

# Grammar Challenge

## Uncountable nouns

### Practice



*GRAMMAR CHALLENGE*



**BBC WORLD SERVICE**  
LEARNING ENGLISH



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# BBC Learning English – Grammar Challenge

## Grammar Challenge – uncountable nouns

### Exercise 1:

Match the beginnings of the sentences to the correct endings.

1.	I am going to an overseas conference next week ...	a.	... we will have to buy some furniture.
2.	Could you give me some information ...	b.	... about the history of this building?
3.	My father gave me...	c.	... I can hardly breathe.
4.	Before we move into our new house ...	d.	... you need a lot of patience.
5.	There is so much pollution in this city ...	e.	... on this flight.
6.	If you are learning a foreign language ...	f.	... but I haven't booked my accommodation yet.
7.	You are only allowed to take one piece of luggage ...	g.	... it's much too hot.
8.	The weather is terrible today ...	h.	... a very useful piece of advice.
9.	Could you please put all that rubbish...	i.	... in the bin?

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### Exercise 2: Correct / Wrong

Read the sentences and decide whether they are grammatically correct.

1. We bought quite a lot of expensive furnitures for the new office.
  - a. Correct
  - b. Wrong
  
2. I bought a new luggage for my trip to Australia.
  - a. Correct
  - b. Wrong
  
3. You have to use specialist equipments for this task.
  - a. Correct
  - b. Wrong
  
4. This information is out of date.
  - a. Correct
  - b. Wrong
  
5. There is a lot of rubbish on the streets of my city.
  - a. Correct
  - b. Wrong
  
6. My sister gave me a very useful piece of advice.
  - a. Correct
  - b. Wrong
  
7. The tourist guide gave me several informations about the castle.
  - a. Correct
  - b. Wrong
  
8. Teachers need to have a patience.
  - a. Correct
  - b. Wrong

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### Exercise 3:

Read the sentence and choose the one option which best fits the space.

1. Don't go to that city in February - ... really bad then.
  - a. the weather is
  - b. a weather is
  - c. the weathers are
  
2. We took ... on our camping trip.
  - a. a lot of equipment
  - b. a lot of equipments
  - c. some equipments
  - d. five equipments
  
3. We stayed in ...
  - a. some expensive accommodations
  - b. an expensive accommodation
  - c. very expensive accommodation
  - d. a very expensive accommodation
  
4. Sue told me about her problem and I gave her ...
  - a. an advice
  - b. a piece of advice
  - c. a piece of advices
  - d. advices
  
5. ... in my city.
  - a. There are a lot of pollutions
  - b. There are some pollutions
  - c. There is a pollution
  - d. There is a lot of pollution

# BBC Learning English – Grammar Challenge

## Grammar Challenge – uncountable nouns

### Answers

#### Exercise 1:

Match the beginnings of the sentences to the correct endings.

1.	I am going to an overseas conference next week ...	f.	... but I haven't booked my accommodation yet.
2.	Could you give me some information ...	b.	... about the history of this building?
3.	My father gave me ...	h.	... a very useful piece of advice.
4.	Before we move into our new house ...	a.	... we will have to buy some furniture.
5.	There is so much pollution in this city ...	c.	... I can hardly breathe.
6.	If you are learning a foreign language ...	d.	... you need a lot of patience.
7.	You are only allowed to take one piece of luggage ...	e.	... on this flight.
8.	The weather is terrible today ...	g.	... it's much too hot.
9.	Could you please put all that rubbish...	i.	... in the bin?

#### Exercise 2: Correct / Wrong

Read the sentences and decide whether they are grammatically correct.

1. We bought quite a lot of expensive furnitures for the new office.
  - a. Correct – No - 'furnitures' should be 'furniture'.
  - b. **Wrong** – Yes - 'furnitures' should be 'furniture'.
2. I bought a new luggage for my trip to Australia.
  - a. Correct – No - 'a' should be 'some'.
  - b. **Wrong** – Yes – 'a' should be 'some'.
3. You have to use specialist equipments for this task.
  - a. Correct – No - 'equipments' should be 'equipment'.
  - b. **Wrong** – Yes - 'equipments' should be 'equipment'.
4. This information is out of date.
  - a. **Correct** – Yes – This sentence is grammatically correct.
  - b. **Wrong** – No – This sentence is grammatically correct.

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5. There is a lot of rubbish on the streets of my city.  
a. **Correct – Yes – This sentence is grammatically correct.**  
b. **Wrong – No – This sentence is grammatically correct.**
6. My sister gave me a very useful piece of advice.  
a. **Correct – Yes – This sentence is grammatically correct.**  
b. **Wrong – No – This sentence is grammatically correct.**
7. The tourist guide gave me several informations about the castle.  
a. **Correct – No - You cannot use 'several' with uncountable nouns.**  
b. **Wrong – Yes - You cannot use 'several' with uncountable nouns.**
8. Teachers need to have a patience.  
a. **Correct – No – You need to delete 'a'.**  
b. **Wrong – Yes – You need to delete 'a'.**

### Exercise 3:

Read the sentence and choose the one option which best fits the space.

1. Don't go to that city in February - ... really bad then.  
a. **the weather is – Correct – you have used this uncountable noun correctly.**  
b. a weather is – Wrong – we don't usually use 'a' like this with uncountable nouns.  
c. the weathers are - Wrong – uncountable nouns cannot be made plural like this.
2. We took ... on our camping trip.  
a. **a lot of equipment – Correct – you have used this uncountable noun correctly.**  
b. a lot of equipments - Wrong – uncountable nouns cannot be made plural like this.  
c. some equipments - Wrong – uncountable nouns cannot be made plural like this.  
d. five equipments - Wrong – uncountable nouns cannot be made plural like this, and numbers cannot normally be used...
3. We stayed in ...  
a. some expensive accommodations - Wrong – uncountable nouns cannot be made plural like this.  
b. an expensive accommodation – Wrong – we don't usually use 'an' like this with uncountable nouns.  
c. **very expensive accommodation – Correct – you have used this uncountable noun correctly.**  
d. a very expensive accommodation – Wrong – we don't usually use 'a' like this with uncountable nouns.

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4. Sue told me about her problem and I gave her ...
- a. an advice – Wrong – we don't usually use 'an' like this with uncountable nouns, and you need to use an article or a word like 'some' or 'a piece of'.
  - b. a piece of advice – Correct – you have used this uncountable noun correctly.
  - c. a piece of advices - Wrong – uncountable nouns cannot be made plural like this.
  - d. advices – Wrong - uncountable nouns cannot be made plural like this, and you need to use a word like 'some' or 'a piece of'.
5. ... in my city.
- a. There are a lot of pollutions - Wrong – uncountable nouns cannot be made plural like this.
  - b. There are some pollutions - Wrong – uncountable nouns cannot be made plural like this.
  - c. There is a pollution – Wrong – we don't usually use 'a' like this with uncountable nouns.
  - d. There is a lot of pollution – Correct – you have used this uncountable noun correctly.