



ENGLISH GRAMMAR 2 INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

Unit 70 – Countable and Uncountable 2

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Countable and Uncountable 2



A NOUN CAN BE COUNTABLE OR UNCOUNTABLE

A

Many nouns are sometimes countable, and sometimes uncountable. Usually there is a difference in meaning. Compare:

COUNTABLE

- EX1A: Did you hear a **noise** just now? (= a specific noise)
- EX2A: I bought a **paper** to read. (= a newspaper)
- EX3A: There's a **hair** in my soup! (= one single hair)
- EX4A: This is a nice **room**. (= a room in a house)
- EX5A: I had some interesting **experiences** while I was travelling. (= things that happened to me)
- EX6A: Enjoy your trip. Have a great **time**!
- ❖ **Coffee/tea/juice/beer etc. (drinks)** are normally uncountable:
 - EX7: I don't like **coffee** very much.
- ❖ But you can say a **coffee** (= a cup of coffee), **two coffees** (= two cups) etc. :
 - EX8: **Two coffees** and an **orange juice**, please.

UNCOUNTABLE

- EX1B: I can't work here. There's too much **noise**. (= noise in general)
- EX2B: I need **some paper** to write on. (= material for writing on)
- EX3B: You've got very long **hair**. (not hairs) (= all the hair on your head)
- EX4B: You can't sit here. There isn't **room**. (= space)
- EX5B: I was offered the job because I had a lot of **experience**. (not experiences) (= experience of that type of job)
- EX6B: I can't wait. I don't have **time**.

Countable and Uncountable 2



COMMON UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS

B

These nouns are usually uncountable:

accommodation	behavior	damage	luck	permission	traffic
advice	bread	furniture	luggage	progress	weather
baggage	chaos	information	news	scenery	work

- ❖ We do **not** normally use **a/an** with these nouns:
 - EX9: I'm going to buy **some bread**. or ... **a loaf of bread**. (not a bread)
 - EX10: Enjoy your holiday! I hope you have good **weather**. (not a good weather)
- ❖ These nouns are **not usually plural** (so we do not say 'breads', 'furnitures' etc.):
 - EX11: Where are you going to put all your furniture? (not furnitures)
 - EX12: Let me know if you need more information. (not informations)
- ❖ News is uncountable, not plural:
 - EX13: The **news was** unexpected. (not The news were)
- ❖ **Travel** (noun) means '**travelling in general**' (uncountable.) We do not say '**a travel**' to mean a trip or a journey:
 - EX14: They spend a lot of money on travel.
 - EX15: We had a very good trip/journey. (not a good travel)

Countable and Uncountable 2

COMMON UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS

B

COUNTABLE

- EX16A: I'm looking for a **job**.
- EX17A: What a beautiful **view**!
- EX18A: It's a nice **day** today.
- EX19A: We had a lot of **bags**.
- EX20A: **These chairs** are mine.
- EX21A: That's a good **suggestion**.
- EX22A: There were a lot of **cars**.

UNCOUNTABLE

- EX16.B: I'm looking for **work**. (not a work)
- EX17B: What beautiful **scenery**!
- EX18B: It's nice **weather** today.
- EX19B: We had a lot of **baggage/luggage**.
- EX20B: **This furniture** is mine.
- EX21B: That's good **advice**.
- EX22B: There **was** a lot of **traffic**.

Countable and Uncountable 2



TÓM TẮT

1. Nhiều danh từ vừa có nghĩa đếm được

Did you hear a **noise** just now?

vừa có nghĩa có nghĩa không đếm được.

I can't work here. There's too much **noise**.

2. Cần lưu ý một số danh từ không đếm được thường thấy như:

Accommodation, behavior, damage, baggage, news, travel, money v.v...

3. Lưu ý một số danh từ không đếm được thông dụng như news, furniture, luggage.

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