

# ENGLISH - 1

## Lecture #4

Department of Agricultural Machines

College of Agriculture

University of Basrah



# There is/are ...

## ➤ Positive

There is a sofa. (singular)

There are two bedrooms. (plural)

## ➤ Negative

There isn't a shower. (singular)

There aren't any pictures. (plural)

## ➤ Yes/No questions

Is there a table?

Are there any photos?

## Short answers

Yes, there is.

No, there isn't.

Yes, there are.

No, there aren't.



# Countable and uncountable nouns

Do you know how to use *a*, *some*, *any*, *much* and *many*?

Look at these examples to see how to use countable and uncountable nouns in a sentence.

1. I'm making a cup of tea.
2. There's some money on the table.
3. Have we got any bread?
4. How many chairs do we need?
5. How much milk have we got?



Nouns can be **countable** or **uncountable**.

**Countable nouns can be counted**, e.g. *an apple, two apples, three apples*, etc.

**Uncountable nouns cannot be counted**, e.g. *air, rice, water*, etc.

When you learn a new noun, you should check if it is countable or uncountable and note how it is used in a sentence.



► **Countable nouns**

- For **positive** sentences we can use a/an for singular nouns or some for plurals.

*There's **a** man at the door.      There is **an** eagle in the sky.*

*I have **some** friends in New York.*

- For **negatives** we can use (a/an) for singular nouns or any for plurals.

*I don't have **a** dog.*

*There aren't **any** seats.*

## ► Uncountable nouns

Here are some examples of uncountable nouns:

<i>bread</i>	<i>rice</i>	<i>coffee</i>	<i>information</i>
<i>money</i>	<i>advice</i>	<i>luggage</i>	<i>furniture</i>

We use **some** with uncountable nouns in positive sentences,  
and **any** with negatives.

*There's **some** milk in the fridge.*

*There isn't **any** coffee.*



# Questions

- In questions we use *a/an*, *any* or *how many* with **countable nouns**.
  - *Is there **an** email address to write to?*
  - *Are there **any** chairs?*
  - ***How many** chairs are there?*
  
- And we use *any* or *how much* with **uncountable nouns**.
  - *Is there **any** sugar?*
  - ***How much** orange juice is there?*



► But when we are offering something or asking for something, we normally use *some*.

- *Do you want **some** chocolate?*
- *Can we have **some** more chairs, please?*

► We also use *some* in a question when we think the answer will be 'yes'.

- *Have you got **some** new glasses?*



## Other expressions of quantity


➤ *A lot of* (or *lots of*) can be used with both countable and uncountable nouns.

- *There are lots of apples on the trees.*
- *There is a lot of snow on the road.*

Notice that **we don't usually use many or much in positive sentences.**

**We use a lot of instead.**

- *They have a lot of money.*



❖ However, in negative sentences we use not many with countable nouns and not much with uncountable nouns.

- *There are lots of carrots but there aren't many potatoes.*
- *There's a lot of juice but there isn't much water.*