



Grammar entry: few and little

	countable (zählbar)	uncountable (nicht zählbar)
base form (Grundform)	<p>few</p> <p>I have got few days left to finish my work.</p>	<p>little</p> <p>I have got little time left to finish my work.</p>
comparative (Komparativ)	<p>fewer</p> <p>You have got fewer days left to finish your work than me.</p>	<p>less</p> <p>You have got less time left to finish your work than me.</p>

few	little	a few	a little
= not many (nicht viel)	= not much (nicht viel)	= some, a small number (etwas, eine kleine Anzahl)	= some, a small amount (etwas, eine kleine Menge)
→ negative ideas		→ more positive meaning	
Vicky doesn't like living in London. She has few friends there. → few friends = not many friends, not as many as she would like	Gary is very busy with his job. He has little time for other things. → little time = not much time, less time than he would like	I enjoy my life here. I have a few friends and we meet quite often. → a few friends = not many friends, but enough to have a good time	Let's go and have a coffee. We have a little time before the train leaves. → a little time = not much time, but enough time to have a coffee

Compare:

He spoke **little** English, so it was difficult to communicate with him.

He spoke **a little** English, so we were able to communicate with him.

She's lucky. She has **few** problems. (= not many problems)

Things are not going so well for her. She has **a few** problems. (= some problems)