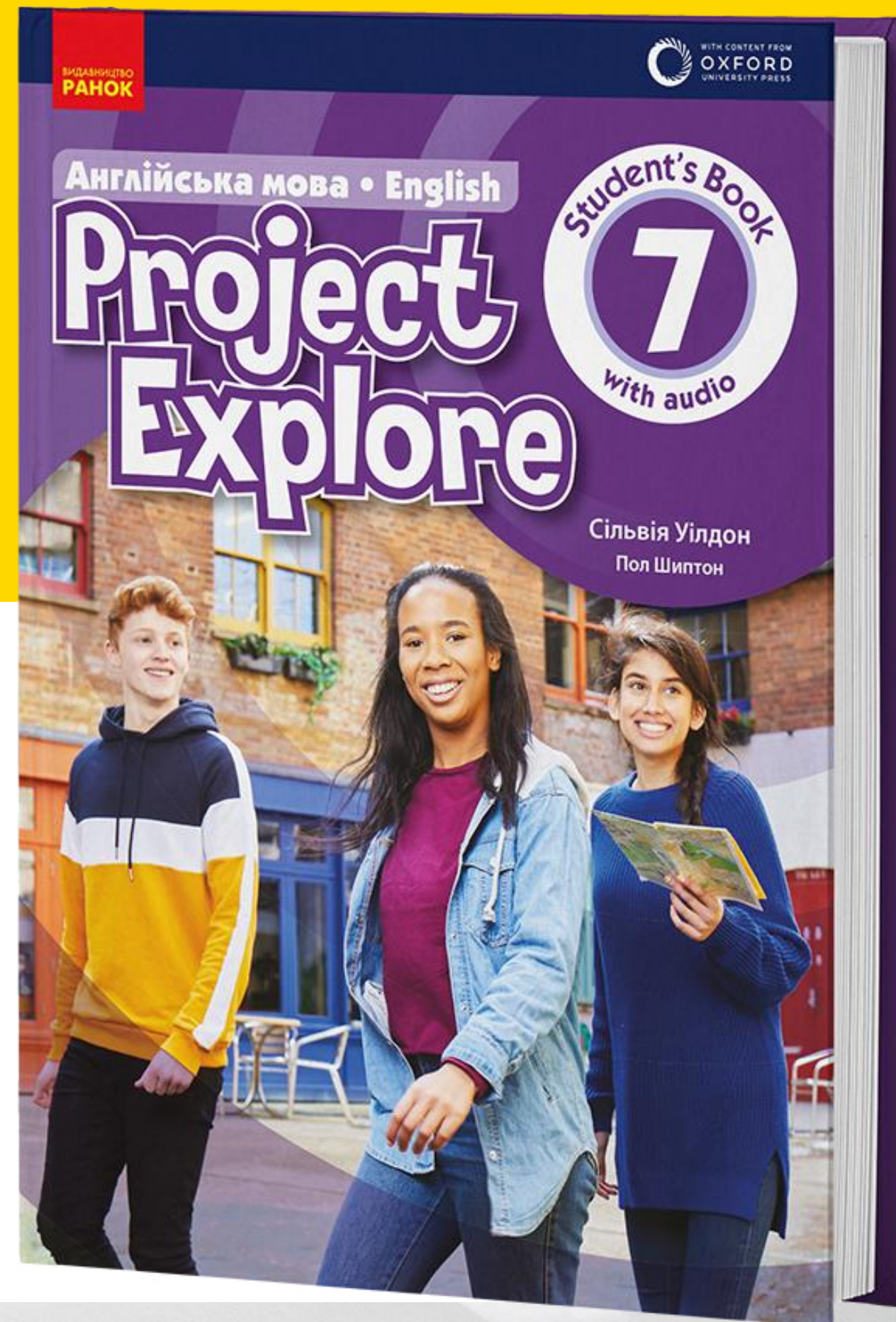


ВИДАВНИЦТВО  
**РАНОК**

## Unit 4. It's a mystery

(add to p. 56 4C)

**COUNTABLE AND  
UNCOUNTABLE NOUNS:  
A FEW AND A LITTLE**





# Nouns



## Countable

Countable nouns can be counted, e.g. an apple, two apples, three apples, etc.



## Uncountable

Uncountable nouns cannot be counted, e.g. air, rice, water, etc.

**When you learn a new noun, you should check if it is countable or uncountable and note how it is used in a sentence.**

# Countable nouns



## Positive sentences

For positive sentences we can use a/an for singular nouns or some for plurals.

### EXAMPLE

*There's a man at the door.  
I have some friends in New York.*



## Negative sentences

For negatives we can use a/an for singular nouns or any for plurals.

