

Countable and Uncountable Nouns

Can they be both?

Some nouns in the English language are count nouns, and still others are non-count; there are, however, nouns that can act as BOTH of these. Here are some examples.

There is **a hair** on my toothbrush!
That dog has too much **hair**.

I need to do my **work** before I go to sleep!
Shakespeare has many famous **works**.

You should turn in your **papers** at the end of this week.
Can I borrow some **paper** from you?

There is **room** in the kitchen for that box.
How many **rooms** are in the apartment?

I heard a scary **noise** last night!
The **noise** in the auditorium was deafening.

They had a fantastic **time** last night.
Do you have **time** to ready my essay?

The windows here allow for natural **light**.
Can you turn the **lights** on?

The fireplace needs more **wood**.
The woods near my house are scary.

Counting Nouns That Are Not Countable

It is possible to 'count' a non-count noun.

How can we do this? By adding a countable categorizing noun:

Bread → 2 **types** of bread, one loaf of bread
Water → 4 **cups** of water, 17 **bottles** of water
Rice → 1 **plate** of rice, 3 bags of rice

Fewer, Less, Many, Much? What Should I Use?

<i>word</i>	<i>with countable noun?</i>	<i>with uncountable noun?</i>	<i>examples</i>
few, fewer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	fewer students; few cars
little, less, least	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	less food; little time
many, several	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	several books; many changes
much	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	much pleasure; much sleep