

Linguistic Drills

English Department Students

Compiled By

Dr. Haggag Mohamed

Intermediate Level

1

What is a collocation?

A

What are collocations?

A collocation is a combination of two or more words which frequently occur together. If someone says, 'She's got *yellow hair*', they would probably be understood, but it is not what would ordinarily be said in English. We'd say, 'She's got **blond hair**'. In other words, *yellow* doesn't collocate with *hair* in everyday English. *Yellow* collocates with, say, *flowers* or *paint*.

Collocations are not just a matter of how adjectives combine with nouns. They can refer to any kind of typical word combination, for example verb + noun (e.g. **arouse someone's interest**, **lead a seminar**), adverb + adjective (e.g. **fundamentally different**), adverb + verb (e.g. **flatly contradict**), noun + noun (e.g. **a lick of paint**, **a team of experts**, **words of wisdom**). There is much more about different grammatical types of collocation in Unit 3.

Phrasal verbs (e.g. *come up with*, *run up*, *adhere to*) and compound nouns (e.g. *economy drive*, *stock market*) are sometimes described as types of collocations. In this book we consider them as individual lexical items and so usually include them here only in combination with something else, e.g. **come up with a suggestion**, **run up a bill**, **adhere to your principles**, **go on an economy drive**, **play the stock market**. However, it is not always easy to separate collocations and compounds and, where they are useful for learners as an important part of the vocabulary of a topic, we include some compounds in this book too.

It can be difficult for learners of English to know which words collocate, as natural collocations are not always logical or guessable. There is, for example, no obvious reason why we say **making friends** rather than *getting* friends or **heavy rain**, not *strong* rain.

Learners also need to know when specific collocations are appropriate. This is usually referred to by linguists as knowing which register to use. **Alight from a bus** is a formal collocation used in notices and other official contexts. In everyday situations we would, of course, always talk about **getting off a bus**. There is more about register and collocation in Unit 6.

B

Why is it important to learn collocations?

An appreciation of collocation will help you to:

- use the words you know more accurately
In other words, you'll **make** (NOT *do*) fewer **mistakes**.
- sound more natural when you speak and write
By saying, for example, **of great importance**, rather than *of big or high importance*, you won't just be understood, you will – quite rightly – sound like a fluent user of English.
- vary your speech and, probably more importantly, your writing
Instead of repeating everyday words like *very*, *good* or *nice*, you will be able to exploit a wider range of language. You would gain more marks in an exam, for instance, for writing *We had a blissfully happy holiday in a picturesque little village surrounded by spectacular mountains* than for *We had a very happy holiday in a nice little village surrounded by beautiful mountains*, even though both sentences are perfectly correct.
- understand when a skilful writer departs from normal patterns of collocation
A journalist, poet, advertiser or other inventive user of language often creates an effect by not choosing the expected collocation. For example, a travel article about the Italian capital might be entitled *No place like Rome*, a reference to the popular expression **There's no place like home**.

Exercises

1.1 Match the two parts of these collocations.

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1 adhere to | rain |
| 2 arouse | different |
| 3 blond | of wisdom |
| 4 come up with | your principles |
| 5 flatly | an economy drive |
| 6 fundamentally | a seminar |
| 7 go on | someone's interest |
| 8 heavy | contradict |
| 9 lead | hair |
| 10 a lick | the stock market |
| 11 play | of paint |
| 12 words | a suggestion |

1.2 Correct the underlined collocation errors with words from the advice in B. Be careful, you might find the words in the text, as well as in the examples.

- 1 Exam candidates often make faults in their use of verbs like *do*, *make*, *go* and *get*.
- 2 Try to use a longer range of language when you write.
- 3 Exam candidates who use collocations well gather better marks.
- 4 You have to know what normal collocation patterns are before you can lose them.
- 5 The writer used colloquial language to form an effect.

1.3 Look at these sentences from a hotel brochure. Improve the style by replacing the words in italics with the word in brackets that forms the best collocation. (Use each word only once.)

