ARTICLES
Must/Mustn't- Have to/ Don't have to
Expressing Preferences
Quantifiers
ENOUGH- TOO MANY - TOO MUCH
Comparative and superlative forms of quantifiers
There are two articles in English: the definite and the indefinite. Sometimes require no article at all, in which case the term zero (0) article is used.

**The indefinite article**

* We use the in *a/an* in the following ways:

1. **before singular countable nouns which we know nothing about.**
   
   E.g.   *My father works in a factory.*

2. **with the names of professions and occupations.**
   
   E.g.   *She is an executive and he is a waiter.*

3. **in expressions of measurements.**
   
   E.g.  *We hired this tractor for DZD 3,000 an hour*  
   Olive oil costs DZD 300, 00 a litre this year.

4. **before a noun which means all things of the same kind.**
   
   E.g.  *A detective is a man/woman whose job consists in investigating crimes*  
   
   *A friend in need is a friend indeed.*
The definite article

* We use the in *the* following ways:

1. When it is clear from the context what particular person, animal, thing or place
   *we’re talking about.*
   E.g. I’ll meet you in front of *the* post office.

2. Before a noun that we have mentioned before.
   E.g. He had a villa and a yacht, but he sold *the* villa a month ago.

3. Before adjectives to specify a category of people or things.

4. When the object or group of objects is the only one that exists or has existed.
   E.g. *the* stars, *the* sun, *the* pyramids, *the* human race.

5. When we talk about an institution share by the people as a whole.
   E.g. *the* radio, *the* television, *the* telephone

6. When we refer to what is general or typical for a whole class of objects or animals.
   E.g. *The* tiger is a beautiful animal. (We mean here all tigers)

7. Before names of oceans, seas and rivers.
   E.g. *the* Nile, *the* Gange, *the* Pacific, *the* Mediterranean ...
**ZERO ARTICLE (Ø)**

1. We do not put an article before uncountable or (mass) nouns used in general statements.
   
   E.g. (Ø) Money is the root of all (Ø) evil.

2. There is no article before abstractions. (Abstract nouns)
   
   E.g. All nations should work for (Ø) peace, (Ø) honesty, (Ø) generosity and (Ø) courage.

3. There is no article before names of places and people.
   
   E.g. (Ø) Poland, (Ø) Queen Elizabeth II, (Ø) Houari Boumediene Airport

4. We do not normally use the with the names of meals.
   
   E.g. What time is (Ø) lunch?
   
   What did you have for (Ø) breakfast?

5. There is no definite article before prison, school, hospital, university when these institutions are used for the purpose for which they exist.
   
   E.g. When I leave (Ø) school, I’ll go to (Ø) university.

6. But when these institutions are not used for the purpose for which they exist, we use the definite article.
   
   E.g. Mr. Chaib went to the school to meet his daughter’s teacher.

7. There is zero articles before plural nouns.
   
   E.g. We’re expecting (Ø) visitors
MUST/MUSTN'T - HAVE to/ Don't have to

**MUST - HAVE TO = Obligation/Necessity**
We use must+ verb and have to+ verb when we say it is necessary to do something or to express obligation.
Examples:
- In England, you **must** drive on the left, but in Algeria, you **must** drive on the right.
- Peter **must** clean his parents’ car before they give him any pocket money.
- I **have to** give the book back to the library on Tuesday.
- To get to school on time, I **have to** leave home by 7.30.

**MUSTN’T = Prohibition**
We use mustn’t + verb to say that something is not allowed.
Examples:
- You **mustn’t** drive fast here. The road sign says that the speed limit is 50 kms per hour.
- We **mustn’t** walk on the grass here. It’s forbidden.

**DON’T HAVE TO = Absence of obligation**
We use don’t have to say something is not necessary.
Examples:
- You **don’t have to** do this exercise. It’s optional.
- You **don’t have to** go to England to learn English.
Expressing Preferences

1. When you talk about what you prefer to do in general, you can use either prefer to do, or prefer doing.

   Example: I don’t like cities. I prefer to live / living in the country.

   This rule also applies to such verbs as like, love and hate.

2. When you make a choice between two things, two courses of action, or two activities in particular, you can use anyone of the following structures, as the case may be:

   * Prefer something to something else.
     E.g. Most people prefer trains to buses.
   * Prefer doing something to something else.
     E.g. Habib prefers driving to travelling by train.
   * Prefer to do rather than (do) something else.
     E.g. I prefer to live in the country rather than (live) in a city.

