

Articles / countable and uncountable nouns / quantifiers

Indefinite article

Use	Example			
ingular countable nouns (when we are not being specific r when we mention something for the first time)	There's a good film on TV tonight.			
Whether we use 'an' or 'a' depends on the sound, not the spelling.				
Whether we use 'an' or 'a' depends on the	ne sound, not the spelling.			
Watch out: The news is on TV in an hour.	ne sound, not the spelling.			

Gramma

Definite article

Use	Example
Singular countable nouns (when we are being specific)	Where's the DVD you were talking about?
Singular countable nouns (when we are talking generally)	The radio seemed amazing to people at first.
Plural countable nouns (when we are being specific)	I didn't believe the rumours about the prime minister.
Uncountable nouns (when we are being specific)	I followed the advice my lawyer gave me.



The way we say 'the' changes depending on the sound at the start of the next word. Before a consonant sound (*the media, the USA, the programme*), we pronounce it $/\delta_{\theta}/$. Before a vowel sound (*the announcer, the actor, the editor*), we pronounce it $/\delta_{1}/$.

We often use 'the' when we are talking about something there is only one of. *the sky, the sun, the moon, the Prince of Wales, the North Pole, the World Cup*

Zero article

We often don't use an article at all. This is sometimes called the zero article.			
Use	Example		
Plural countable nouns (when we are talking generally)	Journalists often face dangerous situations.		
Uncountable nouns (when we are talking generally) News travels fast these days.			

Articles in phrases and expressions

Notice how we use articles in the following phrases and expressions. Many of these are examples of general categories. For example, '*the River Thames*' means that we use 'the' for all rivers.

Use	Example		
Time	definite article: in the 1990s, in (the) summer, in the morning zero article: in 2008, in June, on Friday, at night		
People and work	indefinite article: <i>have a job, work as a definite article: the queen, the principal, the president, the French zero article: become president, go to work, be at work, have work to do, he's French.</i>		
Places definite article: <i>the Alps, the Atlantic Ocean, the River Thames, the Earth, the Arctic, the USA, the UK, the Cyclades zero</i> article: <i>Mount Everest, Paris, America, Mars/Venus/Jupiter etc, Oxford Street, Lake Superior, Crete</i>			
Entertainment and sportdefinite article: the media, on the radio, play the guitar, go to the cinema, watch (the) TV zero article: listen to music, on television, play tennis/football etc			

Use	Example		
Organisations	definite article: the army, the police, the fire brigade		
Education	definite article: go to the school (as a visitor), be in the first year zero article: go to school (as a student), be in Class 3B, maths		
Travel	indefinite article: <i>take a taxi, catch a/the bus definite article: on the bus zero article: on foot, go home, go by bus</i>		
Health	indefinite article: have a cold/headache/cough definite article: have (the) flu/measles zero article: have toothache		
Public buildings	definite article: the bank, the tax office, go to the hospital/prison (as a visitor) zero article: go to hospital/prison/church (as a patient/prisoner/worshipper)		
US vs UK Grammar	 Speakers of American English do not usually use <i>hospital</i> without an article. US: The ambulance took Simon to the hospital. UK: The ambulance took Simon to hospital. 		

Countable	and	uncountable nouns	

Туре	Example		
Countable nouns • Use <i>a, the, some, many</i> • Use a singular or plural verb	l want to be a journalist . Where is the newspaper ? There are some good articles in the paper. How many channels do you get?		
 Uncountable nouns Use the, some, much Use a singular verb 	Did you hear the news ? Some important news has just come in. How much information do we have about it? Your advice was very useful.		

Common uncountable nouns:

advice, coffee, furniture, glass, hair, homework, information, knowledge, luggage, money, news, paper, work



Most uncountable nouns are singular, but a few are plural. These include clothes, scissors, jeans, spectacles, trousers, groceries, etc. With these words, we use a plural verb. ✓ Oh, no! My new clothes **are** dirty!

