



Uncountable Nouns

This is a list of the most common uncountable nouns in English. This is not an entire list as there are numerous uncountable nouns, but this is a starter to help you understand the topic more thoroughly.

Word	Definition and Example Sentence
advertising	The job of creating and distributing adverts Advertising is a fun industry to work in
air	The combination of gases that surround Earth We breathe air every day <i>Most gases are uncountable</i>
aid	Help We must give aid to those who need it
advice	Offering an opinion or information to help somebody make a decision My sister always offers me good advice
age	The amount of years of something The age of this whisky is 15 years old
alcohol	A liquid with a high level of ethanol You cannot drink alcohol in this area, sorry <i>Most liquids are uncountable</i>

Word	Definition and Example Sentence
athletics	<p>A sport that includes running, jumping and throwing</p> <p>My sister is a champion in athletics</p> <p>Numerous activities, such as athletics and gymnastics ending in an S are uncountable</p>
bacon	<p>A thin slice of meat made from a pig</p> <p>I love eating bacon with eggs in the morning</p>
blood	<p>The liquid found inside the body that appears red</p> <p>I faint when I see blood</p>
bread	<p>A food made by dough</p> <p>I have bread in my sandwiches for lunch every day</p>
butter	<p>A fatty food that is yellow/white used for cooking</p> <p>To bake a cake you need to add butter to the other ingredients</p>
cardboard	<p>A solid material made from numerous layers of paper. It is normally brown.</p> <p>Can you recycle cardboard?</p>
cash	<p>Money in coins or notes</p> <p>I don't have any cash on me</p>
cheese	<p>A dairy food that is normally yellow/white</p> <p>I love melted cheese on toast</p>
clothing	<p>The collection of items you wear on your body such as dresses and trousers</p> <p>My clothing is very expensive</p>
currency	<p>The money used in a country, such as the euro or pound sterling</p> <p>We need to get some Euro currency for our holiday in France</p>
damage	<p>Making something less valuable or useful</p> <p>The damage that the storm did was terrible!</p>

Word	Definition and Example Sentence
darkness	The noun of having no light <i>I feel a darkness in this room</i>
darts	A sport where you throw a small object at a circular board to achieve certain points <i>I enjoy playing darts</i> Numerous games, such as darts, cards and billiards ending in an S are uncountable
economics	The knowledge of how products and services are bought and sold <i>I studied economics at university.</i> Numerous subjects of study, such as economics, maths and physics ending in an S are uncountable
education	The process of being at an institution that teaches you <i>Education is very important from an early stage in life</i>
electricity	Energy caused by moving electrons <i>We can't live in the 21st Century without electricity</i>
employment	The act of having a job <i>There is very high employment in our country</i>
energy	The power needed to do something <i>Children have so much energy!</i>
environment	The things around you <i>The environment in my office is a bit tense</i>
equipment	Additional things used to help you with something <i>Equipment for tennis includes a racket, a ball and a net</i>
evidence	Information or objects that prove something <i>There was no evidence to prove he was the killer</i>

Word	Definition and Example Sentence
fame	Being famous <i>They say that fame can destroy people</i>
fire	Flames and heat <i>Firemen have to put out fire</i>
flour	A white powder made from wheat and used for cooking <i>To make dough, you need to add flour to the other ingredients</i>
food	Anything that can be eaten for nutrients <i>We need food to survive</i>
freedom	The ability to be free with no restrictions or limitations <i>The prisoners should be given freedom</i>
friendship	The act of being a friend to somebody <i>They should teach you the importance of friendship at school</i>
fruit	The part of a plant that you can eat e.g. apple, banana, pear <i>My favourite fruit is raspberries</i>
fuel	A black liquid needed to provide energy <i>We need some more fuel for the car</i>
furniture	Objects around the house <i>I bought some new furniture for my bedroom</i>
gold	A metal material that is very valuable <i>There are many people who mine for gold</i>
happiness	The act of being happy and cheerful <i>We should all have some happiness in our lives</i>

Word	Definition and Example Sentence
harm	To be injured or hurt No harm was done even though he fell down the stairs
health	The condition of a human body Our health is very important to live a long life
help	The act of assisting somebody who needs it I offered my help to the man who fell over
history	Something that happened in the past Have you ever learned about the history of your country?
homework	Additional work given to students from an educational institution I have so much homework to do!
honesty	The act of saying something truthful Honesty is an important quality for our employees
housework	Doing jobs in the house to maintain a good condition I have no time to do housework with my full-time job
importance	The quality of being important and have meaning I don't think you understand the importance of this presentation
information	Knowledge and facts Where can we get some information about this city?
knowledge	An understanding of something To the best of my knowledge, she lives in Germany now
labour	The act of working It took 4 hours of labour to complete this essay

