Expressing quantity

	Countables	Uncountables
Positive	a lot (of) / lots of	a lot (of)
Interrogative	many / how many	much / how much
Negative	many	much

1 A lot of or lots of are used in the affirmative with countables or uncountables.

There are a lot of / lots of stars in the sky. There's a lot of milk in the bottle.

2 Many (with countables) and much (with uncountables) are used in questions and negations. Many and much can also be used in the affirmative in formal English.

How many friends have you got? There isn't much jam in the jar. Many people learn English. (formal)

Write a lot of, many or much.



1 There are ... a lot of blueberries.



4 There aren't mushrooms.



2 There aren't radishes.



There's iam.



3 There isn't honey.



There aren't apples.

Fill in the gaps with a lot of, much or many.

- 1 There are a lot of birds in the sky!
- 2 I haven't got homework today.
- 3 John hasn't got CDs.
- 4 There aren't cars in the street.
- 5 There is sugar in the bowl.
- 6 Are there apples on the tree?
- 7 Jane has got money in her purse.
- 8 Is there bread in the cupboard?
- 9 Are there children in the park?
- 10 We are early. We have time.

Choose the correct item.

- 1 There aren't children in the classroom.
 - A much (B) many
- C a lot of
- cheese in my sandwich. 2 There isn't
 - C a lot of B many A much
- 3 I've got ... books in my bag.
 - A much
- B many
- C a lot of
- 4 There aren't strawberries in the bowl.
 - A much
- B many
- C a lot of

- 5 How milk is there in the carton?
 - A much
- B many
- C a lot of
- trees in the park? 6 Are there ...
 - A much
- B many
- C a lot of
- 7 We've got flowers in our garden.

A much

A much

- B many
- C a lot of
- 8 There isn't cola in the bottle.
 - B many
- C a lot of

Interrogative Any	Positive Some	Negative No / not any

1 Some is used in positive statements, any in questions and no or not any in negations.

Is there any meat in the fridge? No, there's no meat in the fridge. or There isn't any meat in the fridge. There are some bananas.

2 Some is also used in the interrogative when we expect a 'Yes' answer or when we want to offer something.

Can I have some coffee, please? Would you like some tea?

3 Any is also used in positive statements but it means 'it doesn't matter which.' Which book can I get? Get any book you like! (It doesn't matter which book.)

5 Circle the correct item.

- 1 Is there some / any milk in the fridge?
- 2 There aren't any / no children in the park.
- 3 Can I have some / no cola, please?
- 4 Have you got some / any money?
- 5 There is any / no tea in my cup.
- 6 Would you like some / any chocolate?
- 7 There are any / no books on the desk.

- 8 There is some / any fresh juice in the fridge.
- 9 Would you like no / some sugar in your coffee?
- 10 You can call me some / any time you like.
- 11 Can I have some / any water, please?
- 12 There isn't any / no butter in my sandwich.