- 1 Our new family hotel is set in a *nice* location and all the rooms have *nice* furnishings and *nice* views over the surrounding countryside. (stylish / secluded / breathtaking)
- 2 Visitors will enjoy the *good* atmosphere in either of our *good* dining rooms, both serving *good* food to both residents and non-residents. (delicious / relaxing / spacious)
- 3 We organise tours to *beautiful* surrounding villages where you'll have the opportunity to take some *beautiful* photographs and sample the *beautiful* local cuisine. (mouth-watering / picturesque / stunning)

1.4 Write F (formal), I (informal) or N (neutral) in the brackets at the end of each sentence. In each pair of sentences, there is one neutral sentence and one formal or informal sentence. Underline the collocations that are noticeably formal or informal.

- 1 a Passengers must not alight from the bus while it is in motion. ()
b Passengers must not get off the bus while it is moving. ()
- 2 a Let's grab a bite before we get down to work. ()
b Let's have something to eat before we start work. ()
- 3 a SFTS has the right to bring the agreement to an end with three months' notice. ()
b SFTS reserves the right to terminate the agreement with three months' notice. ()
- 4 a She thinks her boyfriend is planning to pop the question tonight. ()
b She thinks her boyfriend is planning to ask her to marry him tonight. ()

1.5 Correct the four collocation errors in this paragraph.

The yellow-haired boy said he had joined the English class to get some new friends. He also said that he wanted to learn about collocations because it would be of big importance in helping him to do fewer mistakes when writing in English.

2

Strong, fixed and weak collocations

A

Strong collocations

A strong collocation is one in which the words are very closely associated with each other. For example, the adjective **mitigating** almost always collocates with **circumstances** or **factors**; it rarely collocates with any other word. *Although she was found guilty, the jury felt there were **mitigating circumstances**.* [factors or circumstances that lessen the blame]

Here are some other examples of strong collocations.

collocation	comment
Inclement weather was expected.	(very formal) = unpleasant weather <i>Inclement</i> collocates almost exclusively with <i>weather</i> .
She has auburn hair .	<i>Auburn</i> collocates only with words connected with hair (e.g. <i>curls</i> , <i>tresses</i> , <i>locks</i>).
I felt deliriously happy .	= extremely happy Strongly associated with <i>happy</i> . Not used with <i>glad</i> , <i>content</i> , <i>sad</i> , etc.
The chairperson adjourned the meeting .	= have a pause or rest during a meeting/trial <i>Adjourn</i> is very strongly associated with <i>meeting</i> and <i>trial</i> .

B

Fixed collocations

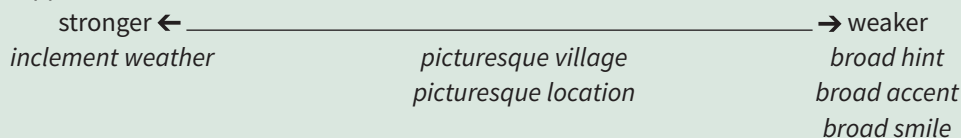
Fixed collocations are collocations so strong that they cannot be changed in any way. For example, you can say *I was walking **to and fro*** (meaning I was walking in one direction and then in the opposite direction, a repeated number of times). No other words can replace *to* or *fro* or *and* in this collocation. It is completely fixed. The meaning of some fixed collocations cannot be guessed from the individual words. These collocations are called idioms and are focused on in the book *English Idioms in Use*.

C

Weak collocations

Weak collocations are made up of words that collocate with a wide range of other words. For example, you can say you are **in broad agreement** with someone [generally in agreement with them]. However, *broad* can also be used with a number of other words – **a broad avenue**, **a broad smile**, **broad shoulders**, **a broad accent** [a strong accent], **a broad hint** [a strong hint] and so on. These are weak collocations, in the sense that *broad* collocates with **a broad range** of different nouns.

