



Centre Universitaire Abdelhafid Boussouf Centre E-Learning



English – Level 1

Lesson 9

English Quantifiers

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Etudiants Concernés Semestre 1			
Institut	Département	Année	Spécialité
Lettres et Langues	-Langues Etrangère	Licence1	Français.
Sciences et Technologie	-Mathématique et informatique -Sciences Techniques.	Licence1	-MI. -ST.
Sciences Economique	-Sciences Economique.	Licence1	Toutes les spécialités.

Objectives of the Lesson:

1. To make students aware of the existence of quantifiers.
2. To enable students to use quantifiers appropriately

1. Definition

Quantifiers are words we use before nouns to show the amount of something and give information about its quantity and number. They are **'some', 'many', 'a lot of' and 'a few'**.

e.g. There are **some** people waiting outside.

Many teachers retire early.

She spends **a lot of** money on clothes.

We are going away for **a few** days.

Quantifiers are used before nouns. Nouns in English are classified into two types: countable and uncountable nouns.

Countable nouns are nouns which can be counted. They have singular and plural forms.

e.g. Chair \implies Chairs
Teacher \implies Teachers

Uncountable nouns are nouns which cannot be counted. They only have singular forms.

e.g. Homework - information – money.

<i>With Countable Nouns</i>	<i>With Uncountable Nouns</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Many/a few/few/very few● a number (of)● several● a large number of● a great number of● a/the majority of	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● much/a little/little/very little● a bit (of)● a great deal of● a large amount

Few, a few, little, a little:

A few and a little mean some but not too much: the quantity is enough, whereas few and little mean a small quantity but nearly nothing.

e.g. He knows **a little** French.

I have got **a few** friends.

They have **little** money to spend.

Few people have the courage to do what you did.

Some & Any:

We use some and any with both countable and uncountable nouns to express how much and how many of something but the exact quantity does not matter.

Some is generally used in affirmative sentences. e.g. buy **some** bread and cheese.

Any is generally used in negative statements. e.g., I don't want **any** sugar.

Time for practice:

Fill in the blanks with a little/little/a few/few/some/any.

1. We can't do without.....bread.
2. There isn't..... life in that girl.
3. There is hardlymilk in the bottle.
4. I saw Tom.....days ago.
5. We didn't have any more money but Ann had.....
6. Hurry! We have got..... time.

References

- 1) Hashemi, L., & Murphy, R. (2004). English Grammar in Use. Supplementary exercises. Cambridge
- 2) Hall, D & Barduhn, S. (2016). English for Everyone: English Grammar Guide. Dorling Kindersley.
- 3) Herring, P. (2016). Complete English Grammar Rules. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

4) Stobbe, G. (2008). Just enough English grammar illustrated. McGraw-Hill.