Word	Definition and Example Sentence
<i>litter</i>	Rubbish <i>Please don't leave litter on the grass</i>
<i>luck</i>	Things happening by chance <i>She has such good luck in life</i>
<i>marriage</i>	The legal/religious confirmation of a relationship <i>Our marriage has lasted 25 years so far</i>
<i>measles</i>	A disease that causes red spots on the skin and a high temperature <i>I think my son has the measles</i> Numerous diseases, such as measles, mumps and rabies ending in an S are uncountable
<i>meat</i>	Animals used as food for humans <i>The butchers sell meat</i>
<i>milk</i>	A dairy liquid, normally white, used for cooking and drinking <i>I always have milk with my cereal in the morning</i>
<i>money</i>	Coins and notes used to buy things <i>I don't have a lot of money at the moment</i>
<i>music</i>	Sounds and tunes with a certain rhythm <i>I always listen to music when I'm working</i>
<i>news</i>	New information about something happening in the world <i>She watches the news at 10pm before bed</i>
<i>obesity</i>	Being fat at an unhealthy level <i>The level of obesity in our country is astonishing!</i>
<i>oil</i>	A thick liquid e.g. cooking, cleaning <i>I always use olive oil to make a salad dressing</i>

Word	Definition and Example Sentence
oxygen	The invisible gas that humans and animals need to breathe to survive Oxygen is key to life for humans
pollution	The act of destroying the planet Pollution has become worse and worse over the past few years
poverty	Not having any resources such as money, food or water Countries with high levels of poverty include South Africa and Honduras
power	Control over other people My boss likes being in power
progress	Improving something Your daughter has made a lot of progress in English at school
pronunciation	Saying sounds and words correctly English pronunciation is very difficult for learners
punctuation	The use of commas, apostrophes, full stops and other tools for writing His punctuation is very bad in this email
racism	Being offensive to somebody because of their cultural background Luckily, there is less racism now than 100 years ago
rain	Water falling from the sky There is a lot of rain in the United Kingdom
research	Finding new information about something The research into the way the brain works is very interesting
rice	A type of food. It is a grain and usually white and grows in Asian countries I had rice with chicken for dinner last night

Word	Definition and Example Sentence
salt	A white powder used to add flavour to food or to preserve food <i>I like adding salt and pepper to my dinner</i>
sand	Small grains of rock found on a beach. It is normally gold/brown in colour <i>I always build sandcastles with the sand at the beach</i>
seafood	Food that is grown in the sea such as fish, shrimp, octopus <i>My grandmother cooks seafood very well</i>
shopping	The act of going to a shop and buying something <i>I hate shopping with my mother!</i>
snow	A white powder that falls from the sky in cold conditions <i>The United Kingdom looks beautiful with all the snow in the fields</i>
soup	A flavoured liquid normally eaten as a starter or for a small meal <i>I like tomato soup the most</i>
speed	The act of moving slowly or quickly <i>I think the speed should be 30mph here</i>
stress	Feeling overwhelmed at the thought of doing something <i>There is too much stress in the workplace now</i>
sugar	A sweet grain that is grown from a sugar cane and is usually white <i>I usually have sugar in my coffee</i>
tennis	A sport where you hit a ball from one side to another without hitting a net in the centre and keeping it inside the court <i>The sportsmen and women play tennis at Wimbledon</i>
traffic	Vehicles on roads <i>The traffic in this city is awful!</i>

Word	Definition and Example Sentence
travel	Movement to a different location <i>I had a fantastic travel to York</i>
unemployment	Not having a job <i>There is very little unemployment in my country</i>
violence	Doing something physical to hurt somebody <i>There is too much violence amongst young people</i>
water	A clear liquid found, for example, in the sea <i>Humans need water to survive</i>
wealth	Having sufficient or too many resources, such as money, clothes and food <i>Wealth is an interesting topic to study</i>
weather	The climate outside e.g. sunny, cold, rainy, windy, snowy <i>The weather is always changing here</i>
wildlife	Animals that live without interference from humans <i>There is so much wildlife at the park in our town</i>
wisdom	Having a lot of information and knowledge about something <i>They always say that grandparents pass their wisdom onto their grandchildren</i>
yoga	A relaxing sport that focuses on stretching the muscles and breathing technique <i>I go to yoga every Thursday morning</i>