



**Remember to watch the video first!** Then read the conversation between Sophie and Hakan. Sophie's helping Hakan understand how to use *some*, *any* and *no* to talk about numbers or the amount of things.



**Grammar  
Snacks**

We use *some* and *any* for talking about indefinite numbers or amounts of things. We use them with nouns or on their own, as pronouns.



**Hakan**

I know about *some* and *any*. You use *some* in positive sentences and *any* in questions and negatives, right?

Well, yes, often.

*We've got **some** amazing chocolate cake, and **some** carrot cake.  
Have you got **any** chocolate cake?  
I haven't had **any** carrot cake for ages.*

But we also use *any* in positive sentences.

***Any** cake will do. Surprise me.  
She can tell you everything about ... well, about **anything!***



**Sophie**



Oh, so what's the rule?

We use *some* for talking about a limited number or amount; and we use *any* for an unlimited number or amount. For example, imagine you are talking about different kinds of cake. All these sentences are possible:

- A. I like **any** kind of cake. (= all kinds of cake, unlimited)
- B. I **don't** like **any** kind of cake. (= 0 kinds of cake, unlimited)
- C. I like **some** kinds of cake. (= a limited number of kinds of cake)
- D. I **don't** like **some** kinds of cake. (= a limited number of kinds of cake)



OK, I think that's clear. I like *any* kind of music. I don't like *some* dogs.

Yes, if you like all music and if you also like *some* dogs.



Yes, I like most dogs, but not dogs that bite, or dogs that are ill.

OK, then.



And what about questions? Can we use both *some* and *any* in questions?

Yes, we use *both*.

*Would you like **some** more coffee?*

*Would you like **any** more to eat?*

Here the difference is very small. The speaker is thinking of a limited amount in the first question, and an unlimited amount in the second question. In both questions we could use *some* or *any*.

Sometimes we use *some* when we expect the answer to be "yes". We use *any* when we don't know what the answer will be; we are asking whether something exists.

*Can I have **some** sugar? (I know there's some sugar)*

*Is there **any** cake left? (I don't know whether there's any cake)*

*Are you waiting for **somebody**? (I think you are)*

*Is **anybody** coming to meet you? (I don't know)*



Did you say we can use *some* and *any* on their own, as pronouns?

Yes, we don't need to repeat the noun.

*Is there **any** cake?*

*Yes, do you want **some**? / Sorry, there isn't **any**. / Sorry, there's **none** left.*



Ah, none. That's new to me.

Yes, we can use *none* or *no + noun* instead of *not any*.

*Have we got **any** onions?*

*No, there aren't **any**. / There are **none** left.*

*We haven't got **any** money. = We have **no** money.*



What about *somebody*, *anybody*, *everybody* and *nobody*? Can you tell me more about how you use those words?

Of course. *Somebody/anybody/nobody/everybody* are used as singular nouns, even though *everybody* refers to more than one person and *anybody* can mean more than one person.

*I saw **somebody** outside the window. (= 1 person)*

*There's **nobody** there. (= 0 person)*

***Everybody** knows that The Beatles were from Liverpool. (= all people)*

*Has **anybody** seen my keys? (= 1+ people)*



Is *somebody* the same as *someone*?

Yes, it's the same. We also use:

People: someone - anyone - no one - everyone

Things: something - anything - nothing - everything

Places: somewhere - anywhere - nowhere - everywhere



OK, I think that's everything for today. I've got to go *somewhere* to meet *somebody*.

You don't want to ask *anything* else?



No, thank you!



Watch the video on our website!

