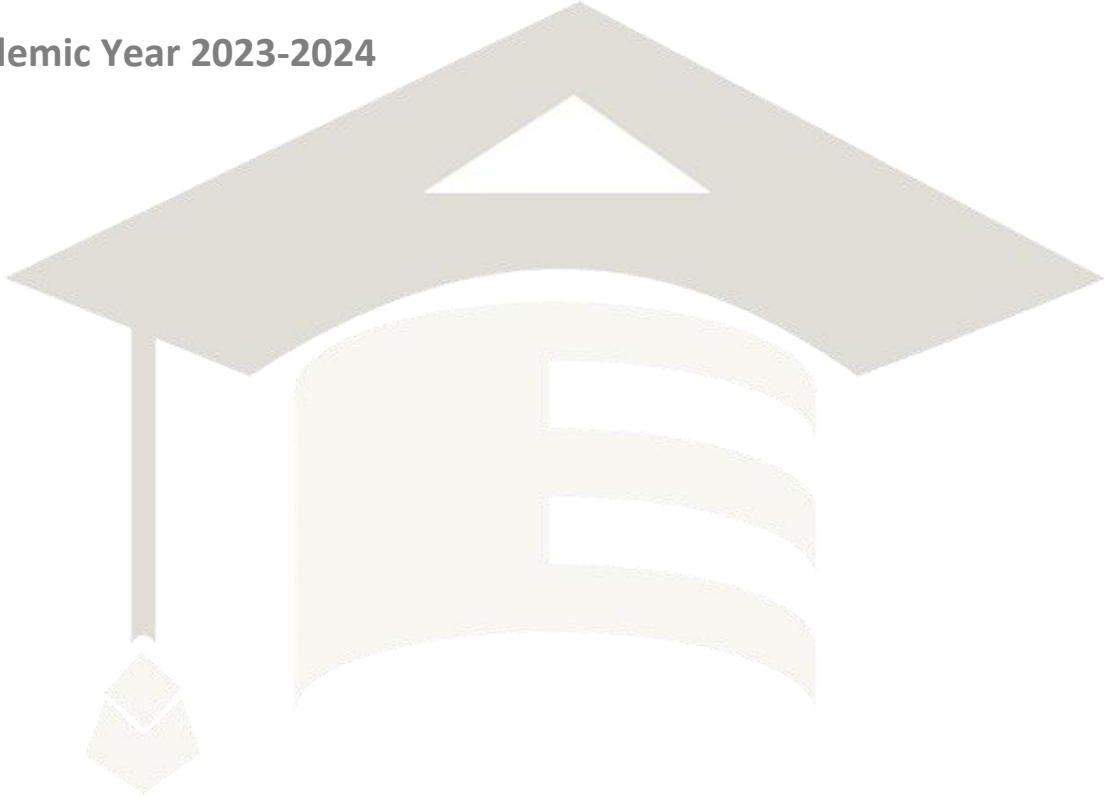


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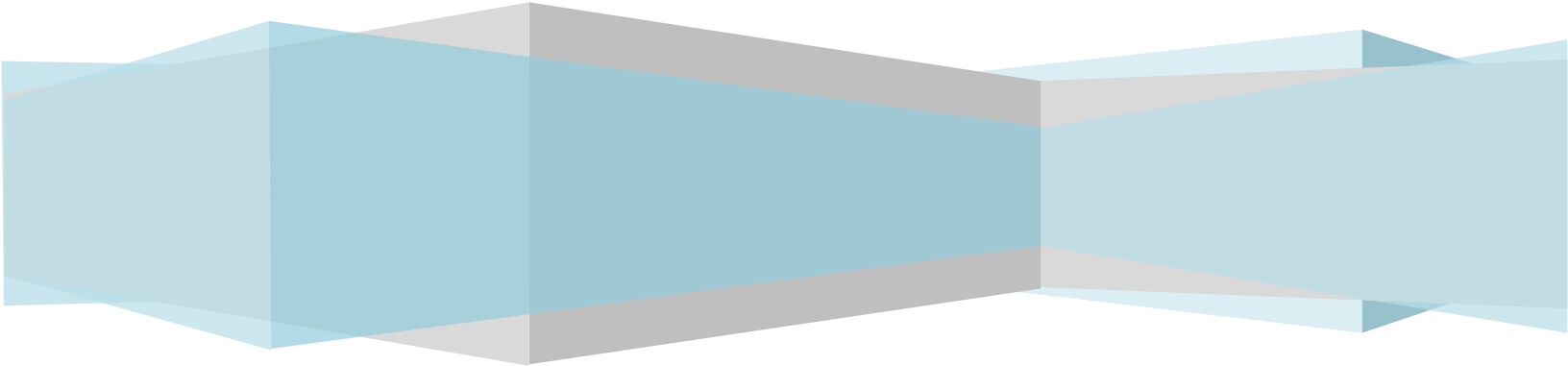
Language 03

Count and Mass Nouns

Academic Year 2023-2024



Academ-e



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OBJECTIVES

- ❖ Explain the difference between count and mass nouns
- ❖ Provide examples of mass and count nouns
- ❖ Use articles *a* and *an* with count nouns
- ❖ Identify units of measurement for mass nouns

LESSON PREREQUISITES

Nouns

Common and Proper Nouns

LESSON PROPER

Review of Nouns

Nouns are names of people, places, things, animals, and events. They can be classified as **count** or **mass**.

Examples:

People - nurse



Places - cinema



Things - coffee



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Animals - parrot



Events - party



Count Nouns

Count nouns are nouns that can be quantified by placing either a number or the articles *a* or *an* before them. They also have a plural form.

Examples:

Singular	Plural
an uncle	uncles
a park	parks
one mall	two malls

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Using A or An with Count Nouns

To know when to use the article *a* or *an* before a count noun, listen to the sound of the first letter of a word.

If a count noun begins with a vowel sound, use *an*.

Examples:

an ax

an elephant

an ice cube

an ostrich

an umbrella

If a count noun starts with a consonant sound, use *a*.

Examples:

a rock

a biscuit

a cup

a baby

a shirt

Remember:

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The letter *u* sounds like the letter *y* sometimes, just like in the word university. In this case, you have to use *a*. You say “a university,” not “an university.”

Mass Nouns

Mass nouns are nouns that cannot be quantified by placing either a number or the articles *a* or *an* before them.

They do not have a plural form as they are considered as one group, quantity, mass, or volume.

To quantify them, you have to use counters or units of measurement.

Examples:

ice cream



salt



sugar



tea



sauce



Using Counters and Units of Measurement for Mass Nouns

Let us use some of the given examples of mass nouns in sentences. Take note of the counters and the units of measurement used to quantify them. The counters and units of measurement are in **boldface** whereas the mass nouns are underlined.

Examples:



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My sisters and I were able to finish a **tub** of ice cream.

In this sentence, the **counter** "tub" is used to quantify the **mass noun** "ice cream."



I need to buy a **kilo** of sugar for my baking class tomorrow.

In this sentence, the **unit of measurement** "kilo" is used to quantify the **mass noun** "sugar."

Other Examples of Counters and Units of Measurement

jug cup tablespoon box carton
meter foot inch liter gram

Remember:

The letter **u** sounds like the letter **y** sometimes, just like in the word university. In this case, you have to use the article **a**. You say "a university," not "an university."

Examples:

a pinch of salt

two kilos of rice