Some nouns are countable with one meaning and uncountable with another meaning. ✓ Do you think you could bring me a clean glass? (countable) ✓ We should make computer monitors out of recycled **glass**. (uncountable)

Quantifier	Use	Example	
many	 countable nouns, usually in negative statements and questions 	There aren't many programmes on TV that I find interest	
much	 uncountable nouns, usually in negative statements and questions 	My dad never shows much interest in the news.	
a lot of / lots of	 countable and uncountable nouns in positive statements 	That film has won a lot of / lots of awards. What a lot of luggage you've got!	
a few	• countable nouns, means 'some'	There have been a few scandals in the papers recently.	
a little	• uncountable nouns, means 'some'	They say that a little knowledge is a dangerous thing.	
few	• countable nouns, means 'not many'	Richard has few interests outside work.	
little	• uncountable nouns, means 'not much'	The police have little information about the robbery.	
 Watch out! Watch out! There are only a few programmes on TV that I like watching. There's only a little sugar left, so get some when you go out. 			

A Circle the correct word or phrase.						
1	I love this time in evening / the evening when the sun is going down.					
2	People play cricket / the cricket in South Africa, Australia and Sri Lanka.					
3	It's too far to walk so I think I'll catch bus / the bus .					
4	Jane had to go home from school because she had a headache / the headache .					
5	The robber was sent to prison / the prison for a total of three years.					
6	My cousin works as waiter / a waiter in a cafe near where we live.					
7	The underground doesn't run this late so we'll have to take a taxi / the taxi .					
8	I like to listen to music / the music in my free time.					
9	My favourite subject at school is chemistry / the chemistry .					
10	Jazz music appeared in America in 1920s / in the 1920s .					
10	suzz music appeared in America in 1920s / in the 1920s .					
B Ch	poss the correct ensurem of new word is used at the set (D)					
	oose the correct answer. If no word is needed, choose 'D'.					
1	Oh, I didn't tell you! We've gotnew English teacher.					
	A a B an C the D <i>no word</i>					
2	2 Here's DVD you asked to borrow.					
	A a B an C the D <i>no word</i>					
3	We're out of coffee, so could you get some from the supermarket?					
	A a B an C the D <i>no word</i>					
4	The prize is unique opportunity to travel the world!					
	A a B an C the D <i>no word</i>					
5	It looks like					
	A a B an C the D <i>no word</i>					
6	It's honour to be here this evening to speak to you.					
	A a B an C the D <i>no word</i>					
7	There's					
	A a B an C the D <i>no word</i>					
8	Reports are coming in of a major oil spill in Mediterranean.					
	A a B an C the D no word					
9	I went to see the doctor because I'm finding it difficult to sleep at night.					
	A a B an C the D no word					
10	Do you think that they'll ever send a manned mission to					
	A a B an C the D no word					
C Circle the extra word in each line.						
6000						

Being in the news

- 1 The many people who appear in the news for the first time
- 2 find that a sudden fame has a negative effect on their lives.
- 3 The national press can be an unforgiving and the loss of
- 4 the privacy that comes with fame is an extra problem at a
- 5 difficult time. This is especially the case when a someone is
- 6 in the news because of a tragedy or the serious crime. Just
- 7 at the moment when you are under a most stress, you find
- 8 microphones and the cameras in your face. The media have
- 9 a responsibility to inform the public, but an innocent people
- **10** are often hurt by the demand for the scandal.

D Complete using the correct form of the verb in brackets.

- 1 The clothes you bought me for my birthday (be) wonderful!
- 2 It turned out that the information we had received (be) wrong.
- **3** My new jeans (**be**) in the wash and I wanted to wear them tonight.
- 4 The luggage on a plane (take) up a lot of room.
- 5 Your hair (look) really nice and shiny.
- 6 I could tell by the look on her face that the news (not / be) good.
- 7 Oh, no! My money (be) in my other jacket!

E Find ten mistakes in this passage and correct them.

Newflash!

- 1 'We interrupt your usual schedule to bring you an important news. We are receiving
- 2 informations about a spaceship that has landed outside the White House. The large
- 3 ship seems to be made of glasses. Reports say that a short time ago aliens came out
- 4 of the craft. Eye-witnesses described them as short and said their clothes was made
- 5 of metal and their hairs was bright green. Strangely, one of them appeared to be
- 6 wearing a jean. Much people said that they seemed to be friendly. The President of the
- 7 United States is currently holding a meeting with the visitors in the hope that we can
- 8 exchange knowledges. Police advice are to stay indoors and under no circumstances
- 9 approach the spaceship. We will be back with another news as soon as we can. And
- 10 now, back to your usual programme, Gardening for Beginners."

