

FEW - LITTLE

A FEW - A LITTLE

= a small quantity; a small amount

FEW + Plural Countable Nouns	= not many; not enough; nearly no ...
A FEW + Plural Countable Nouns	= some; a small amount
LITTLE + Uncountable Nouns	= not much; not enough; nearly no ...
A LITTLE + Uncountable Nouns	= some; a small amount

FEW = NOT MANY

(FEW normally conveys a negative idea)

- He has **few** good friends.
(negative idea - not enough)
- **Few** people went to the concert.
- There are **few** honest politicians.

LITTLE = NOT MUCH

(LITTLE normally conveys a negative idea)

- There was **little** time to finish it.
(negative idea - nearly no time)
- He has **little** patience with others.
- They have **little** money to spend.

A FEW = SOME (a small amount)

(A FEW normally conveys a positive idea)

- He has **a few** friends that will help.
(positive idea - a small amount)
- I have **a few** days off next month.
- She has won **a few** awards.

A LITTLE = SOME (a small amount)

(A LITTLE normally conveys a positive idea)

- I have **a little** milk you can use.
(positive idea - a small amount)
- She has **a little** time to relax now.
- I have earned **a little** extra money.

Exercise 1

1. a little / a few apples
2. a little / a few rice
3. a little / a few bicycles
4. a little / a few trees
5. a little / a few boys
6. a little / a few money

7. a little /a few dogs
8. a little/ a few time
9. a little/a few sugar
10. a little/a few cups

Exercise 2

1. We had little/few snow last winter.
2. Little/Few people were interested in the exhibition.
3. I speak little/few French.
4. There are little/few gentlemen nowadays.
5. She has little/few relatives.
6. There is little/few water in the pond.
7. The professor spends little/few time in company.
8. We have little/few knowledge of this phenomenon.
9. There are little/few mushrooms in my mushroom soup.
10. Little/Few animals can survive in the desert.

Exercise 3

1. He speaks **a little** Spanish, so we were able to find a nice room in Madrid.
2. There are only **a few** bananas in the box.
3. We need **a little** butter for this cake.
4. There's **a little** pizza in the fridge for you.
5. There are only **a few** days left to hand in the reports.
6. I bought **a few** apples in this shop.
7. Could I have **a little** milk in my coffee, please?

8. Look! There are **a few** mice on the roof.
9. We saw **a few** people at the bus stop.
10. We have **a little** ketchup and **a few** sausages.

Exercise 4

1. There aren't much / many car parks in the centre of Oxford.
2. Eating out is expensive here. There aren't any/some cheap restaurants.
3. Liverpool has a lot/many of great nightclubs.
4. Hurry up! We only have a few/ a little time before the coach leaves.
5. We saw a little of /some beautiful scenery when we went to Austria.
6. There are a few/any shops near the university.
7. It's very quiet. There aren't much /many people here today.
8. There are some/a little expensive new flats next to the river.