

INDEFINITE NUMERAL ADJECTIVES

Exercise:

A. Much vs Many

1. We saw _____ animals at the zoo.
2. How _____ oranges did you put in the box?
3. There isn't _____ sugar in my coffee.
4. The old man hasn't got _____ hair on his head.
5. I didn't get _____ sleep last night.

B. A little vs a few

1. We need _____ water.
2. I have _____ money left.
3. He only spent _____ dollars there.
4. We had _____ pints of beer there.
5. You have _____ time left.

C. Some vs any

Use some when the context is positive and any when it is negative as well as in most cases of questions.

Examples:

1. Do you have **any** wrapping paper?
2. Let's go have **some** fun.
3. I've never heard of **any** of these artists.

Exercise:

1. Is there _____ milk left?
2. There is _____ juice in the bottle.
3. Do you have _____ coffee?
4. She doesn't have _____ money left.
5. She has _____ money.
6. Do you know _____ of these singers?
7. I don't know _____ of them.
8. I know _____ of them.
9. Chris found _____ wild strawberries growing by the side of the road.

D. Some vs many

Use some in a positive context when you don't want to specify the number or quantity.

Use many with countable nouns, when you want to refer to a large but indefinite number.

Examples:

We have so many cousins!

This recipe contains some dairy ingredients.

Exercise:

1. The child put _____ sand into the bucket.
2. I can lend you _____ money if you need it.
3. There aren't _____ pears left. Only two.
4. We had _____ cake with the tea.
5. Don't eat so _____ sweets or you'll get fat.
6. I had _____ beer last night at the bar.
7. I don't have _____ friends.
8. He brought _____ food with him.

E. Little vs less

Little refers to non-countable nouns, and is used with the singular form. Less is the comparative form of little. Use less in comparative structures, especially before uncountable nouns.

Examples:

1. I have less homework to do today than I had yesterday.
2. I have little homework to do before I leave.

Exercise:

1. I have _____ interest in classical music.
2. I have _____ faith in him.
3. We need _____ furniture in this dance hall than in the big one.
4. He has _____ money than I thought.
5. Tonight I drank _____ wine than last night.
6. She dedicates _____ time to her homework than to her hobbies.
7. This will take _____ time to finish than the last time we tried.

F. A little vs a lot

Use a lot for uncountable nouns (e.g., jam, time) to indicate many, or a large number.

Use a little for uncountable nouns to indicate a small number. Notice that a lot is followed by the word of (unlike a little).

Examples:

1. That may cost you a lot of money.
2. I added a little sugar to the mix.

Exercise:

1. You'll have to spend _____ of cash on this car.
2. I can do it with _____ help from my friends.
3. _____ change can really make a difference.
4. I don't have _____ of free time today.
5. He left _____ of laundry for me to do.
6. She gave him _____ attention.

G. Fewer vs less

Fewer is used for countable nouns while less for uncountable nouns.

1. There were _____ days below freezing last winter.
2. I drank _____ water than she did.
3. I have _____ than an hour to do this work.
4. People these days are buying _____ newspapers.
5. I have _____ time to do this work.
6. _____ than thirty children each year develop the disease.
7. I wear _____ makeup on weekdays.
8. He worked _____ hours than I did.

DISTRIBUTIVE NUMERAL ADJECTIVES

A. Each vs Every

Each is used when you are talking about an individual person or item in a plural group.

Every is also used for a plural group, but the word is used to describe the collective group, not the individuals within it.

Examples:

1. You must evaluate the opinion of **each** artist.
2. **Every** artist has an opinion.
3. It is important to fill out **each** application page.
4. **Every** page includes important details.

Exercise:

1. _____ of the students has three books.
2. There is a bus _____ 2 hours.
3. There are four worksheets - please take one of _____ .
4. We enjoyed _____ minute of our holidays.
5. _____ student has written an email.

B. Either vs Neither

When used as an adjective either means "one or the other of two people or things," and neither means "not one or the other of two people or things."

Examples:

1. Peter isn't here today. Martha isn't either.
2. Peter isn't here today neither is Martha.
3. I like neither of them.
4. I don't like either of them.

Exercise:

1. I don't like _____ of my science teachers.
2. You don't like him, do you? I don't _____ .

3. Peter isn't here today. Martha isn't _____ .
4. I like _____ of them.
5. I am _____ a conservative nor a liberal.