F Complete each second sentence using the word given, so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Write between two and five words in each gap.

1	Not many people came to the party. only There people at the party.
2	The witness described the mugger to the police. a The witness
3	There isn't much sugar left. a There sugar left.
4	I am thinking of becoming a firefighter when I leave school. brigade I am thinking of when I leave school.
5	We were shocked by the news and didn't know what to do. shocking The news didn't know what to do.
6	There aren't many good films out at the moment. only There good films out at the moment.
7	l didn't eat much dessert because l'm on a diet. only I dessert because l'm on a diet.
8	You have lots of hats! lot What you have!

G Match to make sentences. 1 I'm quite busy so I've got Α a little time to talk to you now. 2 Happily, we have had a few people recycle their rubbish. B 3 My dad just got a good job so we have C a few complaints from hotel guests recently. ••••• 4 Pollution is improving now that D little money for luxuries. 5 My mum has lost her job so we have Ε few people recycle their rubbish. F very few complaints from hotel guests 6 My lesson's been cancelled so I've got recently. a little money for luxuries. G It's a shame that 7 very little time to talk to you now. Η 8 Unfortunately, we have had H Choose the correct answer. 1 If you have time at the end of the exam, check your answers. A few B a few C little D a little 2 Give me minutes and I'll be ready. B a few C little A few D a little 3 We've only got milk left so get some when you go shopping. A few C little B a few D a little 4 Just practice every day and you'll soon be able to play the piano. A few B a few C little D a little We were disappointed that of the members came to the youth club party. 5 A few B a few C little D a little Sprinkle sugar on the strawberries. 6 A few B a few C little D a little 7 I suppose now I'm 43, I have hope of playing football for England. A few B a few C little D a little 8 Could you help me with exercises I don't understand? A few B a few C little D a little There's coffee left, if anyone wants some. 9 A few B a few C little D a little Becoming an astronaut is so demanding that people manage it. 10 A few B a few C little D a little 11 I'll meet you in half an hour - I've got e-mails to write first. A few B a few C little D a little Many people feel there's point in voting, even in a general election. 12 A few B a few C little D a little

Write an article in each gap where necessary. If an article is not necessary, write a dash (-).

Ray:	Hello?
Sandy	🕫 Hi. Is that Ray? It's (1) Sandy.
Ray:	Oh, hi! How was (2) film?
Sandy	r: Great! We took (3) taxi to (4) cinema and (5) taxi
	driver got lost, so we almost missed (6) start. What about you? What did you
	do (7) last night?
Ray:	Oh, I just stayed at (8) home. I listened to (9) music for a while
	and then watched (10) news.
Sandy	Ch, yes? So what's happening in (11) world? Anything I should know about?
Ray:	Well, I know you don't like (12) politics, but there was (13)
	interesting report on (14) Asia. It gave me (15) few ideas for
	(16) geography essay we were talking about (17) other day.
Sandy	Ah, right. Anything else?
Ray:	Nothing important. Just that (18) lead singer of your favourite band is
	getting married – to (19) actress, (20) one who was in that film
Sandy	• What?! Why didn't you tell me? I have to check this out on (21) Internet! See
	you at (22) school tomorrow. Bye!
Ray:	Okay. Bye.

Rewrite the sentences correctly, adding articles where necessary. We went to theatre last night and saw great play, although some of acting was bit poor. 1 Give me ring tomorrow before I go to work and we'll arrange to meet at office. 2 3 Prime minister told reporter that government wanted to pass law banning hunting. 4 I asked hotel manager where pool was and she directed me to seventh floor. They said on news on radio that Mount Vesuvius, volcano that destroyed Pompeii, could 5 erupt again. Car has revolutionised transport and is absolutely vital to economy of most countries. 6 Judge read jury's verdict aloud and then sentenced accused to five years in prison. 7 8 Job in media can be quite stressful because of pressure you are under to do things on time. Very few people in 19th century went to school or university and most started work at very 9 young age. I have little free time since I gave up karate, so I'm thinking of trying new hobby, like learning 10

musical instrument.

