

Doctor English: Lesson 4 (Beginner / Intermediate)

Some / Any

✉ New Message

To : doctorenglish@nova.com

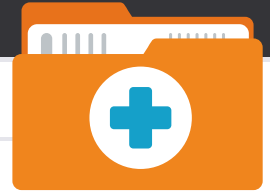
Subject : some / any

Dear Doctor English,

In school, I learned that "**some**" is used in positive sentences and "**any**" is used in negative sentences and questions.

However, I sometimes hear native speakers use "**some**" in questions. Is this correct?

Thank you. K.H.



➤ Basic use



A: I'm hungry. Do you have any cookies?

B: Yes, there are some cookies in the cupboard.

A: I don't see any cookies.



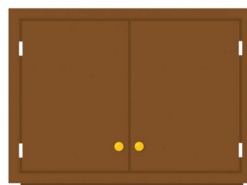
Do you have any (cookies)? Yes, there are some (cookies) in the (cupboard).
I don't see any (cookies).

Make your own conversation using the pictures below.

cookies



cupboard



bananas



fridge



Now, make your own conversation using your own ideas.

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Special case

Case Study A: Offer + Expected response is "Yes"



A: I'm hungry.

B: Would you like ~~a~~ cake?
some

A: Yes, please!



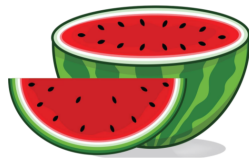
Offer the items in the pictures using **some**.

1.



juice

2.



watermelon

3.



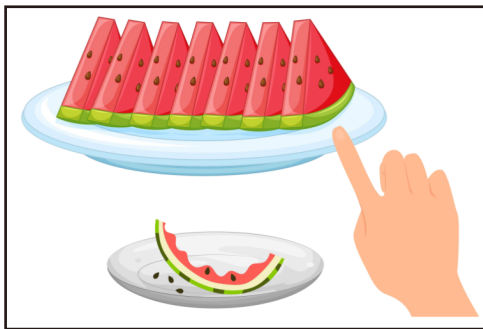
bread

4.



salad

Case Study B: Request + Expected response is "Yes"



A: Can I have ~~a~~ more watermelon?
some

B: Sure. Help yourself!

A: Thanks!

Ask for more of the items in the pictures using **some**.

1.



tea

2.



pizza

3.



cake

4.



potato chips

Production

Practice offering and requesting food and drinks at a picnic.

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✉ 新メッセージ

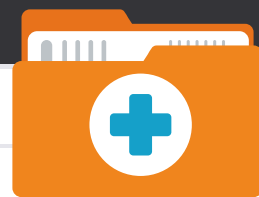
To : doctorenglish@nova.com

Subject : some / any

日本語訳:

学校で「some」は肯定文、「any」は否定文や疑問文で使うと学びました。しかし、ネイティブスピーカーが疑問文で「some」を使っているのを耳にすることがあります。これは正しいのでしょうか？

ありがとうございます。K.H.



基本的な使い分け Basic use

some:

肯定文で使われ、対象が(一定量／一定数)存在することを前提とします。

Used in positive (or affirmative) sentences. Assumes the existence of the object or an amount of the object/objects.

例文: There are **some** cookies. (いくつかクッキーがあります)

any:

疑問文や否定文で使われ、対象が存在するかわからない、または存在しないことを前提とします。

Used in negative sentences and questions. Assumes the existence of the object is unknown or it does not exist.

例文: I don't see **any** cookies. (クッキーが全く見当たりません)

例文: Do you have **any** cookies? (クッキーは(いくらか)ありますか?)

例外的な使い方 Special case

疑問文でのsome:

Using "some" in questions

相手に対して依頼や申し出、勧誘をする際に、質問に「はい」と答えてもらうことを期待する場面で使われます。

When making requests and offers or invitations where we expect the answer to the question to be "yes", we use "some".

例文: **Would you like some cake?** (ケーキはいかがですか?)



まとめ Summary

some: 具体的な存在を前提とした、肯定的なニュアンスをもつ。 Assumes a concrete existence and has a positive nuance.

any: 存在を前提とせず、不確定な状況や広範な可能性を示す。 Does not assume existence. Indicates an uncertain situation or wide range of possibilities.

ただし肯定的な返答を期待しているとき、疑問文でもsomeが使われる。 Used in questions when a positive response is expected.