

FUMC ESL 1-9-2023 High Beginning and Low Intermediate Lesson

Introduce yourself. Tell where you are from and where you live now. EX: My name is Maria. I am from Mexico City, Mexico. Now I live in Austin, Texas.

Tell one thing your home city is famous for. EX: Austin is famous for live music.

Count and Non-Count Nouns

There are two types of nouns: count nouns and non-count nouns. We use an article (a, an) only with count nouns.

Count Nouns have a plural form, usually with an added "s." For example, "cat--cats," "season--seasons," "student--students."

A non-count noun doesn't have a plural form. For example, "milk," "clothing," "air," "money," "food." We don't say milks, airs, clothings, moneys, foods.

Be aware that "tea" and "coffee" are both non-count nouns. They do not have a plural form. BUT you will hear people order "2 coffees please". This is because they are taking a shortcut. What they mean to say is, "2 cups of coffee, please" When you use the noun "coffee" like this, it doesn't mean it changes to a count noun. It is still non-count.

In these sentence, add A or AN if the noun is a count noun. If it is non-count, leave it blank. Do not put any other articles in the blank. Use only A or An.

1. Please buy _____ tea at the grocery store.
2. Do you want _____ bread with your barbecue?
3. There is _____ tool in the garage that will help you.
4. The policeman asked me _____ question.
5. This house has _____ metal roof.
6. There is _____ hammer in the back of my truck.
7. I see _____ blood on the floor. Did you cut your foot?
8. I put _____ sugar in my tea.
9. I have _____ friend in this neighborhood.
10. Pick up _____ book and put it on the shelf.
11. I put _____ butter on my toast.
12. I can store _____ luggage in this closet.
13. Do you have _____ homework?
14. Hang _____ art on the walls.
15. I have _____ penny in my purse.

There are some nouns that can also be used as adjectives. EX: I have a **gold** watch. Gold is usually a non-count noun. EX: The miners found gold in the hills. NOT The miners found **a** gold in the hills. However, gold can also be an adjective. EX: I bought a gold watch.

We put an A in front of "a gold watch" because GOLD is not the noun. It is an adjective in this sentence. WATCH is the noun and it is a count noun. So it must have A or AN. A or AN are placed before the adjective, not afterwards.

Both count and non-count nouns can have THE in front. EX: The mail is in the box. MAIL is a non-count noun. There is a LETTER in the box. LETTER is a count noun. Both MAIL and LETTER can have THE before them. EX: Put the mail on the table. Put the letter on the table.

Some/Any

Both "some" and "any" can be used with count and non-count nouns. Notice the verb changes from singular to plural (is, are).

- "There is *some* water on the floor."
- "There are *some* dogs here."
- "Is there any food here?"
- "Are there any apples here?"

HERE ARE THE RULES FOR USING SOME OR ANY

1. Use *some* in positive sentences. Use *any* in negative sentences.

I have **some** friends. I don't have **any** friends.

We have **some** coffee. We don't have **any** coffee.

We got **some** rain. We didn't get **any** rain.

2. Usually *any* is used in questions.

Do you have *any* milk? Is there *any* sugar in the cabinet? Are there *any* dogs in the pen?

3. However, use *some* in questions when offering something.

Would you like *some* milk? Do you want *some* french fries?

3. *Some* is used in questions when making a request.

May I borrow *some* money? Can you hand me *some* apples?

Choose *some* or *any* in these sentences.

1-We will have _____ bread with dinner.

2-There is _____ wine in the refrigerator.

3-There was not _____ rain this summer.

4-May I have _____ coffee?

5-I think I will have _____ toast.

6-Do you have _____ pets?

- 7-Sara had _____ good ideas.
- 8-He doesn't have _____ patience with children.
- 9-Do you have _____ homework?
- 10-I have _____ homework.
- 11-I will give them _____ money.
- 12-I won't give them _____ money.
- 13-I bought _____ nice presents at the gift shop.
- 14-I didn't find _____ presents for my family.
15. This job is going to take _____ time.
16. _____ smoke is coming out of that building.
17. There is _____ dirt on the kitchen floor.
18. The weatherman said we will get _____ snow tonight.
19. Be careful! There is _____ ice on the sidewalk.
20. There is _____ water in the cooler.

Practice Speaking

1. Do you like puzzles? Do you do jigsaw puzzles or crossword puzzles? What other types of puzzles do you like?
2. Do you like games? Which games are your favorite?
3. We use the expression, "drag your feet", to mean someone who goes slower on purpose. For example: The company owes me a refund on the shoes I returned. But they are dragging their feet. It has been two weeks and they still haven't given me a refund. What would you do if someone was dragging their feet in paying you?
4. My daughter asked me to help her pay her rent again this month. This is the fifth or sixth time she has asked me to do that. I told her she needed to stand on her own two feet. I couldn't keep paying her rent for her. She has a job and needs to learn to pay her own bills. What does "stand on your own two feet" mean? Do you have a similar saying in your language? Do you think this parent is being mean? What would you do in her situation.