

Ready for Use of English

Grammar: *some, any, much, many, little, few, and a lot*

1 Complete the sentences with *some* or *any*.

- 1 I wanted to buy _____ biscuits, but I didn't have _____ money, so I went home to get _____.
- 2 Do you have _____ brothers or sisters?
- 3 Would you like _____ sugar?

Now complete the rules. Use *some* or *any*.

- a. In positive sentences, we use _____ before uncountable nouns and plural countable nouns.
- b. In negative sentences and questions, we use _____ before uncountable nouns and plural countable nouns.
- c. In requests, even though they may have a question form, we use _____ before uncountable nouns and plural countable nouns.

2 Complete the sentences with *much, many, or a lot (of)*.

- 1 There are _____ people here.
- 2 Patrick didn't have _____ time.
- 3 We haven't seen _____ places yet.
- 4 There wasn't _____ point in hanging around.
- 5 Gary doesn't seem to have _____ friends, but his brother has _____.
- 6 The tourist office didn't have _____ information to give us.

Now complete the rules. Use *much, many, or a lot (of)*.

- a. In positive sentences, we use _____ before uncountable nouns and plural countable nouns.
- b. In negative sentences and questions, we use _____ before uncountable nouns and _____ before plural countable nouns. However, it is possible to use _____.

3 Complete the sentences with *little, few, a little or a few*.

- 1 Well, I've got _____ time to spare. Shall we go out and grab a coffee?
- 2 There were _____ people at the party, so it was rather boring. We left early.
- 3 Would you mind if I asked you _____ questions?
- 4 Jon seems to have very _____ luck. Nothing ever goes right for him.
- 5 As there were only _____ items on the agenda, we finished the meeting early.
- 6 Come on, hurry up. I've got _____ time to spare.
- 7 Frankly, there were only _____ places left, so we would never have got in even if we'd called earlier.
- 8 We've been back to Turkey _____ times now, and we always enjoy it.

Now complete the rules. Use *little, few, a little or a few*.

- a. We use _____ and _____ before uncountable nouns.
- b. We use _____ and _____ before plural countable nouns.
- c. _____ and _____ express a positive idea, whereas _____ and _____ express a negative idea.
- d. We say *very* _____ and *very* _____, but *only* _____ and *only* _____.

What to expect in the exam

Part 1 of the Use of English Paper focuses mainly on vocabulary. You need to know the meaning, grammar and collocations of a word. This is an area of the exam where the use of expressions of quantity might be checked. Try the extract from part 1 of the exam below.

Part 1

For questions 1-6, read the text below and decide which answer A, B, C or D best fits each space. There is an example at the beginning (0).

Example: A number B few C quantity D several

The meeting

We were surprised that quite a (0) _____ people turned up at the meeting. We knew that there were a (1) _____ people opposed to foxhunting in the village, but we didn't think that (2) _____ would be prepared to come out on a cold, wet Wednesday evening. Walter spoke for a (3) _____ moments about what the committee had been doing during the past month, then we asked whether there were (4) _____ questions from the audience. A young man, who was sitting (5) _____ seats back from the front, pushed his chair back, stood up, and said that there was very (6) _____ point in having meetings if (7) _____ was prepared to take (8) _____ sort of action.

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|---|---|----------|---|----------|---|----------|---|----------|
| 1 | A | lot of | B | many | C | few | D | little |
| 2 | A | much | B | lot | C | many | D | lot of |
| 3 | A | little | B | several | C | few | D | some |
| 4 | A | a | B | any | C | much | D | a lot of |
| 5 | A | a number | B | a little | C | a number | D | a few |
| 6 | A | few | B | small | C | little | D | minor |
| 7 | A | someone | B | everyone | C | anyone | D | no-one |
| 8 | A | any | B | many | C | a lot of | D | several |

Teacher's notes and answer key

Ready for use of English worksheets focus on particular areas of vocabulary and grammar that may be tested in the FCE examination. They provide extension and/or extra practice of areas covered in the Ready for First Certificate Coursebook. They are designed to be used in class or as homework.

Grammar: *some, any, much many, little, few, and a lot*

Answers

1

- 1 I wanted to buy *some* biscuits, but I didn't have *any* money, so I went home to get *some*.
- 2 Do you have *any* brothers or sisters?
- 3 Would you like *some* sugar?

- a. In positive sentences, we use *some* before uncountable nouns and plural countable nouns.
- b. In negative sentences and questions, we use *any* before uncountable nouns and plural countable nouns.
- c. In requests, even though they may have a question form, we use *some* before uncountable nouns and plural countable nouns.

2

- 1 There are *a lot of* people here. (*many* is possible)
- 2 Patrick didn't have *much* time.
- 3 We haven't seen *many* places yet. (*a lot of* is possible)
- 4 There wasn't *much* point in hanging around.
- 5 Gary doesn't seem to have *many* friends, but his brother has *a lot*.
- 6 The tourist office didn't have *much* information to give us.

- a. In positive sentences, we use *a lot of* before uncountable nouns and plural countable nouns.
- b. In negative sentences and questions, we use *much* before uncountable nouns and *many* before plural countable nouns. However, it is possible to use *a lot (of)*.

3

- 1 Well, I've got *a little* time to spare. Shall we go out and grab a coffee?
- 2 There were *few* people at the party, so it was rather boring. We left early.
- 3 Would you mind if I asked you *a few* questions?
- 4 Jon seems to have very *little* luck. Nothing ever goes right for him.
- 5 As there were only *a few* items on the agenda, we finished the meeting early.
- 6 Come on, hurry up. I've got *little* time to spare.
- 7 Frankly, there were only *a few* places left, so we would never have got in even if we'd called earlier.
- 8 We've been back to Turkey *a few* times now, and we always enjoy it.

- a. We use *little* and *a little* before uncountable nouns.
- b. We use *few* and *a few* before plural countable nouns.
- c. *A little* and *a few* express a positive idea, whereas *little* and *few* express a negative idea.
- d. We say *very little* and *very few*, but *only a little* and *only a few*.

What to expect in the exam

- | | | | | | |
|---|---|--------|---|---|--------|
| 1 | A | lot | 2 | C | many |
| 3 | C | few | 4 | B | any |
| 5 | D | a few | 6 | C | little |
| 7 | D | no-one | 8 | A | any |