



PARTITIVES

HOW TO COUNT UNCOUNTABLE: ABSTRACT NOUNS



When counting uncountable nouns, we can go the easy way by simply saying "a lot of" or "little" but are there any other possibilities? Yes, of course!

In English, there is a handful of rather general countable words that typically combine with uncountable, abstract nouns such as: an **act**, a **bit**, a **fit**, a **grain**, an **item**, a **piece**, a **shred**, etc. However, they cannot combine freely so the golden rule is to learn them as one block!

THE MEDIA



Nowadays, the items of news **broadcasted** provide only a few pieces of objective information. Some people go as far as to say that there isn't a **grain** of truth in what is presented to us. My father sometimes gets sudden **fits** of anger just from watching the latest news. **On the other hand**, there isn't a **shred** of evidence that this is actually true. With a bit of luck, you may **befriend** a news **anchor** and find out some off-the-record information for yourself.

VOCABULARY BUILDING



broadcasted - vysílaný

grain - zrnko

fit - záchvat

On the other hand - na druhou stranu

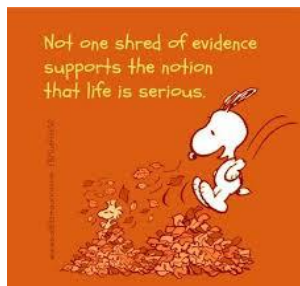
shred - kousek, cucek

befriend - spřátelit se s

anchor (also **anchorman/anchorwoman**) - moderátor zpráv

QUIZ: TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Fill in the following words: **shred**, **piece**, **item**, **fit**, or **bit** in the correct form.



1. There was an _____ on the radio about women engineers.
2. There is not one _____ of evidence in this case.
3. In a sudden _____ of anger, he snatched the book from her hand.
4. With a _____ of luck, we'll be there on time.
5. The presentation included several interesting _____ of information.

KEY: 1. item, 2. shred, 3. fit, 4. bit, 5. pieces