

Top 10 ESL Mistakes for Countable vs Uncountable Nouns

Countable	Countable Example	Uncountable	Uncountable Example
chair/table/desk/bed	The furnished apartment included a bed, a dining table, several chairs and two desks.	<i>furniture</i>	<i>The furnished apartment included 12 pieces of furniture.</i>
machine/computer/printer/lathe	My home office has two computers and a printer connected on a network.	<i>equipment</i>	<i>Last year I purchased several pieces of equipment for my home office.</i>
suitcase/duffle bag/backpack	The airline will let you carry on just one small suitcase and a backpack or handbag and there is a charge now to check a suitcase or duffle bag.	<i>luggage/ baggage</i>	<i>I bought two small pieces of luggage that I could carry on the plane.</i>
dollar/euro/yen/pound/peso	The spot rate to exchange dollars for Euros is better than the actual exchange rate you will get.	<i>money</i>	<i>Be sure to bring a lot of money in cash to exchange for the local currency when you travel.</i>
suggestion/recommendation	The counselor gave Eduardo many suggestions and recommendations to help him plan his academic career.	<i>advice</i>	<i>The counselor gave Eduardo several pieces of excellent advice when he was enrolled as an exchange student.</i>
item/fact/date	You have left out several items and dates on your application form.	<i>information</i>	<i>You have left out several pieces of information on your application form.</i>
citation/source/quote/note	Make sure your paper includes all your sources and citations for your quotes.	<i>research</i>	<i>Make sure your paper includes all the details of your research.</i>
job/task/title/project	Her resume listed several jobs and many projects over the past few years.	<i>work</i>	<i>Her resume showed her work history over the past few years.</i>
point/topic/aspect	His resume indicated that he knew about many current topics in biotech.	<i>knowledge/ expertise</i>	<i>His resume indicated that he had much knowledge about (expertise in) biotech.</i>
level/achievement/accomplishment	After all the hours you have put into studying English I can see you have gone up by at least two levels!	<i>progress</i>	<i>After all the hours you have put into studying English I can see you have made a lot of progress!</i>

This worksheet was prepared by Charles Fischer for B.E.S.T. at best4edu.com