

Count and Noncount Nouns

Privacy Matters

1 Grammar in the Real World

ACADEMIC
WRITINGExpository
writing

A What information about yourself do you want to keep private? Read the article from a website. What are some ways you can protect your personal information?

B Comprehension Check Match the kind of ID theft with the way to avoid it.

ID thieves . . .

- 1 take information from your garbage. _____
- 2 steal your credit card number online. _____
- 3 “phish” for information. _____

But you can . . .

- a only pay on secure websites.
- b not respond to an unsolicited e-mail.
- c shred your bills before you throw them away.

C Notice Find the sentences in the article and complete them with a or an. If no word goes in the blank, write X.

- 1 Identity theft is the act of using someone’s personal information without _____ X _____ permission.
- 2 ID thieves go through your garbage and look for _____ papers.
- 3 They “phish” for _____ information.
- 4 Phishing is sending _____ e-mail that asks you for your personal information.
- 5 The e-mail looks like it is from _____ bank.

Which of the nouns are things you can count? Which are things you cannot count? Which noun is plural?

IDENTITY THEFT

Keep your identity private! Here are some facts about identity (ID) theft.

What Is Identity Theft?

Identity theft is the act of using someone's personal **information** without **permission**. ID thieves use the **information** to buy things. They also use it to get credit cards or to open other types of accounts. Personal **information** includes your name and address. It also includes your Social Security number or credit card numbers. You can lose **money** because of ID theft. ID theft also causes **damage** to your reputation. Sometimes, people cannot get **work** or loans for school because of ID theft.

How Do Thieves Steal Your Identity?

- ID thieves go through your garbage and look for papers with **information** about you, such as bills.
- They steal your credit card number when you are buying something. This can happen with online shopping or in stores.
- 15 ■ They "phish" for **information**. Phishing is sending an e-mail that asks for your personal **information**. The e-mail looks like it is from a bank or credit card company. It often asks you to go to a website and give your personal **information**.

How Can You Avoid ID Theft?

- 20 ■ Shred¹ bills and other documents that have personal **information** before you throw them away.
- If you shop online, only shop at well-known shopping sites. Only pay on secure² Web pages. URLs on secure pages begin with "https." (The s means "secure.")
- Never answer an unsolicited³ e-mail. This is especially true if
- 25 the e-mail looks like it is from a bank or a credit card company.

Follow this advice, and you can protect yourself from ID theft.

¹shred: cut into very small pieces

²secure: safe

³unsolicited: not asked for

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Count Nouns and Noncount Nouns

Grammar Presentation

Nouns are the names of people, places, and things. You can count most nouns (*an e-mail, three e-mails*); you cannot count certain nouns (*information, money*).

A **website** gave us **information** about ID theft.

2.1 Count Nouns

Count nouns refer to things you can count with numbers. They have a plural form.

I do not have a credit card **account**.

An ID thief opened two **accounts** in my name.

The **bank** on First Street is closed.

There are three **banks** on Oak Street.

2.2 Noncount Nouns

Noncount nouns refer to things you cannot count with numbers. They have only one form.

ID theft causes **damage** to your reputation.

The computer records how much **money** you spend.

I need some **advice**.

2.3 Using Count Nouns

A Singular count nouns always have a determiner before them. Determiners are words like *a, an, the, that, this, my, or our*.

I have **a brother**.

I have ~~brother~~.

This computer is fast.

~~Computer~~ is fast.

B You can use plural count nouns with or without a determiner. However, do not use *a* or *an* with plural nouns.

Computers are not very expensive nowadays.

These computers are not very expensive.

Credit **cards** are convenient.

I can't find **my credit cards**.

I can't find ~~a credit cards~~.

