Quantifiers

Quantifiers are words or phrases that help us express the quantity or extent of something. They provide information about whether something is singular or plural, and they can also indicate an approximate or specific amount.

Definite Quantifiers:

- **All:** Refers to the entire group or total number, leaving none out. It emphasises inclusiveness. Example: "All students attended the workshop."
- **Every:** Refers to each individual item in a group. It highlights the distribution of a quality across the entire group. Example: "Every book on the shelf is valuable."

Indefinite Quantifiers:

- **Some:** Refers to an unspecified quantity greater than zero. It can be used in positive statements, questions, and offers. Example: "Some people enjoy skiing."
- **Any:** Refers to an unspecified quantity and is often used in questions, negatives, and conditional sentences. Example: "Do you have any ideas?"
- **Many:** Refers to a large and non-specific number. Example: "Many birds can be seen in the park."
- **Few:** Refers to a small number. It implies scarcity or a smaller amount than expected. Example: "Few people attended the meeting."
- **Several:** Refers to an unspecified number more than a few but not many. Example: "I've read several books this month."

Quantifiers of Approximate Quantity:

- **Most:** Refers to the majority or the greatest part of a group. It implies a high percentage. Example: "Most of the cake was eaten."
- **A lot (of):** Refers to a significant quantity. It emphasizes a substantial amount. Example: "She has a lot of experience."
- **Plenty (of):** Refers to a sufficient or more than enough quantity. It conveys abundance. **Example:** "There's plenty of time to finish the project."

Quantifiers of Exact Quantity:

- **None:** Refers to zero quantity. It indicates the absence of something. Example: "None of the students arrived late."
- **All:** Refers to the entire quantity. It emphasizes completeness. Example: "All the guests are here."
- **Half:** Refers to exactly 50% of the quantity. Example: "Half of the team is going to the conference."
- **Quarter:** Refers to exactly 25% of the quantity. Example: "A quarter of the cake is left."



Remember these important points about quantifiers:

- Quantifiers are often followed by nouns, both countable (e.g., "books") and uncountable (e.g., "water").
- The choice of quantifier can affect the verb and pronoun agreement. For instance, "All the team members are" vs "All the work is."
- Some quantifiers can be used with both countable and uncountable nouns, but others are specific to one type.

Quantifiers exercise 1:

Choose the correct answer

1. There are _____ apples in the basket.
a) much
b) any
c) some

2. How _____ sugar do you take in your tea?
a) much
b) any
c) many

3. _____ of the students passed the exam.
a) several
b) much
c) any

4. There's _____ traffic on the highway during rush hour.
a) a little
b) few
c) a few

5. Do you have _____ experience with coding?
a) many
b) any
c) some

6. Only _____ of the employees attended the meeting.
a) half
b) none
c) all

7. I ate _____ of the pizza.
a) several
b) most
c) every

8. There is _____ juice left in the bottle.
a) some
b) all
c) every

9. She's very popular. She has _____ friends coming to her party.
a) few
b) a lot of
c) much

10. Unfortunately, _____ of the students finished their homework.
a) all
b) None
c) plenty

Quantifiers exercise 2:

Complete the conversation between Luisa and William with the most appropriate quantifiers in the box below.

six, plenty of, some (x4), any (x2), a lot, a lot of

Luisa: Hey, do you have **(1)**_____ plans for the weekend?
William: Not really. I might do **(2)**_____ reading, but I'm not sure yet.
Luisa: That sounds relaxing. I need to buy **(3)**_____ groceries for a small get-together I'm hosting on Saturday.
William: How many people are coming?
Luisa: Well, I invited **(4)**_____ friends, so it won't be a big crowd.
William: That's nice. Do you need **(5)**_____ help with preparations?
Luisa: Thanks! I'll appreciate **(6)**_____ assistance. There's still **(7)**_____ to do.
William: No problem. I have **(8)**_____ free time on Saturday morning.
Luisa: Great! Let's meet up then. I'll make sure to have **(9)**_____ snacks and drinks.
William: Sounds like **(10)**_____ fun. See you then!



Quantifiers: answer key

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Where two or more answers are given, any of them is correct.

Exercise 1

1. c) some
2. a) much
3. a) several
4. a) a little
5. b) any
6. a) half
7. b) most
8. a) some
9. b) a lot of
10. b) none

Exercise 2

(1) any
(2) some
(3) some
(4) six
(5) any
(6) some
(7) a lot
(8) plenty of
(9) some
(10) a lot of