

Exercises

39.1 Each pair of words contains one countable and one uncountable noun. Write *a/an* or *some* before each word.

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|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 <u>a</u> bag | <u>some</u> luggage |
| 2 _____ accommodation | _____ hotel |
| 3 _____ furniture | _____ office chair |
| 4 _____ job | _____ work |
| 5 _____ machine | _____ machinery |
| 6 _____ trouble | _____ problem |
| 7 _____ wine | _____ litre |
| 8 _____ email | _____ correspondence |
| 9 _____ money | _____ dollar |
| 10 _____ information | _____ fact |
| 11 _____ suggestion | _____ advice |
| 12 _____ week | _____ time |



"We have lots of information technology. We just don't have any information."

39.2 Complete each sentence with *is* or *are*.

- 1 Here _____ the report on inventory levels in the warehouse.
- 2 Here _____ the figures for inventory levels in the warehouse.
- 3 Here _____ the information about inventory levels in the warehouse.
- 4 A lot of our computers _____ already out-of-date.
- 5 A lot of our hardware _____ already out-of-date.
- 6 They unloaded the plane quickly – our luggage _____ already on the belt.
- 7 They unloaded the plane quickly – our bags _____ already on the belt.

14 39.3 Underline the correct words.

Nanotechnology

small scale, big potential

Nanotechnology is the branch of engineering that deals with individual molecules. There has been (1) *many/much* progress over recent years in the (2) *many/much* laboratories involved in this research. In the US, a lot of government money (3) *are/is* available through the National Nanotechnology Initiative, and millions of dollars (4) *are/is* also being spent in the private sector. The University of Rochester is a leader in the field: they are doing (5) *an/some* interesting

research where they are trying to treat diseased cells at the genetic level. Of course, there are (6) *a little/a few* problems in this area of science and it will take (7) *a little/a few* time before all the difficulties are overcome. In particular, (8) *much/many* people (9) *is/are* worried by safety issues, and it is crucial that governments provide (10) *a/some* detailed advice in this area.

Exercises

40.1 Underline the correct words.

- 1 I'm going to leave my job and start a business/business designing websites.
- 2 A business/Business has improved since we moved to a more central location.
- 3 Thanks for your help. I'll leave now; I know you have a work/work to do.
- 4 I bought her a poster from the art gallery – a work/work by Picasso.
- 5 A life/Life can be very complicated sometimes.
- 6 He had a life/life that was long and happy.
- 7 In this job, an experience/experience is more important than qualifications.
- 8 Visiting the Taj Mahal was an experience/experience that I'll never forget.
- 9 Do you want to try some of this wine? I'll ask the waiter for a glass/glass.
- 10 Bottles and jars made from a glass/glass are better for recycling.

40.2 In each space write either *is*, or *are*, or *is/are* (if both are possible).

- 1 Senior managers are doing everything possible to improve profits.
- 2 The management is/are doing everything possible to improve profits.
- 3 Our Production Director is very concerned about lay-offs at the factory.
- 4 The union is very concerned about lay-offs at the factory.
- 5 The team is working very well together.
- 6 The team members are working very well together.

40.3 Complete each sentence 1–6 with the correct ending a)–f).

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| 1 2 slices of | <input type="checkbox"/> | a) oil lie under the sea, but it's difficult to extract. |
| 2 1 trillion barrels of | <input type="checkbox"/> | b) tequila, the Mexican drink, have a worm inside. |
| 3 Many sheets of | <input type="checkbox"/> | c) pie is not a good idea if you're on a diet. |
| 4 18 million kilos of | <input type="checkbox"/> | d) paper can be saved by making double-sided photocopies. |
| 5 Most bottles of | <input type="checkbox"/> | e) water a day are necessary for a person's well-being. |
| 6 2 litres of | <input type="checkbox"/> | f) fish are farmed in Finland every year, mainly trout. |

15 40.4 Complete the text with these words: *fish, a fish, glass, a glass, iron, an iron, paper, a paper, wood, a wood*.

Is a glass made of glass? Is an iron made of iron?

In the morning you put some orange juice in
(1) a glass made of (2) _____ and
read (3) _____ made of (4) _____ .
The paper, in turn, is made from (5) _____
that comes from (6) _____ (or a forest).
But these days (7) _____ for pressing your

clothes is not actually made of (8) _____ .
And when a friend asks you in a restaurant:
'Do you like (9) _____?', remember that
they aren't asking about (10) _____ you
know personally, like your pet goldfish.