

Activity Type

Matching and speaking activity, pair work

Focus

Countable and uncountable nouns

Quantifiers: a little, a few, some, any, a lot of

How much? / How many?

Aim

To sort countable and uncountable nouns into their respective groups and make sentences and questions with quantifiers.

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for each pair of students and cut as indicated. Keep the two heading cards and noun cards separate.

Level

Pre-intermediate (A2)

Time

30 minutes

Introduction

This countable or uncountable nouns game helps to teach students the difference between these two types of noun. The game also helps students associate quantifiers and question words with each type of noun.

Procedure

Tell the students that they are going to sort countable and uncountable nouns into their respective groups.

Divide the students into pairs.

Give each pair the two heading cards and a set of noun cards. Tell the students to place the heading cards face up on the table and to shuffle the noun cards and place them face down in a pile.

Students take it in turns to turn over a noun card and place it under the correct heading.

As the students are doing the activity, write the following question words and quantifiers on the board:

How much? How many? a little a few some any a lot of

When the students have finished, elicit the correct category for each noun.

For each correctly matched noun, pairs score one point.

Pairs then race to win an extra point by making a meaningful sentence or question with the noun using a question word or quantifier from the board.

The first pair to do this scores an extra point.

Point out that singular countable nouns can be changed to plural countable nouns for the sentences and questions.

The pair with the most points at the end of the game wins.

(answer key on the next page)

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Answer key

Uncountable nouns

air
bread
fun
gold
grammar
juice
love
metal
oil
power
rain
sand
seafood
tea
water

How much?

a little
some
any
a lot of

Countable nouns

answer
baby
beach
chair
game
minute
plant
library
newspaper
river
smile
star
tent
village
wall

How many?

a few
some
any
a lot of



Countable nouns	Uncountable nouns
star	water
river	oil
love	power
beach	metal
wall	chair
gold	rain
minute	tea
village	air
tent	library
answer	seafood
fun	sand
newspaper	grammar
bread	smile
game	plant
juice	baby