DETERMINERS OF QUANTITY

   A determiner is a word or group of words that come(s) before a noun to make it clear, and show(s) what the noun is referring to. The determiners of quantity (quantifiers) indicate the quantity of nouns. They include *much, many, little, few, a little, a few, a lot of, lots of, plenty of, some, any, …*

Much, little+ uncountable nouns

'Much' -is used to express that there is a large quantity of something.
         -is used in negative and interrogative form.

   Ex: We don't have **much** money.
       Is there **much** milk in the fridge?

'Little' – is used to express that there is a small amount of something.
   Ex: He has **little** time for watching television.
       They have **little** chance to succeed as they do not study.

'A little'- Some, a small amount.
   Ex: Let's go and have a coffee. We have **a little** time before leaving.
       Do you speak English? **'A little'**

Many, few+ countable nouns

'Many'- is used to express that there is a large quantity of something.
       -is commonly used in negative and interrogative form.
   Ex: Many people don't eat meat too.
       Do you know **many** people in Kigali?
       There aren't **many** tourists here.

'Few'- is used to say that there is a small quantity.
   Ex: She has **few** friends there.
         Few snakes are dangerous.

'A few'- Some, a small number.
   Ex: I enjoy my life here. I have **a few** friends.
       A few days ago, we visited our grandfather.

> **A little vs. a little and few vs. a few**
> ➤ *He speaks **little** English, so it is difficult to communicate with him.*
> ➤ *He speaks **a little** English, so we are able to communicate with him.*
> ➤ *She's lucky. She has **few** problems. (not many problems)*
> ➤ *Things are not going well for her. She has **a few** problems. (some problems)*

A lot of, lots of, plenty of +countable/uncountable nouns

'*A lot of, lots of, plenty of*" are used to express that there is a large quantity of something. They are commonly used in affirmative sentences.

> **Ex:** I have **a lot of** time to answer your questions.
> Agnes saw **a lot of** people waiting for you.
> The ministers still have **lots of** time to catch the plane.
> **Lots of** questions were answered.
> The father saved **plenty of** money.
> You will give them **plenty of** exercises.

Some vs. any

In general, 'some' is used in positive sentences while 'any' is used in negative sentences. In most questions we use 'any'.

Some	Any
We bought **some** flowers. →	We didn't buy **any** flowers.
He does **some** work. →	He doesn't do **any** work.
I want **something** to eat. →	I don't want **anything** to eat.

Both can be used in interrogative sentences. But, 'some' is used when we know that the thing exists and when we don't know we use 'any'.

> **Ex:** Can I have **some** sugar, please? (there is sugar)
> Would you like **something** to eat? (there is sth to eat)
> Have you left **any** luggage? 'No, I don't'
> Did it eat **any** chicken? 'Perhaps it didn't.'

Other quantifiers include enough, several, numerous, most, most of, each, a number of, none of…