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Denmark is the happiest country in Europe

A new report says that most people in Denmark are satisfied with life most of the time. It was number one in a study which asked 1,000 people in each European country about their level of 'life satisfaction'. Not surprisingly, a large number of people mentioned money, but clearly Europeans don't think that having enough money is the only explanation for happiness. Plenty of people consider that a close family and local community are equally important.

Top Five Happiest European Countries

- 1 Denmark **90.1%**
- 2 Finland **85.9%**
- 3 Netherlands **85.1%**
- 4 Sweden **82.7%**
- 5 Ireland **81.1%**

And what about the responses from the least satisfied countries? Several reasons were given, including lack of access to good healthcare and schools and, not surprisingly, the fact that a great deal of time was spent at work with not enough time at the end of the day for relaxation.



Presentation

Use *enough, plenty of, most, a large amount of, a great deal of, a number of* and *several* to talk about quantities without giving a specific amount:

with uncountable nouns	with plural countable nouns	with both
<i>a large amount of</i> <i>a great deal of</i>	<i>a large number of</i> <i>several</i>	<i>enough</i> <i>plenty of</i> <i>most</i>

enough

Use *enough* to say you have the correct or sufficient quantity: *We've got **enough** money to pay for this.*

Use *not enough* to say you have less than you want or need: *Some people **don't** have **enough** time to relax.*

TIP *Not enough* has a similar meaning to *too little* and *too few*. *We haven't got enough schools where we live. = We've got too few schools where we live.*

plenty of

Use *plenty of* to talk about large quantities or to say there is/are more than enough: *We've got **plenty of** hospitals in our area.*

most

Use *most* or *most of the* to talk about the largest quantity or number compared to any other: ***Most** people in Denmark are satisfied with life **most of the** time.*

With pronouns, use *most of* without *the*. Say *most of them*. (don't say *most of the them*.)

a large number of / a large amount of / a great deal of

Use *a large number of* with plural nouns only: *A **large number of** people mentioned money.*

Use *a large amount of / a great deal of* with uncountable nouns only: *A **large amount of / A great deal of** time is spent at work.*

These expressions mean the same as *lots of / a lot of* but they are normally used in formal or written texts.

several

You use *several* to talk about three or more things or people: *People gave **several** reasons for their answers.*

You can also use *several of the*: ***Several of the** people in the survey mentioned that education was important.*

With pronouns, use *several of*, not *several of the*: ***Several of them** mentioned education.*

You can use *a large amount, a great deal, enough, plenty, several* without nouns when the meaning is clear: *Do you have enough schools where you live? Yes, we have **enough/plenty/several**.*

Do not use *of* in this case. Say *Yes, we have **plenty***. (don't say *Yes, we have plenty of*.)

Exercises

1 Match the two halves of the sentences.

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|---|--|
| 1 Several <u>B</u> | A of people in the Netherlands enjoy life. |
| 2 Most of | B other northern European countries also appear in the top five. |
| 3 Plenty | C the Finns seem very happy. |
| 4 At number four, people in Sweden have a large | D happiness to be in the top five. |
| 5 Ireland had enough | E number of these results. |
| 6 Financial security explains a large | F amount of time for relaxation. |

2 Choose the correct options. Both options are possible in one sentence.

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|---|--|
| 1 <i>Several</i> / (<i>Most</i>) of the voters wanted the current Prime Minister to continue leading the country. Only about five percent voted for his opponent. | 5 We've seen <i>several</i> / <i>a large amount of</i> pictures of his girlfriend but we've never met her. |
| 2 That's <i>enough</i> / <i>isn't enough</i> ! Otherwise, I'll never eat everything on my plate! | 6 <i>A great deal of</i> / <i>A large number of</i> people have visited our company's website since we launched it last month. |
| 3 A: Do you have any sugar?
B: Yes, there's <i>plenty</i> / <i>several</i> in that packet. | 7 We asked over 200 people if a good job was the most important factor in their life, and <i>a large amount of</i> / <i>most of</i> them answered 'Yes'. |
| 4 <i>A large amount of</i> / <i>A great deal of</i> electricity is wasted every year. | |

3 Complete sentences 1–6 using the words in the box.

enough great deal large number most not enough plenty
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- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 We have twelve chairs and eleven people, so we have <u>enough</u> chairs for everyone. | 4 There are 30 people in my class and of them really enjoy learning English. Only two people don't enjoy it. |
| 2 Geoff now says he wants a hamburger too, but I only bought five, so I'm afraid there are | 5 When you have a car, you spend a of time in traffic jams! |
| 3 It's seven o'clock and the film doesn't start until nine, so we have of time. | 6 A of schools have closed for the day because of the snow. |
- 4 Complete the sentences about the results from a survey of 100 people using the words from the box. There is more than one possibility in some sentences. You may need to add *a* or *of*.

large number most plenty several

What is most important for happiness?

..... people answered that family and the community were most important. However, people also believe money is important for happiness. people said that access to healthcare was important. people also said that good schools were important.