2.4 Using Noncount Nouns

<p>A Do not use plural forms like -s with noncount nouns.</p>	<p>They gave us information about ID theft. They gave us informations about ID theft.</p>								
<p>B Do not use numbers with noncount nouns.</p>	<p>She gave me advice about using my credit card. She gave me two advices.</p>								
<p>C Do not use a/an with noncount nouns.</p>	<p>Because of ID theft, he can't get work. Because of ID theft, he can't get a work.</p>								
<p>D You can use other determiners (my, some, this, etc.) with noncount nouns.</p>	<p>They found some information on the Internet. Her advice was useful.</p>								
<p>E Use a singular verb form with noncount nouns.</p>	<p>Safety is important to everyone. There was information about ID theft online.</p>								
<p>F Some noncount nouns also have a countable meaning.</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="297 940 619 1136"> <thead> <tr> <th>Noncount Noun</th> <th>Count Noun</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>coffee</td> <td>coffees</td> </tr> <tr> <td>experience</td> <td>experiences</td> </tr> <tr> <td>paper</td> <td>papers</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Noncount Noun	Count Noun	coffee	coffees	experience	experiences	paper	papers	<p>Coffee is delicious. (coffee as a drink) We ordered two coffees. (two cups or orders of coffee) They hired someone with experience. (knowledge about a job) He has had a lot of interesting experiences. (things that he did or that happened to him) She needed some paper to print on. (material for writing or printing on) She threw away some important papers. (individual documents)</p>
Noncount Noun	Count Noun								
coffee	coffees								
experience	experiences								
paper	papers								



DATA FROM THE REAL WORLD

Some common noncount nouns in speaking and writing are:

advice	equipment	information	music	research	stuff
bread	evidence	knowledge	news	rice	traffic
cash	fun	luck	permission	safety	water
coffee	furniture	milk	progress	security	weather
damage	health	money	publicity	software	work



Grammar Application

Exercise 2.1 Count or Noncount?

A Complete the chart. Check (✓) *Count* or *Noncount*. Then write the plural form of the count nouns.

Noun	Count	Noncount	Plural Form
1 passport	✓		<i>passports</i>
2 document			
3 information			
4 research			
5 equipment			
6 computer			
7 software			
8 credit card			
9 identity			
10 safety			
11 privacy			
12 e-mail			

B Complete the article. Where needed, write *-s*, *-es*, or *-ies* to make nouns plural. Write **X** if a plural form is not needed.

ID thieves use other people's identity ⁽¹⁾ *ies* without their permission ⁽²⁾ **X**. Some ID thieves look in the garbage for information ⁽³⁾ about you. Others use software ⁽⁴⁾ and high-tech equipment ⁽⁵⁾ to steal your identity. (This is why Internet security ⁽⁶⁾ is so important on home computer ⁽⁷⁾ today.) In addition, some ID thieves just steal your bag. These thieves do not just take your money ⁽⁸⁾. They also steal document ⁽⁹⁾ like your driver's license and one or more of your credit card ⁽¹⁰⁾. ID thieves love these!

If you want to protect your privacy ⁽¹¹⁾ and avoid identity theft, do not carry these things in your wallet, pocket, or purse:

- Your Social Security card or number.
- Your passport. If someone steals this, they could use it to commit a serious crime. These criminals threaten everyone's safety ⁽¹²⁾.
- Your computer, e-mail, and other password ⁽¹³⁾. A lot of people keep this information in their wallets, but it is a bad idea!
- Your birth certificate. With a little research ⁽¹⁴⁾ about you, a thief can use your birth certificate to get a driver's license, credit cards, and even bank loans.



C Pair Work Think about an ID card you have (for example, your student ID card or your driver's license), and discuss it with your partner. When do you use this card? What kind of information does it have about you? How easy is it to steal or copy the information on it?

Exercise 2.2 Count and Noncount Meanings

Complete the sentences. Use the correct form of the nouns in the box. Then write **C** if the noun is a count noun or **NC** if it is a noncount noun.

crime experience life paper

- 1 Marc had a bad experience with ID theft. It damaged his reputation. C
- 2 Now he can't get a job, even though he has a lot of _____ in his field. _____
- 3 How did it happen? There were _____ in Marc's garbage that had a lot of personal details about him. _____
- 4 In addition, he put his passwords down on _____ instead of memorizing them. _____
- 5 Marc is not alone – there is a lot of Internet _____ nowadays. _____
- 6 Some _____ affect us financially, but ID theft can hurt us emotionally, too. _____
- 7 _____ is difficult for Marc right now. _____
- 8 We all have difficult times in our _____, but we can learn from our mistakes. _____

Exercise 2.3 More Count Nouns

A Write these count nouns in the correct categories.

backpacks	CDs	jeans	soccer balls	sweaters
basketballs	computer games	movies	sofas	tables
briefcases	<u>desks</u>	shirts	suitcases	tennis rackets



B Pair Work Now ask and answer questions with a partner about where things are in the store.

