

47/ Countable and uncountable nouns

Words you need...

47.1



a chair

► furniture



a coin

► money



a necklace

► jewellery (UK) jewelry (US)



a car

► traffic



toothpaste

► a toothbrush



lightning

► a storm

Countable and uncountable nouns



Countable nouns can have a, an or the in front of them:

- a dog, a house

Uncountable nouns (sometimes called mass nouns) cannot have a or an in front of them.

- sugar, milk

Countable nouns can be made plural:

- dogs, houses

Uncountable nouns cannot be made plural.

Exercise 1

Look at each pair of sentences. Write U after the sentence where the underlined word is uncountable, and C where it is countable.

- I need to buy some more toothpaste. U
I forgot to bring a toothbrush with me. _____
- There was a lot of traffic on the roads today. _____
There are a lot of cars on the road today. _____
- I need a few coins for this drinks machine. _____
I need some money to buy lunch. _____
- There was a terrible storm in the night. _____
The roof of our house was hit by lightning. _____
- Could you get a chair for Ed, please? _____
We made most of the furniture ourselves. _____
- I don't usually wear much jewellery. _____
My boyfriend gave me a necklace for my birthday. _____

Exercise 2

Correct the following sentences.

- He has a lot of nice furnitures in his apartment.
He has a lot of nice furniture in his apartment.
- I get very frightened when there is storm.

- How much moneys did he give you?

- That is beautiful necklace!

- I don't often wear a jewellery.

- I'm sorry I'm late – there was a lot of traffics this morning.
