



Unit 58 – A lot / Many / Much / A few / Little (*A lot of kids came.. Not many kids came..*)

A) Many, Much & A lot – Many & Much are generally used in i) negative sentences and ii) questions:

MUCH	MANY
UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS	PLURAL COUNTABLE NOUNS (negative)
I don't have much money (<i>negative</i>)	I don't have many plants in my house.
Do you have much money? (<i>question</i>)	Do you have many plants in your house?
A LOT OF	A LOT OF
UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS (positive)	PLURAL COUNTABLE NOUNS (positive)
She has a lot of stamps.	He has collected a lot of hockey cards.
She has lots of stamps.	He has collected lots of hockey cards

-> However, many/much can be used at the **beginning** of some positive sentences:

Much time was wasted today. or -> **A lot of** time was wasted today.

Many people drive too fast. or -> **A lot of** people drive too fast.

-> **Many** can be used when quantifying durations (*minutes, hours, years, etc.*)

- o I've been doing yoga for **many years**. Steve studied **many hours** for his exam.

Note: -> **Plenty & several** also mean 'a lot' – however, several cannot be used with uncountable nouns.

B) A few (Few) / A little (Little) – Few means a small **quantity**; Little means a small **amount**:

FEW (NOT MANY) -> generally negative	LITTLE (NOT MUCH) -> generally negative
PLURAL COUNTABLE NOUNS	UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS
Few people passed the test. (<i>few = not enough</i>)	She has little time left to finish the test.
There are few good workers.	My manager has little patience.
A FEW (SOME) -> generally positive	A LITTLE (SOME) -> generally positive
PLURAL COUNTABLE NOUNS	UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS
She takes care of a few dogs.	I usually have a little tea after lunch.
Dad brought home a few snacks for everyone.	Jessica has a little time to meet us later.

i) **FEW** + Plural Countable Nouns = not many / not enough (*generally negative meaning*)
-> **Few** politicians are very honest.

ii) **A FEW** + Plural Countable Nouns = a small amount / some (*generally positive meaning*)
-> Jenny brought **a few presents** for us.

iii) **LITTLE** + Uncountable Nouns = not much / not enough (*generally negative meaning*)
-> He has **little consideration** for others.

iv) **A LITTLE** + Uncountable Nouns = a small amount / some (*generally positive meaning*)
-> I have **a little water** left. I'll share some with you.

C) Compare few / a few and little / a little – note the differences in positive / negative tone:

- o **Few paintings** at this gallery are beautiful. (few paintings = not enough of them)
- o **A few paintings** at this gallery are beautiful! (a few paintings = some of them are great!)
- o She's got **little money** left. (little money = not enough money)
- o She's got **a little money** left. (a little money = she is generally okay for now)



Unit 58 – Exercises:

58.1 – Complete the sentences with **many**, **much** or **a lot of (lots of)**.

1. We didn't bother buying _____ souvenirs because they were expensive.
2. Today was really busy at the office. There wasn't _____ time to even take a break.
3. Visit *Crystal Point* beach if you can. There is _____ beautiful sand there.
4. Are there _____ vegetarian dishes at that new restaurant?
5. We loved Rome, but it was very touristy. There were _____ people there.
6. My sister knows _____ foreigners. She lived abroad for several years.
7. **A:** Were there _____ calls for me while I was out? **B:** Yes, there were _____ calls.
8. There aren't _____ people at the bus stop before 7am in the morning.
9. I try to eat _____ vegetables, but there isn't _____ variety at my local mart.
10. Are there _____ more things to prepare for the meeting tomorrow?

58.2 – Complete sentences with **a little**, **little**, **a few**, or **few**.

1. Are you hungry? There are _____ leftovers in the pot. Help yourself!
2. Since starting his fourth year at college, Peter has _____ time to spend with his friends.
3. Unfortunately, I'm having _____ problems with my car.
4. There is _____ pasta left in the pan. Would you like me to warm it up for you?
5. What's the matter? Are you having _____ problems at work?
6. _____ students from this high school enter college, unfortunately.
7. Do you take cream in your coffee? There's _____ on the counter if you like.
8. Are you doing research on AI? I have _____ resources that I can lend you.
9. One of the challenges with treating disease is that some hospitals have _____ medicine.
10. That company is very conservative. There are _____ females in executive positions.

58.3 – Complete sentences with **a lot**, **many**, **much**, **a little**, **little**, **a few**, or **few**.

1. I'm afraid that store doesn't have _____ of the things we need.
2. Cities produce _____ of garbage every day. It's an issue that needs _____ of attention.
3. I remember when I lost my job. I had _____ money but I always tried to stay positive.
4. That's a nice café, but only _____ people come here because of its location.
5. Mr. Black, our manager, gets frustrated easily and has _____ patience.
6. How about we go to a different restaurant? There are _____ menu options here.
7. Would you like to go shopping? We have _____ time before the movie starts.
8. Do you think the teacher will give _____ advice about the test?
9. There is still _____ milk left. You don't have to buy _____ from the mart.
10. I would love to hang out, but I've got _____ of things to do at school.
11. **A:** Do you mind if I print these copies? **B:** Sure. There is still _____ paper in the printer.
12. The teacher only gave us _____ homework to do. Since there isn't _____ homework, let's hang out for _____ minutes and play some video games.

58.4 – Complete the sentences with **many**, **much**, **a few**, **a little**, **some** or **any**.

1. Is there _____ flour left? Do we need to buy _____ at the supermarket?
2. We don't have many rich friends. Only _____ of them are wealthy.
3. There are _____ things I'd like you to finish before you leave work today.
4. My best friend is so funny with me but shy with others. She doesn't have _____ confidence.
5. **A:** Would you like _____ more tea? **B:** Just _____, please.
6. **A:** Are there _____ more questions to do in Unit 58? **B:** No, this is the last one. ☺