Vocabulary

• The media

Topic vocabulary in contrast

see page	188	for	definitions
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deny / refuse	talk show / quiz show / game show	press / media	
agree / accept	announcer / commentator	programme / program	
headline / heading	tabloid / broadsheet	channel / broadcast	
feature / article	journalist / columnist	bulletin / newsflash	

Phrasal verbs

bring up start discussing a subject	look up try to find information in a book or list, etc
come on start to be broadcast	make out pretend that something is true; see, hear or understand sb or sth with difficulty
come out be published	make up invent an explanation, excuse, etc; create a story, poem, etc
fill in add information in the spaces on a document	put forward suggest
flick through turn and look at the pages of a magazine, etc quickly	see through recognise that sth is not true and not be tricked by it
go into deal with sth in detail	stand out be easy to see because of being different
hand out give things to people in a group	turn over turn a page so that the other side is towards you

Phrases and collocations

and a substance of the	
control	in control (of sth); take control (of sth); under control; under the control of sb; out of control
description	give a description of sth/sb
difference	make a difference (to sth/sb); tell the difference (between); there's no/some/little/etc difference between
granted	take sth/sb for granted
influence	influence sth/sb; have/be an influence on sth/sb
Internet	on the Internet; over the Internet; surf the Internet
news	in the news; on the news; hear the news; newsflash; newspaper
place	take place; in place of; at a place
question	ask/answer a question; question sth/sb; in question; question mark
view	have/hold/take a view; be sb's view that; in my view; in view of; look at/see the view; view of sth; view from sth/swh
watch	watch sth/sb; watch (out) for sth/sb; keep watch

Word patterns

according to sb	inform sb that; inform sb about/of sth
announce sth (to sb); announce that	likely to do; likely that
believe sth; believe in sth; believe that; believe to be	persuade sb to do; persuade sb that; persuade sb of sth
comment on sth; make a comment (to sb) about sth	point (in) doing
confuse sth/sb with sth/sb; confused about/by sth	send sb sth; send sth (to sb)
correspond with sth/sb	surprise by surprise; surprised at/by sth
describe sth/sb as; describe sth/sb to sb	tell sb sth; tell sb that; tell sb about sth/doing; tell sb (not) to do
hear sth/sb; hear about sth/sb; hear from sb	

Word formation

announce announcement, (un)announced	edit editor, editorial, edited	power powerful(ly), powerless(ly), empower
belief disbelief, believe, (un)believable, (un)believably	humour humorous, humourless	ridicule ridiculous(ly), ridiculousness
communicate communication, (un)communicative, communicator	inform information, (un)informed, (un)informative	second secondly, secondary
convince convinced, (un)convincing	journal journalist, journalism, journalistic	write writer, writing, wrote, (un)written
discuss discussion	politics political(ly), politician	

The media Unit 8

Topic vocabulary in contrast				
A	Con	plete using the correct form of the words in the box.		
	1	John Sanders, MP,any involvement in the scandal when asked about it yesterday.	deny refuse	
	2	The politician to say more when questioned by reporters this morning.		
	3 4	Johnny Depp rarely invitations to do interviews. Johnny Depp to appear at a press conference to promote his latest film.	agree accept	
	5 6	Did you see the newspaper this morning? If you give every paragraph of your report a , it'll be easier to read.	heading headline	
	7 8	<i>Living Today</i> has got a special this month on healthy diets. There are interviews with nutritionists, menus, recipes, and loads of other things too. There's an interesting in the paper about the Constitution of the European Union.	feature article	
	9 0	I generally trust what I hear on the news, but rarely believe anything I read in the The involve print journalism, TV, radio and even electronic forms of	press media	
		communication such as the Internet.		
	1 2	We interrupt this programme to bring you an urgentat seven o'clock. And we'll be back with our regularat seven o'clock.	bulletin newflash	
B	Circ	le the correct word or phrase.		

