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Lecturer: Rana Abid Thyab

ranaabd@tu.edu.iq

Count vs. Non Count Nouns

## Count vs. Non Count Nouns

### Count Nouns

- pen, computer, bottle, spoon, desk, cup, television, chair, shoe, finger, flower, camera, stick, balloon, book, table, comb

### **Take an s to form the plural.**

- pens, computers, bottles, spoons, desks, cups, televisions, chairs, shoes, fingers, flowers, cameras, sticks, balloons, books, tables, combs, etc.

Work with expressions such as (a few, few, many, some, every, each, these, and the number of).

- a few pens, a few computers, many bottles, some spoons, every desk, each cup, these televisions, the number of chairs, a few shoes, a few fingers, many flowers, some cameras, every stick, each balloon, these books, the number of tables, many combs

## **Work with appropriate articles (a, an, or the).**

- a pen, the computer, a bottle, the spoon, a desk, the cup, a television, the chair, a shoe, the finger, a flower, the camera, a stick, the balloon, a book, the table, a comb

## **Non Count Nouns**

Cannot be counted. They usually express a group or a type.

- water, wood, ice, air, oxygen, English, Spanish, traffic, furniture, milk, wine, sugar, rice, meat, flour, soccer generally cannot be pluralized.

Work both with and without an article (*a, an, or the*), depending on the context of the sentence.

- Sugar is sweet.
- The sunshine is beautiful.
- I drink milk.
- He eats rice.
- We watch soccer together.
- The wood is burning.

Work with expressions such as (some, any, enough, this, that, and much).

- We ate some rice and milk.
- I hope to see some sunshine today.
- This meat is good.
- She does not speak much Spanish.
- Do you see any traffic on the road?
- That wine is very old.

Do NOT work with expressions such as (these, those, every, each, either, or neither).

Verb: is a word (part of speech) that in syntax generally conveys an action (bring, read, walk, run, learn), an occurrence (happen, become), or a state of being (be, exist, stand).

In the usual description of English, the basic form, with or without the particle to, is the infinitive. In many languages.

verbs are inflected (modified in form) to encode tense, aspect, mood, and voice. A verb may also agree with the person, gender or number of some of its arguments, such as its subject, or object.

Verbs have tenses: present, to indicate that an action is being carried out; past, to indicate that an action has been done; future, to indicate that an action will be done.

I washed the car yesterday.

The dog ate my homework.

I will go to the store.

John studies English and French.

This section describes how the verb forms introduced in the preceding sections are used. More detail can be found in the article [Uses of English verb forms](#) and in the articles [on the individual tenses and aspects](#).

In referring to an action taking place regularly (and not limited to the future or to the past), the simple present is used: He brushes his teeth every morning.

For an action taking place at the present time, the present progressive construction is used: He is brushing his teeth now. With some verbs expressing a present state, particularly the copula *be* and verbs expressing a mental state, the present simple is generally used: They are here; I know that.

When expressing actions or events lasting up to a specified time, the appropriate perfect construction is used (with the progressive if expressing a temporary state that would generally be expressed with a progressive form): We have been having some problems lately; I have lived here for six years; We had been working since the previous evening; We will have been working for twelve hours by the time you arrive.

The use of tense and aspectual forms in condition and conditional clauses follows special patterns; see conditional mood. For use of tenses in indirect speech, see sequence of tenses. For the use of subjunctive forms, see English subjunctive.

The bare infinitive, identical to the base form of the verb, is used as a complement of most modal verbs and certain other verbs (I can write; They made him write; I saw you write), including in negated and inverted sentences formed using do-support (He doesn't write; Did you write?).

Preceded by to, it forms the to-infinitive, which has a variety of uses, including as a noun phrase (To write is to learn) and as the complement of many verbs (I want to write), as well as with certain adjectives and nouns (easy to ride; his decision to leave), and in expressions of purpose (You did it to spite me).

The past participle has the following uses:

It is used with the auxiliary have in perfect constructions: They have written; We had written before we heard the news. (With verbs of motion, an archaic form with be may be found in older texts: he is come.)

It is used as a passive participle, with be or get, to form the passive voices .<sup>1</sup>

## **Quiz**

Choose all of the non-count nouns in the following list:

wine, student, pen, water, wind, milk, computer, furniture, cup, rice, box, watch, potato.