

Lesson Plan: Quantifiers (a few, a little, several, plenty of)

Level	Intermediate (B1)
Time	60–75 minutes
Skills	Grammar, speaking
Focus	Expressing quantities precisely — countable vs. uncountable use

OBJECTIVES

By the end of the lesson, students will be able to:

- Use a few, a little, several, plenty of, a great deal of, a large number of accurately
- Distinguish between quantifiers used with countable and uncountable nouns
- Understand the difference between few/a few and little/a little
- Choose the right quantifier to express degree and attitude

TARGET LANGUAGE (EXAMPLES)

Countable

- a few — a small, positive number: I have a few ideas.
- several — more than two but not many: She has visited several countries.
- a number of — some: A number of students were absent.
- a large number of — many: A large number of complaints were received.

Uncountable

- a little — a small amount: There's a little milk left.
- a great deal of — a large amount: He spent a great deal of time on it.
- a great deal of money / time / effort

Both

- plenty of — more than enough: There's plenty of time.
- a lot of / lots of — a large amount: Lots of students / lots of water.

Attitude — few vs. a few, little vs. a little

- few = not many (negative): Few people know the answer.
- a few = some (positive): I have a few friends here.
- little = not much (negative): Little is known about him.
- a little = some (positive): I speak a little Japanese.

LESSON PROCEDURE

1. Warm-up (5 min)

Task: Spot the difference: 'I have few friends here.' vs. 'I have a few friends here.'

- Students discuss: which sounds more positive? Why?

2. Presentation (15 min)

Task: Organise quantifiers by countable/uncountable in a table.

- Focus on the attitude difference: few/little (negative) vs. a few/a little (positive).
- Show register: a great deal of (formal) vs. a lot of (neutral).

3. Guided practice (10 min)

Task: Choose the correct quantifier to complete sentences.

- 'There was ___ traffic on the motorway so we were late.' → a great deal of / a lot of
- 'She speaks ___ French — enough to order in a café.' → a little

4. Discussion (20 min)

Task: Use quantifiers to discuss global topics.

- 'A large number of people live without access to clean water.'
- 'Few countries have achieved true gender equality.'
- Students add their own views using target quantifiers.

5. Writing task (5–10 min)

Task: Write 6 sentences about your city / country using 4 different quantifiers.

EXTENSION / HOMEWORK

Choose one:

1. Write a short factual paragraph about a social issue using at least 5 different quantifiers.
2. Correct 6 errors involving quantifiers in a text.
3. Rewrite a paragraph replacing 'many' and 'much' with more precise and varied quantifiers.