

a cake / some cake / some cakes
(count/noncount 2)

A

a/an and some

a/an + singular count nouns (car/apple/shoe, etc.):

- ☐ I need **a** new **car**.
- ☐ Would you like **an** **apple**?

some + plural count nouns (cars/apples/shoes, etc.):

- ☐ I need **some** new **shoes**.
- ☐ Would you like **some** **apples**?

some + noncount nouns (water/money/music, etc.):

- ☐ I need **some** **water**.
- ☐ Would you like **some** **cheese**?
(or Would you like **a piece of** cheese?)



an apple



some apples

some cheese or
a piece of cheeseCompare **a** and **some**:

- ☐ Nicole bought **a** **hat**, **some** **shoes**, and **some** **perfume**.
- ☐ I read **a** **newspaper**, made **some** **phone calls**, and listened to **some** **music**.

B

Many nouns are sometimes count and sometimes noncount. For example:



a cake



some cakes



some cake or a piece of cake



a chicken



some chickens



some chicken or a piece of chicken

Compare **a paper** (= a newspaper) and **some paper**:

- ☐ I want something to read. I'm going to buy **a paper**.
- but ☐ I want to make a shopping list. I need **some paper** / **a piece of paper**. (not a paper)

C

Be careful with:

advice bread furniture hair information news weather work

These nouns are usually noncount. So you can't say **a/an** ... (~~a bread~~, ~~an advice~~), and they can't be plural (~~advices~~, ~~furnitures~~, etc.).

- ☐ Can I talk to you? I need **some advice**. (not an advice)
- ☐ I'm going to buy **some bread**. (not a bread)
- ☐ They've got **some** nice **furniture** in their house. (not furnitures)
- ☐ Lauren has very long **hair**. (not hairs)
- ☐ Where can I get **some information** about hotels in Mexico City? (not informations)
- ☐ Listen! I've got **some** good **news**. (not a good news)
- ☐ It's nice **weather** today. (not a nice weather)
- ☐ "Do you like your job?" "Yes, but it's hard **work**." (not a hard work)

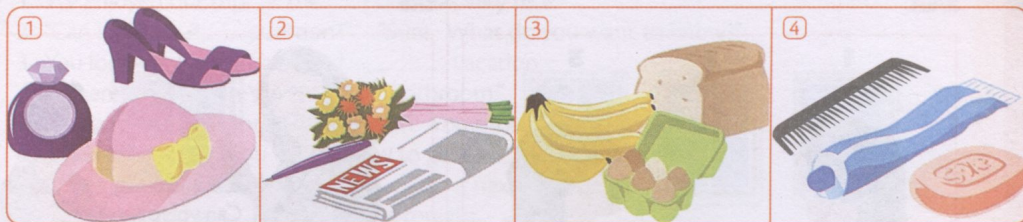
We say **a job** (but not a work):

- ☐ I've got **a** new **job**. (not a new work)

Exercises

Unit
66

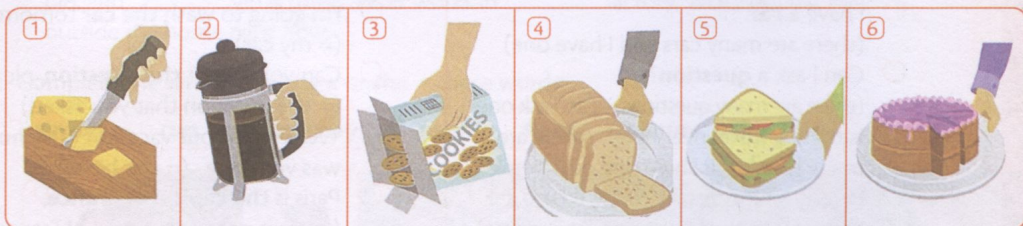
66.1 What can you see in these pictures? Use **a** or **some**.



1 some perfume, a hat, and some shoes

2
3
4

66.2 Write sentences with **Would you like a ... ?** or **Would you like some ... ?**



1 Would you like some cheese ? 4
2 Would you like ? 5
3 Would ? 6

66.3 Write **a/an** or **some**.

1 I read a book and listened to some music.
2 I need some money. I want to buy some food.
3 We met some interesting people at the party.
4 I'm going to open a window to get some fresh air.
5 Rachel didn't eat much for lunch – only a apple and a bread.
6 We live in a big house. There's a nice yard with some beautiful trees.
7 I'm going to make a table. First I need some wood.
8 Listen to me carefully. I'm going to give you a advice.
9 I want to make a list of things to do. I need a paper and a pen.

66.4 Which is right?

1 I'm going to buy some new shoe/shoes. (shoes is right)
2 Dan has brown eye/eyes.
3 Sofia has short black hair/hairs.
4 The tour guide gave us some information/informations about the city.
5 We're going to buy some new chair/chairs.
6 We're going to buy some new furniture/furnitures.
7 It's hard to find a work/job these days.
8 We had wonderful weather / a wonderful weather when we were on vacation.