't earn a lot of money. Do you have a lot of homework today?</i>

We use *much*, *many* and *a lot of* to talk about a large amount or number. The exact amount or number is not important.

- We can use *a lot of* in positive and negative sentences and questions:

*Lewis has got a lot of friends.*

*We haven't got a lot of time.*

*Are there a lot of students from Japan?*

- We usually use *much* and *many* in negative sentences and questions:

*Hurry up! We haven't got much time.*

*Are there many students from Japan?*

**NATURAL ENGLISH** In everyday English, we don't use *much* or *many* in positive sentences.

We prefer *a lot of*:

*There are a lot of tourists here in the summer.*

### 2 *much, many, a lot* without a noun

We can use *much* and *many* without a noun, when it is clear what we are talking about:

*Why don't you buy it? It doesn't cost much.*

*'Can I have some of your sweets?' 'No, I haven't got many.'*

When we use *a lot* without a noun, we don't need *of*:

*We learned a lot in today's lesson.*

### 3 *how much? or how many?*

- We use *how much* and *how many* to ask about an exact amount or number.

We use *how much* with uncountable nouns:

*How much sugar do I need?*

- We use *how many* with countable nouns:

*How many bedrooms are there in the hotel?*

- We use *how much* to ask about prices:

*How much is it? It's fifteen euros.*

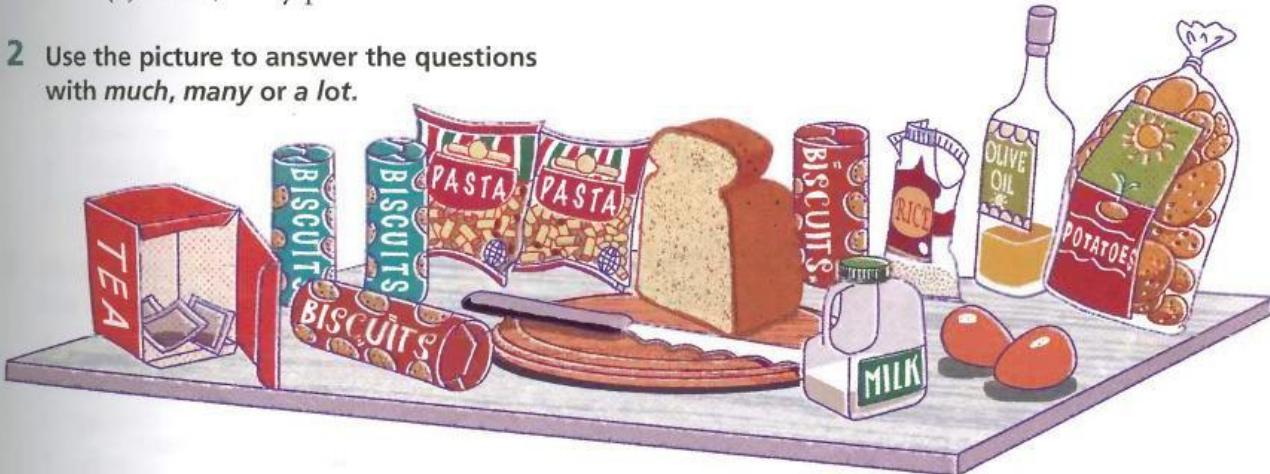
*How much does it cost? It costs ten dollars.*

## Practice

### 1 GRAMMAR IN USE Choose the correct words in *italics* in the conversation.

SAM Where shall we go shopping this afternoon? Shall we just go to the town centre?  
ALI I don't know. There aren't (0) *much* / *many* shops in the town centre.  
I think the big shopping centre is better – there are (1) *a lot of* / *much* shops there.  
SAM Mmm. But we haven't got (2) *much* / *many* time really, and it takes half an hour to drive there.  
ALI I know, but I need to buy (3) *many* / *a lot of* presents for my family, and I don't have (4) *much* / *many* money. There are (5) *many* / *a lot of* cheap shops in the shopping centre.  
SAM Are there (6) *many* / *much* people in your family, then?  
ALI Well, there aren't (7) *many* / *much* adults, but I've got (8) *much* / *a lot of* younger brothers and sisters.  
SAM OK, let's go to the shopping centre. But can we go in your car? There isn't (9) *much* / *many* petrol in mine.

### 2 Use the picture to answer the questions with *much*, *many* or *a lot*.



- 0 Have we got any milk? *We haven't got much.*.....
- 1 Have we got any rice? .....
- 2 Have we got any potatoes? .....
- 3 Have we got any olive oil? .....
- 4 Have we got any pasta? .....
- 5 Have we got any bread? .....
- 6 Have we got any biscuits? .....
- 7 Have we got any eggs? .....
- 8 Have we got any tea bags? .....

### 3 Complete the questions with *How much?* or *How many?* Then write true answers for you.

- 0 *How many* uncles have you got? *I've got three./I haven't got any./I haven't got many.*.....
- 1 ..... aunts have you got? .....
- 2 ..... work have you got at the moment? .....
- 3 ..... good friends have you got? .....
- 4 ..... chocolate do you eat? .....
- 5 ..... exercise do you do? .....
- 6 ..... coffee do you drink? .....