# *Grammar auction*

### Aims
Identify errors in use of count and noncount nouns and *some* and *any*.

### Language focus
**Grammar**
Count and noncount nouns; *some* and *any*

### Set-up
Pair work and class activity

### Lesson link
For use after Unit 7, Lesson A

### Time
20 minutes

### Preparation
Duplicate one copy of the worksheet for each pair.

## Procedure

1. Tell students they are going see a list of sentences. Some are correct and others are incorrect. They will participate in an auction to "buy" as many correct sentences as possible. Explain that in an auction, people compete to buy things by offering higher and higher prices. Each offer in an auction is called a "bid."

2. Put students in pairs. Distribute worksheets, one to each pair. Students first read the sentences and check (✓) the ones they think are correct. Don't review the sentences at this time.

3. Tell students that each pair has $1,000 to use to "buy" the sentences they think are correct. Bids start at $50 and go up in increments of $50 – $50, $100, $150, and so forth.

4. Play the role of the auctioneer. Adding some drama to the role will make the activity more fun for students. Try to "sell" each sentence enthusiastically without revealing whether it is correct or not. Say things like: *Sentence 1 is a beautiful sentence. Who gives me $50 for this sentence?* Tell students to bid by raising their hands and saying *We bid (amount)*. If no one bids on a sentence, move on to the next one. When bidding stops, say *Going, going, gone! Sold to (students' names)!*

5. When a pair "wins" a sentence, they write their initials next to it and the amount they paid. They subtract this from their $1,000. Warn students they can't spend more than this amount.

6. When all of the sentences have been "auctioned off" (or refused), go over the sentences with the whole class. Students will then learn whether they have bought correct or incorrect sentences.

### Answer Key
1 Incorrect (I eat an **apple / apples** for lunch every day.)
2 Incorrect (My favorite food is fish. I have ~~any~~ fish for dinner every day.)
3 Correct
4 Correct
5 Correct
6 Incorrect (B: Yes, we have **some**.)
7 Incorrect (B: No, I don't have **any**.)
8 Correct
9 Correct
10 Incorrect (We have some **beans**, but we don't have any rice.)
11 Correct
12 Incorrect (Let's make fish with vegetables and **a** rice for dinner.)

|  | Correct? | You have: $1,000 |
|---|---|---|
| 1.  I eat apple for lunch every day. | ☐ | $ |
| 2.  My favorite food is fish. I have any fish for dinner every day. | ☐ | $ |
| 3.  Let's get some tomatoes and noodles and make some dinner. | ☐ | $ |
| 4.  Emma eats eggs and beans for protein. She doesn't eat any meat. | ☐ | $ |
| 5.  A typical breakfast for me is cereal with milk, but on weekends, I have three eggs, some pancakes, and some fruit. | ☐ | $ |
| 6.  A: Let's make Chinese food. Do we have any rice?  B: Yes, we have any. | ☐ | $ |
| 7.  A: Do you have any fruit?  B: No, I don't have some. | ☐ | $ |
| 8.  A: Do you have any cheese?  B: No, I don't. I never eat cheese. | ☐ | $ |
| 9.  I don't have a lot of time for breakfast. I usually have a banana and some milk. | ☐ | $ |
| 10.  We have some bean, but we don't have any rice. | ☐ | $ |
| 11.  A: We don't have any milk.  B: It's OK. I can get some at the store. | ☐ | $ |
| 12.  Let's make fish with vegetables and a rice for dinner. | ☐ | $ |
| **TOTAL** | | $ |