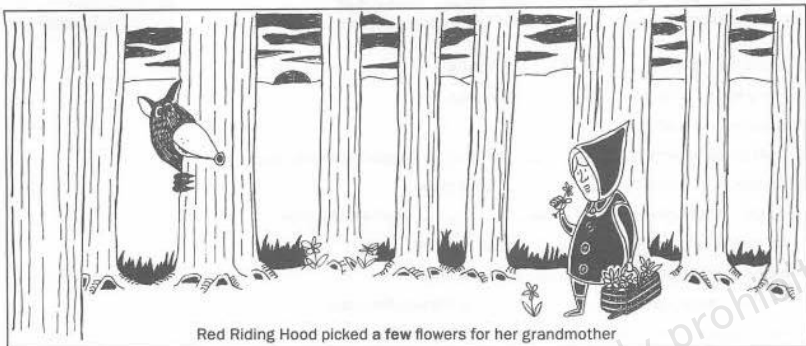


1 *a few* means the same as *some*:

We were quite tired so a few of us went to bed early.



Red Riding Hood picked a few flowers for her grandmother

few means the same as *not many*:

They were all very excited. *Few* of them went to bed before midnight.

It was a dreadful accident. *Few* passengers survived.

2 You can use *any* with count or uncount nouns:

You use *any* in positive statements when you mean *any one at all* or when you mean *it doesn't matter which one*:

You can buy it at *any* book shop. You can hire a car at almost *any* airport.

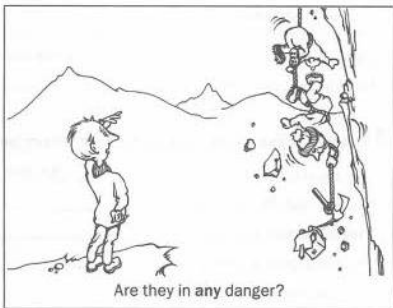
Any ten year-old knows how to use a computer. I'd like *any* book by Jane Austen.

Because it has this meaning it is very common in negatives and questions:

There aren't *any* tomatoes left. There's some sugar, but there isn't *any* rice.



'Have you got *any* children?'



Are they in *any* danger?

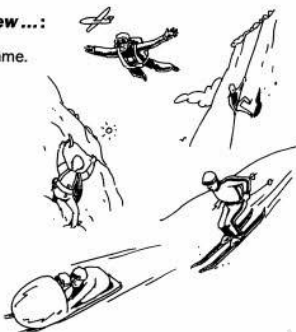
But you usually use *some* in requests and offers because they are for specific things:

Could you lend me *some* money? Could I have *some* tomatoes please?

Would you like *some* tea? Here, have *some* cake.

A Complete these sentences with *some/a few* or *not many/few ...*:

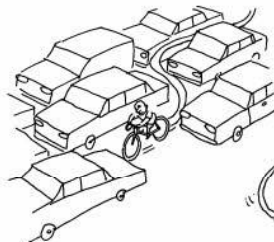
- We invited a lot of people to the meeting but not many/few came.
- I am going to buy _____ things for supper.
- There are lots of girls in my class but _____ boys.
- Nobody wanted to go out in the rain, but _____ people had to.
- We all wanted to go home early but _____ people had to stay behind and work.
- We saw lots of interesting animals and _____ birds.
- Lots of us wanted to go skiing but _____ of us could spare the time.



- 8 I don't like dangerous sports but _____ of my friends do.

B Fill the blanks with *some* or *any*:

- Would you like some coffee?
- We've got plenty of rice, but we haven't any potatoes.
- I'd like _____ apples and _____ oranges please.
- You can buy stamps at _____ post office.
- I think _____ child who has a bicycle should have lessons in road safety.
- No thanks, I don't want _____ coffee, but I'd like _____ tea please.
- We bought _____ fish but we didn't buy _____ meat.
- She likes _____ film about animals.
- I would like to go with you, but I haven't _____ time to spare.
- You can get your car mended at _____ good garage.
- It's a very common word. You will find it in _____ dictionary.
- A: Can you lend me _____ money?
B: I'm sorry, I haven't _____.
- Almost _____ bank will change traveller's cheques.



- 14 _____ children are quite dangerous on their bicycles.