

# Countable and uncountable nouns: problems

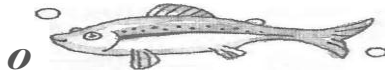
Adapted from: Elementary Language Practice by Michael Vince

## Explanations

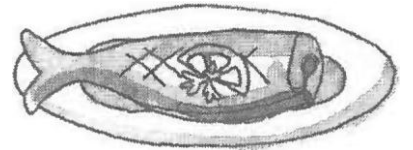
Some nouns are countable with one meaning and uncountable with another meaning.

### Change of meaning

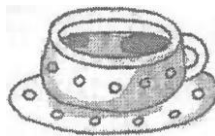
a fish



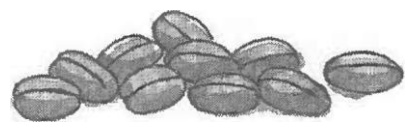
some fish



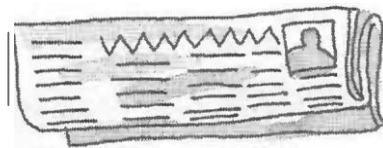
a coffee



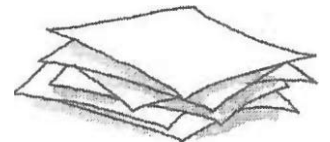
some coffee



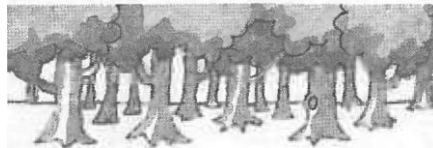
a paper



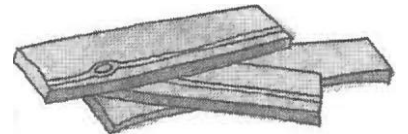
some paper



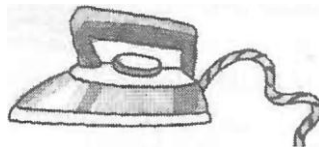
a wood  
an iron



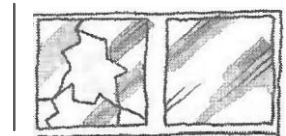
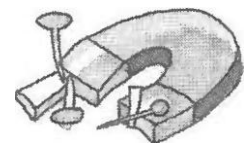
some wood  
some iron



a glass



some glass



### Uncountable with *no plural*

*advice*  
*spaghetti*  
*English (language)*  
*hair*  
*furniture*  
*information*  
*weather*  
*money*  
*luggage*

*Can I have some advice?*  
*I'd like some spaghetti.*  
*Your English is good!*  
*Your hair is beautiful!*  
*This furniture is very modern.*  
*Could you give me some information? The weather is awful!*  
*The money is on the table.*  
*My luggage is in the taxi.*

### Other problems

*people*  
  
*bread*  
*fish*  
*police*  
*news*

*There are some people in the garden. There is a person in the garden.*

*Could you buy a loaf of bread? (We cannot say a bread.)*

*One fish, two fish, etc.*

*The police are coming! (singular form, plural verb)*

*The news is on TV. (plural form, singular verb)*