



SpeakEnglishPodcast.com

The **Podcast** That Will Help You **Speak** English Fluently.
With No Grammar and No Textbooks!

Episode #253

Words and Phrases to Describe
Large Quantities in English

Get more lessons at: SpeakEnglishPodcast.com

- *Why did the math book look sad?*
- *Because it had too **many** problems to solve, and not enough words to describe them all!*

[The joke is funny because we're imagining a book with feelings, and it's surprising to think that words can't solve math problems. It's a playful way of showing that the book feels sad because it has too much work to do.]

Hi! Thanks for joining me for another episode. I'm Georgiana and my mission is to help you **improve your English fluency**.

If you want to support me, it's very simple: **share** the podcast with your friends and family. That would mean a lot. Thanks!

Before we start, get the transcript on my website:
SpeakEnglishPodcast.com

Okay! Let's start!

Today, we will keep exploring and learning more about expressing **larger amounts**.

When we want to talk about more significant quantities, we can use different words and expressions. These terms can indicate having more of something or a significant amount.

When referring to small amounts we use words like: "**a little**" or "**a few**."

And when it comes to **large quantities**, we can use words like "**a lot**," "**many**," or "**plenty**."

Let's practice with a few examples.

For example, instead of saying, "I have **a few** books," you can say:

I have **a lot** of books.

I have **many** books.

Let's imagine we want to express **a large quantity without specifying an exact number**.

Get more lessons at: SpeakEnglishPodcast.com

Here, we can use words like "**numerous**," "**countless**," or "**a great number of**." These terms indicate a large quantity, even if an exact number is not specified. For example, instead of saying, "There are **a few** birds in the sky," you can say:

There are **numerous** birds in the sky.
There are **countless** birds in the sky.
There are **a great number of** birds in the sky.

Great! Let's continue!

"If you have **a lot of something**, you might use the word '**multiple**.'

For example, if you're discussing an online shopping order, you might say:

I ordered **multiple** items on Amazon, but they all arrived separately. (It's like having a relationship with a delivery driver who just can't commit.)

If you're sharing a funny story about a doctor's visit, you could say:

According to my doctor, I have **multiple** personalities. Now, I can finally put the blame on someone else for my mistakes!

Ok! Let's continue!

When we want to highlight **a very large amount**, we can use phrases like "**a huge amount of**," "**a significant number of**," or "**a vast quantity of**."

So, you can say:

The company invested **a huge amount of** money in research and development to create a groundbreaking new product.

According to a recent survey, a **significant** number of students prefer learning through the internet.

The library had a **vast quantity** of books, with rows upon rows of shelves filled from top to bottom.

If you have more than you need of something, you could use words like '**plenty**,' '**lavish**,' '**overflowing**,' '**teeming**,' '**replete**,' '**brimming**,' '**packed**,' or '**jam-packed**.'

'**Plenty**' means more than enough. For example:

There was **plenty** of food at the picnic. There were sandwiches, fruits, cookies, and more.

'**Lavish**' describes something more than enough and very luxurious.

The party was so **lavish**; it had huge chocolate fountain.

'**Overflowing**' on the other hand, describes a situation where there's too much of something. For example,

My email inbox is **overflowing**. It's filled with newsletters and promotions.

'**Teeming**' suggests many things or people in one place.

The market is **teeming** with shoppers on weekends.

'**Replete**,' '**brimming**,' '**packed**,' and '**jam-packed**' all indicate fullness, each with different levels of intensity. For instance:

'**Replete**' means completely full. For example,

After a big holiday meal, I felt **replete**. My belly was full of delicious food.

'**Brimming**' refers to something filled to the very top. We could say:

The picnic basket was **brimming** with delicious food.

'**Packed**' means full. For example,

The shopping mall during a big sale was **packed**. Every store was full of shoppers.

'**Jam-packed**' describes a situation with no more room because something is filled to capacity. Like,

During rush hour, the subway was **jam-packed** with commuters.

Ok! I hope our conversation about expressing quantities was helpful and easy to follow. Now we will continue practicing these expressions through a point-of-view story.

POV-Story

(Learn grammar in context)

I will tell you the same story twice. So make sure to focus on the changes. You can find these techniques fully implemented in my [premium courses](#).



SpeakEnglishPodcast.com/courses

Get more lessons at: SpeakEnglishPodcast.com

Okay! Let's start!

Sarah's bakery was a hub of constant activity. She had **a few** loyal customers who visited daily, some who came in once a week, and **several** who were new to her shop.

Sarah always had **a handful** of different treats, like chocolate cupcakes, blueberry muffins, cinnamon rolls, and sometimes seasonal desserts.

She baked **a bundle** of buttery puff pastries each morning, followed by **a group** of scones and **a cluster** of Danish treats. Once these were done, she continued with **a batch** of cookies and **a pile of** tasty delights.

Her assistant would help her stack the freshly baked delicacies on the shelves, which always **overflowed** with an abundance of baked goods.

Sarah's bakery was always **teeming** with customers, and her pastries sold like hotcakes.

Many of them came in to try her famous chocolate cupcakes, and **numerous** others left with **a ton** of different treats.

She took pride in her **lavish** desserts and **replete** pastry displays. Her shop was always **brimming** with customers, **packed** with people who couldn't wait to taste her delicious confections.

Thanks to her dedication and hard work, Sarah's **small** bakery had grown into **a wealth** of success, and everyone was amazed

Get more lessons at: SpeakEnglishPodcast.com

by the **countless** hours she spent baking.
However, Sarah had a big secret. She was, in fact, a robot.

Great! Now let's listen to the same story from a different grammar point.

(In the present tense in the second person plural.)

Our bakery is a hub of constant activity. We have **a few** loyal customers who visit us daily, some who come in once a week, and **several** who are new to our shop.

We always have a **handful** of different treats, like chocolate cupcakes, blueberry muffins, cinnamon rolls, and sometimes seasonal desserts.

We bake **a bundle** of buttery puff pastries each morning, followed by **a group** of scones and **a cluster** of Danish treats. Once these are done, we continue with **a batch** of cookies and **a pile** of tasty delights.

Our assistant helps us stack the freshly baked delicacies on the shelves, which always **overflow** with baked goods.

Our bakery is always **teeming** with customers, and our pastries sell like hotcakes.

Many of them come in to try our famous chocolate cupcakes, and **numerous** others leave with **a ton of** different treats. We take pride in our **lavish** desserts and **replete** pastry displays. Our shop is always **brimming** with customers, **packed** with people who can't wait to taste our delicious confections.

Thanks to our dedication and hard work, our **small** bakery has grown into a **wealth of** success, and everyone is amazed by the **countless** hours we spend baking. However, we have a big secret. We are, in fact, robots.

Okay! That's the end of this short exercise. Notice that the changes between grammar points are subtle but important.

With this method, you don't need to memorize any boring rules. It's better to see the changes in the proper context. And with a story, it is much easier to remember all this.

Visit SpeakEnglishPodcast.com/courses, to get my [premium courses](#). They are designed for **learning by listening**.



Okay! We have reached the end of this episode. See you soon! Bye! Bye!



Georgiana

founder of
SpeakEnglishPodcast.com

Get more lessons at: SpeakEnglishPodcast.com