3. When you want to say what someone wants to do in a specific situation (not in general), use the following structure.

   Subject+ would prefer to do something rather than do something.’d prefer

E.g. I would prefer to stay at home tonight rather than go to the cinema.
’d prefer to stay at home tonight rather than go to the cinema.
4. In the same situation as above would prefer /’d prefer to do can be replaced by would rather /’d rather do. In this case, we use the infinitive without to.

E.g. ‘Shall we go by bus?’ ‘Well I’d rather take a taxi.’

5. The negative form is structured as follow:

E.g. - I’m tired. I’d rather not walk to work this morning.

- ‘Do you want a glass of hot milk?’ ‘I’d rather not, it would make me sleep.’

6. When you want someone else to do something, you can say:

- I would rather/ I’d rather you did/ she did/ they did.

Note

Even though we use the past, the meaning is present or future.

Examples:

A: ‘Shall I tell her the bad news?’
B: Well, I would/ I’d rather you didn’t. She might have a heart attack.’

A:‘shall I stay home?’
B:‘Well, I would rather/ I’d rather you came with us.’

A:‘Do you mind if I open the window?’
B:‘I would rather/ I’d rather you didn’t. It’s cold outside.’
Quantifiers

Countable and uncountable nouns

Countable nouns

- a glass
- an apple
- a pound
- people

Uncountable nouns

- water
- milk
- money
- crowd

Asking and answering questions about quantity using countable nouns.

1. Question: How many people are there in the restaurant?

   - Possible answers:
   - There are a lot of/ lots of people in the restaurant.
   - There are many people in the restaurant.+++++
   - There are a few people in the restaurant  ++++ --
   - There are some people in the restaurant. ++++ --
   - There are few people in the restaurant. +++ --
   - There aren’t many people in the restaurant.++++--
   - There aren’t any people in the restaurant. 0 --
   - There are no people in the restaurant. 0

Asking and answering questions about quantity using uncountable nouns.

2. Question: How much money have you got in your pocket?

   - Possible answers:
   - I have a lot of/ a great deal of money in my pocket.
- I have **much** money in my pocket. +++++++++
- I have **some** money in my pocket.        ++++-
- I have **a little** money in my pocket.     ++++-
- I have **little** money in my pocket.       +++- 
- I haven’t got **much** money in my pocket. ++++-
- I haven’t got **any** money in my pocket. 0-- 
- I have got **no** money in my pocket.        0-- 

**Note**

a. We use **many** (countable nouns) and **much** (uncountable nouns in questions about **quantity**).

b. In spoken English, we usually use a **lot of**/ **lots of** (with countable and uncountable nouns) in positive sentences, but in written English we often use **many** (countable nouns).

c. We often use **much** in negative sentences (not in positive ones)

d. **Little** and **few** (without a) are negative. They mean **not much, not enough**. The speaker is not happy about it.

a. A **little** and a **few** are positive. They mean **some, quite enough**.

The speaker is happy about it.

**ENOUGH- TOO MANY - TOO MUCH**

a. When we want to say that we have a sufficient quantity of something, i.e. **as much as needed**
or **as many as needed**, we use **enough**.

E.g. There’s **enough** (= **as much food as needed**) food for everybody.

**There are enough** (as many as needed) books for everybody.

b. When we want to say that we have an **excessive quantity** of something, we use **too much** or **too many**.

E.g. You put **too much** sugar in your tea.

You have made **too many** mistakes

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Comparative and superlative forms of quantifiers

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<td>Much</td>
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Examples:

The comparatives and the superlatives of many and much.
- I haven’t got many books. I mean I haven’t got as many books as my sister.
- My sister has got more books than I, but most of her books are old.
- I haven’t got much money. I haven’t got as much money as Said.
  Said has more (money) than I, but our friend Smail has the most money. He has a part-time job.

Note:

a. More and the most are respectively the comparative and superlative forms of many with countable nouns.
b. More and the most are also respectively the comparative and superlative forms of much with uncountable nouns.

The comparatives and superlatives of little and few.
- There is little rain this year. Yes but there was even less rain last year.
- Our school has few boy students. It has 70 boys in a total of 800 students.

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- Our school has even fewer boy students. It has only 50 boys in a total of 810 students.
- My friend’s school has the fewest boy students. You know, it has only 20 in a total of 850.

**Note**: The comparative of little is less, not littler.

a. We can also use adjectives like a smaller + quantity/ amount to replace less.

   E.g. There is a smaller quantity of water in this well than in that one over there.

b. The superlative form of little is the least, but we can also use the smallest + quantity.

   E.g. Kader has the smallest amount of money in his pocket.