

PET MINI LESSON

LET' S LEARN ABOUT:
COUNTABLE /
UNCOUNTABLE



COUNTABLE NOUNS

Countable nouns refer to nouns which can be counted. They have singular and plural forms.

tree → **trees**; **knife** → **knives**; **child** → **children**;
man → **men**

Singular countable nouns can be used with *a/an*.

a book, **an** elephant

Plural countable nouns can be used with numbers, *some* and *any*.

Our family has **some** animals – a dog and **three** cats.

UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS

Uncountable nouns refer to nouns which cannot be counted. They have no plural form.

advice *advices*, **furniture** *furnitures*, **information** *informations*, **homework** *homeworks*, etc.

BOTH COUNTABLE AND UNCOUNTABLE

Some nouns can be countable and uncountable.

I love **lambs** but I don't eat **lamb**.

lamb (countable) = animal

lamb (uncountable) = meat from a lamb

To make uncountable nouns countable, we use countable nouns like *piece*, *slice*, *spoonful*, *box*, etc.

a piece of advice

three **slices** of bread

two **spoonfuls** of sugar

a bowl of rice

ACTIVITIES!

PLEASE DECIDE IF THESE WORDS ARE COUNTABLE /
UNCOUNTABLE OR IF THEY CAN BE BOTH:

1. RICE
2. CARS
3. MUSIC
4. COFFEE
5. AIR
6. BOOKS
7. PAPER
8. APPLES
9. ADVICE
10. LIGHT
11. WATER
12. CHAIRS
13. CATS
14. GLASSES
15. INFORMATION

ANSWERS

- COUNTABLE NOUNS:
 - APPLE (YOU CAN COUNT APPLES: ONE APPLE, TWO APPLES, ETC.)
 - CAR (YOU CAN COUNT CARS: ONE CAR, TWO CARS, ETC.)
 - BOOK (YOU CAN COUNT BOOKS: ONE BOOK, TWO BOOKS, ETC.)
 - CHAIR (YOU CAN COUNT CHAIRS: ONE CHAIR, TWO CHAIRS, ETC.)
 - HOUSE (YOU CAN COUNT HOUSES: ONE HOUSE, TWO HOUSES, ETC.)

- UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS:
 - WATER (YOU CANNOT COUNT WATER; YOU CAN MEASURE IT IN LITERS, CUPS, ETC.)
 - AIR (YOU CANNOT COUNT AIR; YOU DISCUSS IT IN TERMS OF QUALITY, PRESSURE, ETC.)
 - INFORMATION (YOU CANNOT COUNT INFORMATION; YOU CAN HAVE MORE OR LESS OF IT.)
 - RICE (GENERALLY CONSIDERED UNCOUNTABLE WHEN NOT REFERRING TO INDIVIDUAL GRAINS.)
 - SUGAR (YOU CANNOT COUNT SUGAR; YOU MEASURE IT IN TEASPOONS, CUPS, ETC.)

- NOUNS THAT CAN BE BOTH COUNTABLE AND UNCOUNTABLE:
 - LIGHT (UNCOUNTABLE: LIGHT IN A ROOM; COUNTABLE: A LIGHT OR SEVERAL LIGHTS)
 - PAPER (UNCOUNTABLE: MATERIAL FOR WRITING OR PRINTING; COUNTABLE: A PAPER OR SEVERAL PAPERS/DOCUMENT)
 - GLASS (UNCOUNTABLE: MATERIAL USED TO MAKE OBJECTS; COUNTABLE: A GLASS OF WATER)
 - COFFEE (UNCOUNTABLE: A SUBSTANCE; COUNTABLE: A COFFEE OR SEVERAL COFFEES AS IN ORDERS)
 - HAIR (UNCOUNTABLE: HAIR IN GENERAL; COUNTABLE WHEN REFERRING TO INDIVIDUAL HAIRS)