Exercises

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

1	*a* bag	*some* 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4 A lot of our computers _____ already out-of-date.
5 A lot of our hardware _____ already out-of-date.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.

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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.

Exersises

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 _____ very concerned about lay-offs at the factory.
4 The union _____ very concerned about lay-offs at the factory.
5 The team _____ working very well together.
6 The team members _____ working very well together.

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

1	2 slices of	☐	a) oil lie under the sea, but it's difficult to extract.
2	1 trillion barrels of	☐	b) tequila, the Mexican drink, have a worm inside.
3	Many sheets of	☐	c) pie is not a good idea if you're on a diet.
4	18 million kilos of	☐	d) paper can be saved by making double-sided photocopies.
5	Most bottles of	☐	e) water a day are necessary for a person's well-being.
6	2 litres of	☐	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.