- A *Where do you shop for sofas?*
 B *You shop for sofas in the furniture department.*

Exercise 2.4 Common Noncount Nouns

A Complete the conversation about full-body scanners (machines that show what is on a person's body) with the correct form of the words in the box.

airport	fun	person	publicity	traveler
evidence	news	progress	traffic	

A There was a report on the news last night about those full-body scanners at _____ . People were complaining about them. Do you know anything about them?

B Not much, but there's a lot of _____ about them these days in the media. I know some people are worried about the health issues. I mean, is the technology safe?

A Well, so far, there's no _____ that body scanners are dangerous. There's no real proof. In fact, I was reading somewhere that they're pretty safe.

B Hmm. Maybe they're better than what we had before. I guess we're making _____ in keeping airports safe, but what about the privacy issues?

A Right! Scanners can give some pretty personal information about _____. They're like an X-ray. They can show exactly what's on your body.

B And there are millions of _____ these days! With all the _____ at airports nowadays, security is taking a lot longer.

A Yeah. I used to like going to the airport, but I guess you aren't supposed to have _____ at the airport nowadays!



B Group Work Do you think body scanners are a good idea or a bad idea? Use these words to give your opinion.

<i>Body scanners are good for . . .</i>	<i>security</i>	<i>convenience</i>
<i>Body scanners are bad for . . .</i>	<i>safety</i>	<i>personal information</i>
<i>I worry about . . .</i>	<i>privacy</i>	<i>my health</i>
<i>. . . is important to me.</i>	<i>crime</i>	<i>the government</i>

I think they're a good idea. I worry about privacy, but safety is important to me.

3 Noncount Nouns: Determiners and Measurement Words

Grammar Presentation

You can use certain determiners and measurement words with noncount nouns.

Can you give me **some advice** about spyware programs?
She told me two interesting **pieces of news**.

3.1 Noncount Nouns with Determiners

- A** Use *a lot of*, *some*, and *a little* with noncount nouns in affirmative statements.
- B** Use *much*, *a lot of*, and *any* with noncount nouns in questions.
- C** Use *some* and *a little* for questions that are offers and requests.
- D** Use *not much*, *not a lot*, and *not any* with noncount nouns in negative statements.
- E** Do not use *much* or *a little* with count nouns.

There was **a lot of milk** in the refrigerator.
I have **some** important **information** for you.
Could I have **a little cream** in my coffee, please?

Was there **much furniture** in the apartment?
Is there **a lot of traffic** at 5:00 p.m.?
Are you making **any progress** with your English these days?

Would you like **some tea**?
Would you like **a little sugar** in your coffee?

There's **not much juice** left in your glass.
She **doesn't** earn **a lot of money** in her present job.
We **didn't** do **any work** yesterday.

We don't have **much time** left.
We don't have ~~much hours~~ left.
There's **a little coffee** in the cup.
There's ~~a little cups~~ on the table.

3.1 Noncount Nouns with Determiners (continued)

F Do not use *many* or *a few* with noncount nouns.

There is **not much news** today.
 There is **not many news** today.
 I sold **some furniture** that I didn't need.
 I sold **a few furniture**.

G You can use *a lot of*, *some*, and *any* with both count and noncount nouns.

There is **a lot of Internet crime** nowadays.
 They caught **a lot of ID thieves** last year.
 There's **some new furniture** at the apartment.
 We bought **some new chairs**.
 We don't have **any new equipment**.
 There aren't **any new computers** at the school.

3.2 Too Many/Much and Enough

A Use *too many* with count nouns and *too much* with noncount nouns to say "more than you want."

Too many people came to the lecture on Internet privacy. Some of them had to stand.
 There is **too much information** about us on databases. It's scary!

B Use *enough* with count and noncount nouns to say "the amount you need."

We have **enough eggs** in the refrigerator.
 We have **enough information** on the problem.
 We don't have **enough potatoes**.
 We don't have **enough milk**. We need to buy some.

