



# ENGLISH GRAMMAR 1

## ELEMENTARY LEVEL

Unit 84 – (a) little / (a) few

*tienganh*



# (a) little / (a) few

## A GIỚI THIỆU “(A) LITTLE / (A) FEW”

(a) little + *uncountable noun*:

(a) little water

(a) little time

(a) little money

(a) little soup



a little water

(a) few + *plural noun*:

(a) few books

(a) few questions

(a) few people

(a) few days



a few books

# (a) little / (a) few

## B CÁCH DÙNG “A LITTLE” VÀ “A FEW”

**a little** = some but not much

- Ex1A: She didn't eat anything, but she drank **a little water**.
- Ex2A: I speak **a little Spanish**.  
(= *some Spanish but not much*)
- Ex3A: A : Can you speak Spanish?  
B: **A little**.

**a few** = some but not many

- Ex1B-1: Excuse me, I have to make **a few phone calls**.
- Ex1B-2: We're going away for **a few days**.
- Ex2B: I speak **a few words** of Spanish
- Ex3B: A: Are there any shops near here?  
B: Yes, **a few**.

# (a) little / (a) few

## C CÁCH DÙNG “LITTLE” VÀ “FEW”

~~a~~ **little** (without **a**) = nearly no or nearly nothing

- Ex4A: There was **little food** in the fridge. It was nearly empty

You can say **very little**:

- Ex5A: Dan is very thin because he eats **very little**. (= nearly nothing)

~~a~~ **few** (without **a**) = nearly no

- Ex4B: There were **few people** in the theatre. It was nearly empty.

You can say **very few**:

- Ex5B: Your English is very good. You make **very few mistakes**.

countable / uncountable → Unit 67-68

# (a) little / (a) few

## D PHÂN BIỆT “LITTLE, A LITTLE, FEW, A FEW”

Compare **little** and **a little**:

- Ex6A: They have **a little** money, so they're not poor.  
(= they have some money)
- Ex7A: They have **little** money. They are very poor.  
(= nearly no money)

Compare **few** and **a few**:

- Ex6B: I have **a few** friends, so I'm not lonely.  
(= I have some friends)
- Ex7B: I'm sad and I'm lonely. I have **few** friends. (= nearly no friends)



countable / uncountable → Unit 67-68