

## THE SHOPPING LIST (by Megan Domenichelli)

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|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Type of activity:</b> | pair work   |
| <b>Function:</b>         | complaining   |
| <b>Level:</b>            | low intermediate  |
| <b>Language needed:</b>  | too many/too much/not enough/less/fewer<br>count and non-count nouns<br>containers (for food) |
| <b>Approximate time:</b> | 40 minutes  |
| <b>Materials:</b>        | worksheets  |

- ◆ Work together as a class. Look at the shopping list and the picture of what the husband bought and write the sentences to explain his mistakes. Briefly explain how many types of food can be count or non-count, depending on whether another word is used in front of it. For the purpose of the first part, don't use the container words when making the sentences.
  - There is too much mayonnaise. (There are too many jars of...)
  - There isn't enough cheese.
  - There isn't enough ketchup.
  - There should be less cereal.
  - There are too many oranges and not enough apples.
  - There isn't enough milk.
  - There should be fewer pineapples.
  - There should be fewer bananas.
  - There isn't enough orange juice.
  - There are enough eggs.
- ◆ Look at more food words and write count or non-count
- ◆ Look at the words that can be used in front of the non-count nouns to make them count (loaf, head, etc.)
- ◆ In each pair, one student is the wife and one is the husband. Without looking at each other's paper, they must write a number next to each food. For this part of the activity, you must use the containers so that you can count the items.
- ◆ Then role-play. The wife looks at the husband's paper (numbers=what he bought) and compares it with her paper (what she needs) and complains. "There are too many/is too much...etc." For this part, students shouldn't use the container words. Make this clear! They can make sentences using only the words in the box at the bottom of their page.

- ◆ Then the students switch papers and work with a different partner so that the roles are reversed with different information to compare. Change partners a few times. (until the students are able to quickly make sentences without thinking too much). Encourage them to use all the sentence structures (enough, too much/too many, fewer, less, more)