3.3 Noncount Nouns with Measurement Words

A Containers

a **box** of cereal
 pasta



a **bottle** of water
 juice



a **package** of sugar
 rice
 coffee



a **glass** of milk
 juice
 water



a **can** of soup
 tuna



a **carton** of milk
 juice



Portions

a **piece** of cake
 bread
 pie
 candy



a **slice** of pizza
 bread
 cake
 cheese
 turkey



a **scoop** of ice cream
 sorbet



3.3 Noncount Nouns with Measurement Words (continued)

Measurements		Shapes	
a gallon of	milk gas	a bar of	soap chocolate
			
a pound of	butter sugar coffee meat	a loaf of	bread
			
a cup of	sugar milk coffee tea	a sheet of	paper
			
		a tube of	toothpaste
			
<p>B You can also use <i>piece</i> with non-food items, such as <i>advice, information, news, music, equipment, evidence, furniture, tape, and research.</i></p>		<p>He told us an interesting piece of news. They gave us a helpful piece of advice.</p>	
<p>C Measurement words can be singular or plural.</p>		<p>I bought a pound of butter and three loaves of bread.</p>	



Grammar Application

Exercise 3.1 Determiners and *Too* and *Enough*

A Complete the web article. Circle the correct words.

What Are Cookies?

by Sue Wilder

Many / Much⁽¹⁾ computer security experts are concerned about the use of cookies on the Internet. A "cookie" is a piece of information stored in your computer. It contains information on all the Internet sites that you look at. A lot of / Much websites send a cookie to your computer when you visit them. Companies with websites can get many / a lot of information⁽²⁾ about consumers with cookies. For example, an online store sends a cookie that gives the store much / some⁽³⁾ details about who you are. The next time you visit the store, it remembers your details.⁽⁴⁾

There is a lot of / many concern about cookies because they are a privacy issue. However, some / much experts do not think that there are some / any⁽⁵⁾ problems to worry about. These experts say cookies do not have any / much⁽⁶⁾ harmful effects on your computer; that is, they do not contain a few / any⁽⁷⁾ viruses.⁽⁹⁾

You can change a setting on your computer⁽⁹⁾ to block cookies. However, one study showed that not many / a few⁽¹⁰⁾ computer users do this.

B Complete the comments on the article in A with *too much*, *too many*, or *enough*.

Comments (3)

Tom S., Canada: The writer spent too much⁽¹⁾ time on cookies. She didn't spend _____⁽²⁾ time on social networking sites. _____⁽³⁾ computer users think those sites are private, but they're not.

Amy G., New York: I agree with Tom. Not _____⁽⁴⁾ computer users understand how social networking sites work. Some of those sites give out _____⁽⁵⁾ information. There isn't _____⁽⁶⁾ privacy!

Maria R., Houston: It's not the site's fault if you put up _____⁽⁷⁾ silly pictures of yourself! And you can set your profile to "private." It only takes a minute, so everyone has _____⁽⁸⁾ time to do that.

Exercise 3.2 Measurement Words

A Match the measurement words and the nouns.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 1 a piece of <u>b</u> | a rice | 5 a cup of _____ | e chocolate |
| 2 a package of _____ | b cake | 6 a bar of _____ | f paper |
| 3 a glass of _____ | c pizza | 7 a scoop of _____ | g coffee |
| 4 a slice of _____ | d milk | 8 a sheet of _____ | h ice cream |



B Complete the article about privacy issues and shopping. Use the correct form of the words in the box. Then listen and check your answers.

bar box carton loaf pound
 bottle can gallon package tube



A lot of supermarket shoppers have store club cards these days. Club cards give you lower prices or points for shopping. To get the lower prices, you swipe your card every time you make a purchase. The card tells the store who you are and what you buy. Here is an example. Shopper 1 buys three loaves⁽¹⁾ of bread, two _____⁽²⁾ of juice, a _____⁽³⁾ of milk, a _____⁽⁴⁾ of toothpaste, a _____⁽⁵⁾

of rice, a ⁽⁶⁾ _____ of soap, and two ⁽⁷⁾ _____ of cereal each week. What does that tell the store? It probably tells the store that he has a big family, and he probably has children. Shopper 2 buys seven _____ of water, seven _____ of tuna, and a ⁽⁸⁾ _____ of turkey each week. What does this tell the store? Shopper 2 is probably single, and she is probably dieting or is concerned with her health. How does the store use this information? It sends advertising to the shoppers with specific information about the products that they buy. This gets them back into the store to buy more products.

C Group Work What did you buy this week? Write three sentences on a piece of paper. Do not write your name! Read the papers in groups and try to guess who wrote them.

This person bought three loaves of bread, so it might be Nicki.

4 Avoid Common Mistakes



1 A singular count noun needs a determiner.

I do not have ^a card for this store.

2 Do not use a/an with a noncount noun.

You need a permission to use my credit card.