### EXAMPLE

*I don't have a dog.  
There aren't any seats.*



# Uncountable nouns

Here are some examples of uncountable nouns:

bread

rice

coffee

information

money

advice

EXAMPLE



# Uncountable nouns

**We use**



***some* with uncountable nouns in positive sentences**



***any* with negatives**

EXAMPLE

*There's some milk in the fridge.*



EXAMPLE

*There isn't any coffee.*



# Questions

*In questions we use **a/an**, **any** or **how many** with **countable nouns**.*

EXAMPLE

Is there **an** email address to write to?

Are there **any** chairs?

**How many** chairs are there?



*And we use **any** or **how much** with **uncountable nouns**.*

EXAMPLE

Is there **any** sugar?

**How much** orange juice is there?

# Questions

***But when we are offering something or asking for something, we normally use **some**.***

EXAMPLE

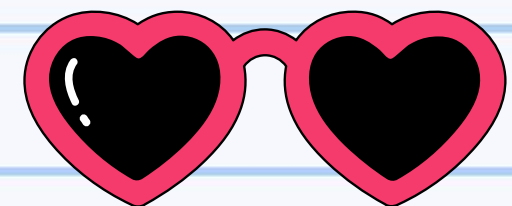
Do you want **some** chocolate?

Can we have **some** more chairs, please?

***We also use **some** in a question when we think the answer will be 'yes'.***

EXAMPLE

Have you got **some** new glasses?



## Other expressions of quantity

*A lot of (or lots of) can be used with both **countable** and **uncountable nouns**.*

EXAMPLE

There are **lots of** apples on the trees.

There is **a lot of** snow on the road.

*Notice that we don't usually use **many** or **much** in **positive sentences**. We use **a lot of** instead.*

EXAMPLE

They have a **lot of** money.





## Other expressions of quantity

However, in **negative sentences** we use **not many** with **countable nouns** and **not much** with **uncountable nouns**.

EXAMPLE

There are a lot of carrots but there **aren't many** potatoes.

There's lots of juice but there **isn't much** water.

ENGLISH

## Try this exercise to test your grammar

### Complete the sentences.

1. We didn't have\_\_\_\_problems.
2. Do you want\_\_\_\_chocolate?
3. How\_\_\_\_people have sent you email?
4. I need\_\_\_\_information about train times.
5. We've got a\_\_\_\_of luggage.



# What`s the difference?



## A few

Not many, some  
We use a **A FEW**  
with **countable**  
**nouns** in the plural.

EXAMPLE

*We`ve got a few  
apples.*

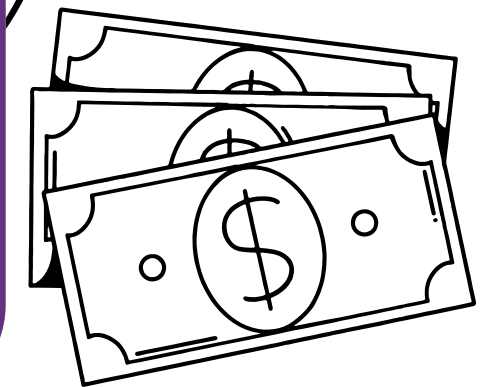


## A little

Not much, some  
We use a **A LITTLE**  
with **uncountable**  
**nouns**.

EXAMPLE

*We`ve only got a  
little money.*



## Try this exercise to test your grammar

**Complete the sentences with *a little* or *a few*.**

1. I've got... money. Let's have coffee.
2. I've got... stamps that you can use.
3. I've got... time. Do you want to talk?
4. She can speak ... Spanish.
5. I write ... letters every week.





## Try this exercise to test your grammar

Fill in **much**, **many**, **(a) little** or **(a) few**.

Billy needs to buy a lot of things but he hasn't got

1) \_\_\_\_\_ money. He has some money to buy

2) \_\_\_\_\_ bread, 3) \_\_\_\_\_ cheese and 4) \_\_\_\_\_ eggs.

There isn't 5) \_\_\_\_\_ milk left in the fridge and there is

very 6) \_\_\_\_\_ tea. Luckily, there are still 7) \_\_\_\_\_ tins of food in

the cupboard, but not 8) \_\_\_\_\_.

## Try this exercise to test your grammar

Choose the correct item A, B or C.

1. There are \_\_\_ books on the shelf.

**A) much B) little C) a lot of**

2. There isn't \_\_\_ petrol in the car.

**A) much B) many C) few**

3. How \_\_\_ cousins have you got?

**A) much B) many C) too many**

4. I can't go out with you today. I've got \_\_\_ work to do.

**A) many B) too many C) much**