- 1 It's a great computer **programme / program** once you get the hang of it.
- 2 I hate tabloid / broadsheet newspapers; they're just full of gossip, scandal and lies!
- **3** As a **journalist** / **columnist** for a local paper, you don't have to interview people or attend events. You just have to express your opinions about the issues of the day.
- 4 There's a great **talk / quiz / game** show on BBC1 tonight. Contestants have to race through a supermarket as quickly as they can, filling up their trolleys as they go.
- 5 On some TV channels, **an announcer / a commentator** tells you what the next programme is going to be.
- **6** Join us at half past nine for a live **broadcast / channel** of the State Opening of Parliament.

Phrasal verbs

C Write one word in each gap.

- 1 Please do not over your examination papers until you are instructed to do so.
- 2 I had to in so many forms. It took me hours!
- 3 I'd like everyone here to forward as many suggestions as possible.
- 4 There was a guy in the street out free tickets to that new quiz show.
- 5 He out that he'd worked in children's TV, but in fact he's never been near a TV studio!
- **6** Could you up her number in the phone book?
- 7 She out as one of the finest contemporary British novelists around at the moment.

D Complete each second sentence using the word given, so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Write between two and five words in each gap. Her latest bestseller was published last month. out 1 Her latest bestseller last month. 2 That story's not true, is it? **up** You , didn't you? 3 The programme starts at half past six. **on** The programme at half past six. The documentary didn't really explore why the rainforests are being cut down. 4 into The documentary didn't really why the rainforests are being cut down. 5 I had a quick look at the magazine in the dentist's waiting room. through I in the dentist's waiting room. I don't think we need to mention that now. **up** 6 I don't think we need to now. Your lies don't fool me! through 7 I can your lies! Phrases and collocations E Choose the correct answer. 1 It's not always easy to the J.K. Rowling has an enormous 6 difference between fact and opinion. influence on children's literature. A make C say A had C done B do D tell B given D set The debate will place tonight. I could spend hours the Internet! 2 7 A be C take C sailing A surfing B have D make B diving D swimming 3 In my, freedom of the press must They said the news that the price 8 be maintained. of petrol is going up again. A from A mind C sight C on B view D thought B in D at 4 Media mogul Ronald Morduck has 9 The issue question is more control of another tabloid. complex than you think. A made C given A from C on B found D taken B in D at 5 They a description of the robber Watch for words like 'so-called' in 10 on *CrimeTime* and it sounded like you! articles as they express the writer's bias. C said A made A about C over B told D gave B around D out

Word patterns

F Each of the words in bold is incorrect. Rewrite them correctly.

- 1 He's been described by several critics **for** our greatest living poet.
- 2 I think you've confused tabloids **by** broadsheets.
- **3** Do you believe **about** telepathy?
- 4 There's no point of trying to get an interview with him. He never does interviews!
- 5 According **from** this report, scientists have discovered a new planet.
- 6 The facts in this article don't correspond **about** my own experience at all.

G Water has damaged part of this text about an anouncement. Read it and decide what you think each of the original words was. Write the words in the blank spaces.

The announcement

The editor sent an e-mail every journalist on the news desk	1	
announcing there would be an emergency editorial meeting	2	
at one o'clock. I had heard the problems the paper was facing	3	
and I heard	4	
going to close. Whatever it was, it was likely 🛹 be bad news.	5	
At the meeting, the editor told us to tell anyone else yet, but	6	
the paper had been taken over by Ronald Morduck. He said he had		
only been informed	7	
so surprised the news that nobody knew what to say. I made	8	
a comment a colleague that it was time to start looking for a	9	
new job. The editor heard this, and finally managed to persuade us not		
quit until we had seen what changes would be made.	10	

Word formation

H Complete the sentences by changing the form of the word in capitals when this is necessary.

- 2 How many means of (COMMUNICATE) do you use on a regular basis?
- 3 Could you write an (EDIT) for the next issue of the school magazine?
- 4 You have to have a sense of (HUMOUR) to work on children's TV!
- 5 There's an (WRITE) rule on tabloid newspapers that the truth always takes second place to a good story.
- 6 When Jill was at (SECOND) school she used to dream of being a DJ on local radio.
- 7 Are you thinking of a career in (JOURNAL)?
- 8 You don't actually get a lot of (INFORM) from a news report on radio or TV.

Complete the text by changing the form of the word in capitals.