3 Do not use a noncount noun in the plural.

The supermarket has personal ^{information} informations about shoppers.

4 Do not use many or too many with a noncount noun.

There was ^{a lot of} many Internet crime last year.

5 Do not use much with a noncount noun in affirmative statements.

She had ^{a lot of} much cash in her wallet when somebody stole it.

Editing Task

Find eight more mistakes in this article about Internet spyware.

^a Spyware is a type of computer software. Someone sends it to computer without your knowledges or permissions. It takes control of your computer. It can make your computer run slowly or even crash. Spyware often records an information about your computer use. It gives the information to advertisers or other people who want to collect informations on you. Many spyware sneaks into your computer when you are downloading and installing programs from the Internet. One way to prevent a spyware is to put security settings on your Internet browser. Set your browser to a medium or higher setting. There is also much software you can buy that blocks spyware.

5 Academic Writing

Expository Writing

Brainstorm

Organize

Write

Edit

In this writing cycle (Units 7-9), you are going to write a report that answers the prompt below. In this unit (7), you will analyze a report and brainstorm ideas about the topic.

Choose a new area of technology or invention to analyze. Write a report about its advantages and disadvantages, and include a prediction in the conclusion.

Exercise 5.1 Preparing to Write

Work with a partner. Discuss the questions.

- 1 What kind of technology is important to you in your life now? Why?
- 2 Are there disadvantages to this piece of technology? What are they?
- 3 In the future, what kind of problems could technology solve?

Exercise 5.2 Focusing on Vocabulary

Read the definitions. Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in the box.

artificial (adj) not natural, made by people

benefit (n) advantage; positive result; (v) to help or give an advantage to

convenience (n) something that makes life or a process easier

congestion (n) a situation when something is blocked or stopped

organ (n) part of a human or animal that has a special purpose

power (n) energy, usually electricity or gas, used to provide heat, light, etc.

process (n) a series of actions to reach a result

progress (n) movement toward an improved situation

- 1 Designing new technology is often a long _____. It can take years until it works well.
- 2 New technology sometimes creates problems, but there are usually _____ to people, too.
- 3 Most modern cities have serious traffic _____ because there are too many cars on the road.
- 4 Many cities are making environmental _____ with better public transportation, like cleaner buses and safer subways.
- 5 An electronic bus pass is a _____ for riders because it is so easy and fast.
- 6 Electric cars make the air cleaner because they get _____ from electricity, not gasoline.

- 7 In medicine, _____ legs and arms are now so advanced that people use them to run marathons and to climb mountains.
- 8 With special equipment, doctors can now see a patient's _____, like the heart, to look for signs of disease.

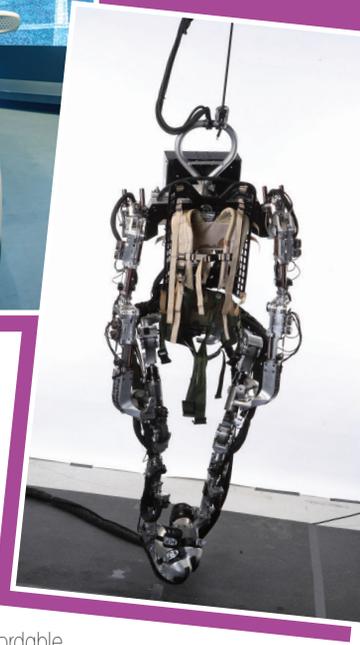
The World Of Tomorrow

Every generation develops new technology that has both positive and negative effects. In the past 30 years, for example, the Internet has become part of daily life. However, along with more information, faster communication, and greater **convenience**

- 5 there are issues with privacy, identity theft, and online harassment. Now, what comes next? What will the world of tomorrow look like? Will it be easier or more difficult? Many people are confident that technology is going to help solve some of today's most challenging problems. Other people worry that new technology may solve
- 10 old problems but create new ones, like the internet has. While it is difficult to predict the world of tomorrow, **progress** today in the areas of transportation, production, and safety will probably change the future.

- When we dream about the future of transportation, many of us
- 15 believe that we will be able to exit our garages and take to the skies in our own personal flying cars. In fact, companies like Terrafugia and AeroMobil are already developing them. The advantages of flying cars are obvious. They would allow full freedom of movement. We could fly at 300 miles per hour, avoiding traffic
- 20 lights, busy roads, and speeding tickets. However, some people point to the disadvantages of flying cars. They claim that there are certain to be problems with controlling traffic. If the cars become popular, there is likely to be more **congestion** in the air. Another big problem is mechanical failure. What will happen if the cars break
- 25 down? These are problems we must solve when flying cars become a reality.

