

## Exercises

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

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 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- 4 A lot of our computers \_\_\_\_\_ already out-of-date.
- 5 A lot of our hardware \_\_\_\_\_ already out-of-date.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) glass and  
read (3) a paper made of (4) paper.  
The paper, in turn, is made from (5) wood  
that comes from (6) a tree (or a forest).  
But these days (7) iron for pressing your

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