Politics on TV

I love watching (1) (DISCUSS) programmes, and I love politics, so you'd think				
I'd enjoy watching (2) (POLITICS) being interviewed on TV. But I don't. All too				
often, (3) (JOURNAL) ask them the most (4) (RIDICULE)				
questions, and, when they do get an interesting question, I sit there watching in				
(5) (BELIEVE) as some of the most (6) (POWER) people in the				
country give totally (7) (CONVINCE) responses. It's as if they don't care whether				
their reply is (8) (BELIEVE) or not. Often, they're very poor (9)				
(COMMUNICATE), and they're frequently even more (10) (INFORM) about key				
issues than I am. I don't expect them to be particularly (11) (HUMOUR) - they are				
serious people, after all – but at least they could say something interesting occasionally. It makes				
me want to stand for election myself!				

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A If a line is correct, put a tick (✓) next to the number. If there is an extra word in a line, write it next to the number.

Quiz Show

Last month, I wrote to a few local television station asking if they gave away the free tickets to any shows. A week later, they sent to me two tickets for a quiz show. I went with my best friend Angie last night. It was an excellent! The show is called *Know Them Or Not*? and contestants have to answer questions about a lots of different people in their lives, like friends, relatives and colleagues. There are ten contestants to start with but one of them gets knocked out at the end of each round. I'd like to go into on a show like that one day but, for now, I'm much happy just to have been in the audience.

(1 mark per answer)

Review 4

B Complete the sentences by changing the form of the word in capitals when this is necessary.

- 11 Why can't (POLITICS) ever just say 'yes' or 'no' when they're asked if they agree with something?
- **13** My cousin Dan has kept a (JOURNAL) since he was twelve years old.
- 14 Did you hear that (ANNOUNCE) on the radio about the water shortage?
- **15** There's an (**WRITE**) rule in our house about how late we can stay up to watch TV.
- 16 I just stood there in (BELIEVE) when I heard I'd been selected to go on the quiz show.
- 17 The Internet is an incredibly powerful means of (COMMUNICATE).

(I mark per answer)

C Complete the second sentence using the word given, so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence. Write between two and five words in each gap.

19	These two dictionaries are similar. little
	There these two dictionaries.
20	My first editor greatly influenced me. influence
	My first editor me.
21	They described the robber on the evening news. gave
	They the robber on the evening news.
22	Robert Maxdoch has just bought the newspaper. control
	The newspaper is now Robert Maxdoch.
23	You'll be wasting your time if you try to get tickets for that show. point
	There to get tickets for that show.
24	I believe that adverts do influence people's buying habits. view
	It that advorte do influence people's huving h

It that adverts do influence people's buying habits.

- The Hollywood star wouldn't say anything about the allegations. **comment** The Hollywood star refused the allegations.

(2 marks per answer)

D Use the words in the box only once to complete the sentences in Table A. The meaning of the sentences in Table B will help you. There is one word you won't need.

few • little • lot • lots • many • most • much • some

Table A	Table B
28 How information do we have at the moment?	asking about an amount
29 Only a print journalists manage to move into television.	describing a small amount
30 This magazine's got of adverts in it.	describing a large amount
31 I won money on a quiz show once.	describing an imprecise amount
32 There's chance of getting rich from starting a website.	describing a small amount
33 I think that children's TV programmes these days are educational.	describing a majority
34 There aren't opportunities for poets to get published.	describing a small amount

E Choose the correct answer.

- **35** The programme usually on at half past eight.
 - A looks C turns
 - B does D comes
- **36** I saw the interview while I was through a magazine at the hairdresser's.
 - A clicking C picking
 - B flicking D ticking
- 37 Why did you have to bring that subject at dinner?A upC over
 - B out D off
- 38 They mentioned it in the article but they didn't into detail.A makeC come
 - B take D go

(1 mark per answer)

39 The tabloids completely that story about Bruce Willis. It's not true at all!

- A stood out C made up
- B filled in D turned over
- **40** They were out free tickets to the concert to everyone in the shopping centre.

А	handing	С	carrying
В	holding	D	bringing

41 We had the volume turned down, so I couldn't make what they were talking about.

Α	up	C	in
В	out	D	off

(1 mark per answer)

Total mark: / 50