

# Enough, Too, and Quantifiers: Expressing Sufficiency and Excess

INTERMEDIATE

**Focus: Adjective + enough, Adverb + enough, Word order rules, Elliptical use (enough alone), Enough + noun, Quantifying plural nouns, Quantifying uncountable nouns, Presence/Absence of articles, Excess vs. Insufficiency, Contextual opposites**

## 1. THE RULES OF 'ENOUGH' (SUFFICIENCY)

*Enough* means you have what you need; it indicates sufficiency. The position of *enough* changes depending on what word it modifies.

- **Adjectives & Adverbs + ENOUGH**
  - *Rule:* *Enough* goes **after** adjectives and adverbs.
  - *Example:* He is **tall enough** to play basketball. (Not: ~~enough tall~~)
  - *Example:* She speaks **slowly enough** for me to understand.
- **ENOUGH + Nouns**
  - *Rule:* *Enough* goes **before** nouns. It functions as a determiner.
  - *Example:* Do we have **enough money**?
  - *Example:* There aren't **enough chairs** for everyone.
- **Verb + ENOUGH**
  - *Rule:* When modifying a verb, *enough* functions as an adverb and follows the verb.
  - *Example:* I didn't **study enough** to pass the test.

## 2. THE RULES OF 'TOO' (EXCESS)

*Too* implies a negative excess—more than you want or need.

- **TOO + Adjective / Adverb**
  - *Rule:* *Too* goes **before** adjectives and adverbs.
  - *Example:* The coffee is **too hot**. (I cannot drink it).
  - *Example:* You are driving **too fast**.
- **TOO MUCH vs. TOO MANY (Nouns)**
  - **Too much + Uncountable Nouns** (water, time, money, sugar).
    - *Example:* There is **too much traffic** today.
  - **Too many + Countable Plural Nouns** (people, cars, books, mistakes).
    - *Example:* There are **too many questions** on this form.

## 3. COMPLEX CONSTRUCTIONS (Infinitives and 'For' Phrases)

We often connect these quantifiers to actions using *to + infinitive* or *for + person/object*.

- **Structure:** *Too* + [Adj] + (*for someone*) + (*to do something*)
  - *Example:* The box is **too heavy for me to lift**.
- **Structure:** [Adj] + *Enough* + (*for someone*) + (*to do something*)
  - *Example:* The water is **warm enough for us to swim**.

## 4. NEGATIVES AND OPPOSITES

Sometimes, a negative sentence with *enough* has the same meaning as a positive sentence with *too*.

- *It is **too cold** to go out.* = *It isn't **warm enough** to go out.*

# Practice: Quantifiers and Word Order

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**Instruction:** Complete the sentences using **too**, **too much**, **too many**, or **enough**. You must combine these with the word in parentheses (where provided). Pay strict attention to word order (e.g., *tall enough* vs. *enough time*).

**Example:**

- I can't carry this bag. It is \_\_\_\_\_ (heavy). -> *too heavy*
- We can't buy the car. We don't have \_\_\_\_\_ (money). -> *enough money*

1. I don't want to go to the beach today. It is \_\_\_\_\_ (cold) to swim.
2. Do you think you have \_\_\_\_\_ (experience) for this job?
3. The music is \_\_\_\_\_ (loud)! Please turn it down.
4. We couldn't get on the bus because there were \_\_\_\_\_ (people) inside.
5. He didn't run \_\_\_\_\_ (fast) to win the race.
6. Don't put \_\_\_\_\_ (sugar) in my tea; I prefer it bitter.
7. I am not \_\_\_\_\_ (strong) to lift this box by myself.
8. There are \_\_\_\_\_ (chairs) in the classroom. We need three more. (Note: Use the negative form implied by context).
9. Is this box \_\_\_\_\_ (light) for you to carry, or should I help you?
10. The instructions were confusing. They were \_\_\_\_\_ (complicated) to understand.
11. I feel sick because I ate \_\_\_\_\_ (cake) at the party.
12. She is old enough to drive, but she isn't \_\_\_\_\_ (responsible) to own a car yet.
13. \_\_\_\_\_ (you / have / time) to finish the report before the meeting starts?
14. The teacher spoke \_\_\_\_\_ (quietly). The students at the back couldn't hear her.
15. There is \_\_\_\_\_ (pollution) in this city. We need to protect the environment.

## Answer Key

1. **too cold** (Excess)
2. **enough experience** (Enough + Noun)
3. **too loud** (Too + Adjective)
4. **too many people** (Too many + Countable Plural)
5. **fast enough** (Adverb + Enough)
6. **too much sugar** (Too much + Uncountable)
7. **strong enough** (Adjective + Enough)
8. **not enough chairs** (Context implies insufficiency: Not + Enough + Noun)
9. **light enough** (Adjective + Enough)
10. **too complicated** (Too + Adjective + Infinitive phrase context)
11. **too much cake** (Too much + Uncountable)
12. **responsible enough** (Adjective + Enough)
13. **Do you have enough time** (Question form + Enough + Noun)
14. **too quietly** (Too + Adverb)
15. **too much pollution** (Too much + Uncountable)