- The way we make, buy, and sell things is also going to change. For example, most people print out electronic documents on sheets of paper at work or school, and many people are probably aware
- 30 of 3D printing, a **process** by which three-dimensional objects are created. 3D printers build an object using layers of liquid plastic, metal, or other materials. They build up the layers line by line like a normal printer until the object is complete. Car companies like BMW and Volkswagen already use 3D printers to make life-size models
- 35 of car parts, and medical technology companies have already used 3D printing to make body parts, such as **artificial** ears. Some



- people print their own small objects at home, such as jewelry and toys, with 3D printers. However, 3D printing has the
- 40 ability to change the future. It can create something as large as a house in a few days at a low cost. In addition, scientists are conducting experiments to "print" biological tissue. Before long, it might
- 45 be possible to use 3D printing to create affordable housing, print **organs** for transplants, or even make food.
- Finally, the future of personal health and safety is bright. Imagine wearing a real Ironman suit. Several companies are trying to build a practical robot "exoskeleton." This is a suit of robot arms
- 50 and legs that follows the wearer's movements. It allows the wearer to lift heavy objects, walk long distances, and even punch through walls! There are obvious military advantages for this technology, but there are also **benefits** for people with disabilities. The suit could help people walk again after disease or injury. However, the obvious
- 55 disadvantage at the moment is the cost. Even a simple exoskeleton can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. Another problem is battery life. This type of suit needs a lot of **power**; at the moment, the batteries last only about 15 minutes. One other problem is that a badly programmed robot suit could injure the wearer if the robot suit
- 60 bent the leg or arm the wrong way, for instance.

- The future is clearly exciting. One day we might be able to fly to work, print out a new pair of shoes, or lift a car above our heads, but there are still a lot of problems to solve before any of these products become part of normal life. However, companies are making
- 65 progress in all three areas.

Exercise 5.3 Comprehension Check

Read the text on page 95. Work with a partner. Ask and answer the questions.

- 1 Will flying cars solve traffic problems? Why or why not?
- 2 How can 3D printers be used by medical doctors?
- 3 To which two groups of people could the robot exoskeleton be useful?
- 4 Does the author believe that technology is always a benefit to people?

Exercise 5.4 Noticing the Grammar and Structure

Complete the tasks. Compare your answers with a partner.

- 1 Underline the thesis statement. Circle all the non-count nouns in it. Why did the writer use non-count nouns instead of count nouns?
- 2 Match each invention in the body paragraphs to a non-count noun in the thesis statement.
a robot suit b flying car c 3D printer
- 3 Circle one advantage and put a box around one disadvantage of each invention.
- 4 How does the writer organize the information in paragraphs 2-4?
- 5 Find and highlight two uses of the determiner *a lot of* in paragraphs 4-5. What kind of noun follows it?

Using A T-Chart

A T-chart is a kind of graphic organizer. It is useful for examining two sides or aspects of a topic, such as advantages and disadvantages or pros and cons.

Exercise 5.6 Applying the Skill

- 1 Choose one invention in the text, and complete the T-chart.

Invention: _____

Advantages	Disadvantages

- 2 Add at least one advantage and one disadvantage to the T-chart.

My Writing

Exercise 5.7 Brainstorming Ideas

Work with a partner. Write down one modern invention in each area of technology in the chart. Do research online if necessary.

medicine	
home	
space	
transportation	
entertainment	
computers	

Exercise 5.8 Identifying Advantages and Disadvantages

- 2 Choose one of the inventions from Exercise 5.7 to write about in your report. Write at least three advantages and three disadvantages of the invention in the T-chart below.

Invention: _____

Advantages	Disadvantages

Exercise 5.9 Writing a Paragraph

Write a paragraph about the invention you chose. Include:

- a topic sentence with a description of the invention
- its advantages and disadvantages
- a concluding sentence with a prediction

Exercise 5.10 Editing Your Writing

Use the editing tips in the chart to improve your paragraph. Make any necessary changes.

Did you use a noncount noun to refer to a general idea and then give details about that idea?	
Did you use the correct determiner with count and noncount nouns?	
Did you avoid the common mistakes in the chart on page 93?	