



Mini Lesson 051 - The Difference Between Few and A Few

Explanation:

Few and *a few* are used with countable nouns, but they have different meanings.

1. Few:

- *Few* means "not many" or "almost none." It emphasizes the small number and often has a negative meaning.

- Example: *Few students came to the class today.* (Very few students, almost none.)

2. A Few:

- *A few* means "some" or "a small number." It is more positive and implies there are enough.

- Example: *A few students came to the class today.* (Some students came, and it's enough.)

Summary:

- **Few** = almost none (negative).

- **A few** = some, a small number (positive).





Exercises:

Section 1: Fill in the Blanks

Complete the sentences using *few* or *a few*.

1. Only _____ people know about this secret.
2. I have _____ friends who I can trust.
3. There were _____ cookies left after the party.
4. _____ tourists visited the museum last week.
5. We have _____ hours before the deadline, so let's hurry.
6. He invited many people, but _____ showed up to the meeting.
7. Can you give me _____ examples of this rule in use?

Section 2: Choose the Correct Option

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence.

1. She has _____ (few/a few) close friends, but they are very supportive.
2. There were _____ (few/a few) opportunities to practice English in that town.
3. I bought _____ (few/a few) books at the store yesterday.
4. He gave _____ (few/a few) reasons for his decision, and they didn't make much sense.
5. We had _____ (few/a few) problems with the project, but we managed to solve them.

Section 3: Rewrite the Sentences

Rewrite the sentences using either *few* or *a few* to change the meaning.

1. He has some responsibilities, but not too many.
2. She didn't find any interesting places to visit.
3. We have some extra minutes to finish the test.
4. They received very little support for their idea.
5. I met almost no new people at the conference.





Section 4: Correct the Mistakes

Find and correct the mistakes in the following sentences.

1. I have few money left after shopping.
2. We visited a few places, but there was little to see.
3. Few of my classmates understand the assignment, but they tried their best.
4. She gave me a few reasons why she didn't come, and they seemed very unconvincing.
5. They found few solutions to the problem and managed to fix it.

Answers:

Section 1:

1. Only **few** people know about this secret.
2. I have **a few** friends who I can trust.
3. There were **a few** cookies left after the party.
4. **Few** tourists visited the museum last week.
5. We have **a few** hours before the deadline, so let's hurry.
6. He invited many people, but **few** showed up to the meeting.
7. Can you give me **a few** examples of this rule in use?

Section 2:

1. She has **a few** close friends, but they are very supportive.
2. There were **few** opportunities to practice English in that town.
3. I bought **a few** books at the store yesterday.
4. He gave **few** reasons for his decision, and they didn't make much sense.
5. We had **a few** problems with the project, but we managed to solve them.





Section 3:

1. He has *a few* responsibilities, but not too many.
2. She found *few* interesting places to visit.
3. We have *a few* extra minutes to finish the test.
4. They received *few* support for their idea.
5. I met *few* new people at the conference.

Section 4:

1. I have *little* money left after shopping.
2. We visited *few* places, but there was little to see.
3. *A few* of my classmates understand the assignment, but they tried their best.
4. She gave me *few* reasons why she didn't come, and they seemed very unconvincing.
5. They found *a few* solutions to the problem and managed to fix it.

