

A

你可以在很多不可数名词前加 **a piece of** 或 **a (little) bit of**, 使它们变为单数。同样, 你也可以使用 **pieces of** 或 **bits of** 把此类名词变为复数。(bit 不如 piece 那么正式, 而且两者不是总能互换。bit 可以和所有类型的名词一起使用。piece 则经常和不可数名词搭配使用。bit 表示的数量比 piece 少。)

She bought an attractive old **piece of** furniture at the auction sale.

How many **pieces of** luggage have you got with you?

The police collected **bits of** information from different sources.

Chopin wrote some wonderful **pieces of** music.

Before you go to England I should give you two **bits of** advice ...

He spends all his money buying new **bits of** computer equipment.

B

其他一些词可以和某些特定的不可数名词搭配使用。

天气

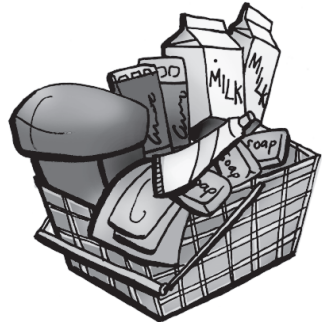
Today's weather has been variable. In the north there were heavy **showers (of rain)**.

The sunny **spell (of weather)** that we have had this last week has continued in much of the south although there were occasional **rumbles of thunder** and **flashes of lightning** in some areas with some quite loud **claps of thunder** in one or two areas. These were followed by a few **spots of rain** but **gusts of wind** soon blew them away and the sunshine returned. (更多表示天气的词汇参见 Unit 36)

食品杂货

'I need a **loaf of** bread, a couple of **slices of** ham, two **bars of** chocolate, a **tube of** toothpaste, two **cartons of** milk and three **bars of** soap.'

[slice can also be used with toast, bread, meat and cheese]



自然

Look at the ladybird on that **blade of** grass!

What's happened? Look at that **cloud of** smoke hanging over the town!

She blew little **puffs of** smoke out of her cigarette straight into my face.

Let's go out and get a **breath of** fresh air.

Put another **lump of** coal on the fire, please. [**lump** can also be used with 'sugar']

NOTE

a stroke of
与 luck 或
work 搭配
时, 语气重
于 a bit of。

其他

I had an amazing **stroke of** luck this morning.

I've never seen him do a **stroke of** work. [only in negative sentences]

I've never seen him in such a **fit of** temper before.

The donkey is the basic **means of** transport on the island.

Tights must be the most useful **article/item of** clothing ever invented.

There was an interesting **item of** news about France on TV last night.

C

短语 **a state of** 可以用来将不可数名词变为可数名词。跟 **state** 搭配使用的名词通常都是抽象的, 包括 chaos, emergency, tension, confusion, health, disorder, uncertainty, poverty, agitation, disrepair 和 flux [continuous change], 如: **a state of** emergency.

练习

33.1 将左边的词和右边的词搭配起来。

- | | | |
|--------------|----|-----------|
| 1 a stroke | | lightning |
| 2 a shower | | coal |
| 3 an article | | grass |
| 4 a lump | of | news |
| 5 a flash | | rain |
| 6 a blade | | clothing |
| 7 an item | | thunder |
| 8 a rumble | | luck |

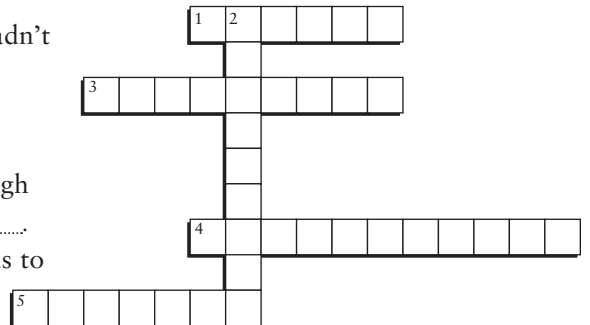
33.2 用 *a piece of* 或 *a bit of* 或左页 B 部分中更明确的词将下列句子中的不可数名词变为可数名词。

EXAMPLE Could you buy me some bread, please? *Could you buy me a loaf of bread, please?*

- 1 My mother gave me some advice that I have always remembered.
- 2 Suddenly the wind almost blew him off his feet.
- 3 We had some terribly windy weather last winter.
- 4 Would you like some more toast?
- 5 He never does any work at all in the house.
- 6 Let's go to the park – I need some fresh air.
- 7 I can give you some important information about that.
- 8 We could see smoke hovering over the city from a long way away.
- 9 There is some interesting new equipment in that catalogue.
- 10 I need to get some furniture for my flat.

33.3 从左页 C 部分中选择单词填写下面的提示和字谜。

- 1 My granny wouldn't be in such a bad state of now if she hadn't smoked all her life.
- 2 The government announced a state of after the earthquake.
- 3 We fell in love with the house although it was in a dreadful state of
- 4 We are still in a state of as to who has won the election.
- 5 Although this is supposed to be an affluent society, many people are still living in a state of



33.4 利用本单元学习的内容自己编一个像上题那样的字谜。如有可能，考考你的朋友。

33.5 想一想“谁”或“什么”会陷入以下情境？用这些词造句。

- 1 chaos 2 flux 3 confusion 4 tension