

GRAMMAR**Elementary**

Hello Everyone! Today we are going to deal with uncountable nouns. I am using **Oxford 'Test it Fix it'** Grammar for Pre-Intermediate students by Kenna Bourke.

The book is available at: <http://www.oup.com/elt/catalogue/isbn/7080?cc=global>

Uncountable nouns

Many nouns that are uncountable in English are countable in some other languages. You need to learn whether a noun is countable or uncountable when you see it for the first time.

- Uncountable nouns, e.g. *advice, information, milk, petrol, sugar*, are normally singular. They don't have a plural form so you can't add s to the noun.

advice NOT ~~advices~~

milk NOT ~~milks~~

information NOT ~~informations~~

petrol NOT ~~petrols~~

- You use a singular verb with an uncountable noun.

Milk tastes nice. Apple juice is sweet. The water feels good.

- You don't use the articles a or an with uncountable nouns.

This is hard work.	NOT	a hard work
I need information	NOT	an information
Do you want advice?	NOT	an advice

- Some nouns can be countable or uncountable but be careful!
The meaning changes.

Did you hear a noise? (a particular noise)
There's too much noise. I can't work. (noise in general)

I'd like a coffee, please. (a cup of coffee)
We need coffee and sugar. (coffee and sugar in general)

There's a hair on your jacket. (just one hair)
He's got blond hair. (the hair on his head)

I am apologizing for the following exercise, it was last week's, but this exercise belongs to the uncountable nouns, so try it again, thank you.



Exercise:

Circle the best option, A or B.

Example:

Experts predict a rise in the price of _____.

A petrols B petrols

Correct answer: A, petrol

A Did you hear _____ noise?

A - B a

B Rice _____ good for you.

A is B are

C John has too much _____ to do.

A works B work

D Can I get _____ advice here?

A an B -

E The spaghetti you cooked _____ delicious!

A tastes B taste

F He uses the London tube every day so he spends a lot on _____.

A travel B travels

G We've got _____ good news for you.

A - B a

H Money _____ buy you love.

A don't B doesn't

I Please be quiet! You're making too much _____.

A a B -

Intermediate

Hello Everyone! Today we are going to deal with *preposition or linking word+-ing form*. I am using **Oxford Practice Grammar Intermediate by John Eastwood**. The exercises are from Unit 73.

The book is available at: <http://www.oup.com/elt/global/products/practicegrammar/>

Description:

1 Introduction:

Rachel: Shall we have some lunch?

Jessica: I usually go for a walk **instead of eating**. I'm on a diet.

Rachel: You're joking, aren't you? Since when?

Jessica: **Since discovering** I can't get into my old clothes.

Rachel: Well, just buy some new ones, then.

We can use an -ing form after some prepositions (e.g. instead of) or linking words (e.g. since).

We cannot use an infinitive. NOT ~~instead of to eat~~.

2 Preposition+ - ing

Here are some more examples.

As a result of losing my passport, I had to fill in a complicated form.

Vicky and Rachel might go to Canada **as well as travelling** around the US.

You can get skin cancer **from being** in the sun too long.

You aren't **in favour of cutting** down trees, are you?

We can't have a party **without making** a bit of noise.

We can use these prepositions before an -ing form: **against, as a result of, as well as, besides, by, despite, for, from, how about, in favour of, in spite of, instead of, on, what about, without**

We use **what about/how about** + - ing form to make a suggestion.

How about giving us some help?

We use **for** + - ing form to say what we use something for.

*This cloth is **for cleaning** the floor.*

We use **by**+ - ing form to say how something does something.

*The thief got in **by breaking** a window.*

We use **on**+ - ing form to mean 'as soon as'.

On hearing the news of David's accident, Melanie burst into tears.

(=As soon as she heard the news,...)



3 Linking word + - ing form

Here are some examples:

I always have a shower **after plying** tennis.

Although hoping to get the job, Rachel wasn't really expecting to.

Sarah wanted to finish the report **before going** to bed.

The man has been unemployed **since leaving** prison.

You should always lock the door **when leaving** your room.

Mark was listening to the car radio **while sitting** in a traffic jam.

We can use these linking words before an –ing form: **after, although, before, since, when, while**

A linking word + - ing form can sometimes be a little formal. We can say the same thing like this.

I always have a shower **after I've played** tennis.

Although she was hoping to get the job, Rachel wasn't really expecting to.

Exercise

Preposition or linking word + - ing form

Ron Manson owns a supermarket business. Write the sentences for a magazine article about his life. Join two sentences into one using the words in brackets.

Example:

He saw an empty shop. He was walking around town one day. (while)

He saw an empty shop while walking around town one day.

- 1 He thought carefully. He decided to buy it. (before)
- 2 He bought the shop. He had little money of his own. (despite)
- 3 He became successful. He gave teh customers waht they wanted. (by)
- 4 He put the profit back into the business. He didn't spend it on himself. (instead of)
- 5 He was happy. He was running his wn business. (when)
- 6 He fell ill. He worked too hars. (as a result of)
- 7 He has made a lot of money. He bought his first shop ten years ago. (since)



Advanced

Hello Everyone! Today we are going to deal with connectors and focus structures. I am using **Oxford Practice Grammar Advanced by George Yule**. The exercises are from Unit 17.

The book is available at: <http://www.oup.com/elt/catalogue/isbn/7781?cc=global>

Exercise 1:

Complete this description with these words.

also and as a result but however so

The Titanic was considered to be the fastest and most modern passenger ship of its day. It was _____ believed to be unsinkable. During its first voyage in 1912, _____, the ship hit an iceberg _____ sank. While the ship was slowly sinking, there was time for the passengers to escape, _____ there were not enough lifeboats, _____ hundreds of people drowned in the disaster. _____, tough new laws were introduced to make ships safer.

Exercise 2:

Add the following words and phrases to the definitions in this paragraph.

facelift (2x) forklift lift (2x) also(2x) for example similarly that is

A _____, which is _____ known as an elevator in the USA, is a machine that you stand in to go up and down inside a building. This word is _____ used for the action of taking someone somewhere in a car, described as 'giving someone a _____'.

Something rather different is meant by a _____, which is an operation to make someone look younger by, _____, removing fat or pulling the skin tighter.

_____,
The process of improving the appearance of the outside of a building can be described as 'giving it a _____'.

A _____ is a vehicle with special equipment, _____, two long metal prongs sticking out in front, which is used for lifting and moving heavy things.