Strong collocations and weak collocations form a continuum, with stronger ones at one end and weaker ones at the other. Most collocations lie somewhere between the two. For example, the (formal) adjective *picturesque* collocates with *village*, *location* and *town*, and so appears near the middle of the continuum.



D

Types of collocations in this book

The collocations in this book are all frequently used in modern English. We used a corpus (a database of language) to check this. We have also selected the collocations which will be useful to you as an advanced learner. We pay most attention to those that are not predictable. *A broad avenue*, for example, would be predicted by any student who knows *broad* and *avenue*. However, the use of *broad* to mean *strong* as in **a broad accent** is more difficult to predict.

Exercises

2.1 Complete the collocations using the words in the box. You will need to use some words more than once.

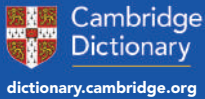
adjourn auburn broad deliriously inclement mitigating picturesque

- 1 a accent
- 2 in agreement
- 3 circumstances
- 4 factors
- 5 hair
- 6 happy
- 7 a smile
- 8 a location
- 9 a meeting
- 10 a town
- 11 a trial
- 12 weather

2.2 Rewrite each sentence using a collocation from 2.1.

- 1 Melissa has quite a strong Scottish accent.
- 2 Bad weather led to the cancellation of the President's garden party.
- 3 We were all very happy when we heard we'd won the award.
- 4 Their new home was in a very pretty location.
- 5 Because there were circumstances that made the theft less serious, the judge let him off with a warning.
- 6 I think we should stop the meeting now and continue it tomorrow.
- 7 She had a big smile on her face when she arrived.
- 8 She has lovely reddish-brown hair.
- 9 I think we're generally in agreement as to what should be done.

2.3 Think of as many collocations as you can for each word. Then look in a dictionary such as the Cambridge Online Dictionary for other suitable words. Write W (weak) or S (strong) next to each group depending on how many words you found.



- 1 extremely
- 2 an effort
- 3 cancel
- 4 deliver
- 5 a living
- 6 a meeting
- 7 feature
- 8 engage
- 9 bright

2.4 How useful do you think the collocations you have worked on in 2.2 and 2.3 are for you personally? Choose which collocations are most important to you and make sentences with them.

Over to you

Choose an English-language text that you have worked on recently. Underline five collocations in it. Are these collocations weak, strong or fixed?

3

Grammatical categories of collocation

A

Verb + noun

verb	noun	example	meaning of verb
draw up	a list a contract	Our lawyer drew up a contract for us to sign.	prepare something, usually official, in writing
pass up	a chance an opportunity	I didn't want to pass up the chance of seeing Hong Kong, so I agreed to go on the trip.	fail to take advantage of
withstand	pressure the impact	The police officer's vest can withstand the impact of a bullet.	bear

B

Noun + verb

noun	verb	example
opportunity	arise	An opportunity arose for me to work in China, so I went and spent a year there.
standards	slip	People feel educational standards slipped when the government cut finances.

C

Noun + noun

- Noun + noun collocations used to describe groups or sets:
There's been **a spate of attacks/thefts** in our area recently. [unusually large number happening in close succession]
The minister had to put up with **a barrage of questions/insults** from the angry audience. [unusually large number, happening at the same time]
- Noun + noun collocations used with uncountable nouns:
By **a stroke of luck** I found my keys in the rubbish bin! [sudden, unexpected piece of luck]
She gave me **a snippet of information** which is top secret. [small piece of information]

D

Adjective + noun

This is not an **idle threat**; I will call the police if this happens again! [simply a threat]
He waited in the **vain hope** that the minister would meet him. [unlikely to be fulfilled hope]
There is **mounting concern/criticism/fury** over the decision. [growing concern, etc.]
The **simple/plain truth** is that no one was aware of the problem.

E

Adverb + adjective

The article provides an **intensely personal** account of the writer's relationship with his sons.
Joe's sister was a **stunningly attractive** woman.

F

Verb + adverb or prepositional phrase

The teenager tried to persuade his mother that he was innocent but he **failed miserably**.
I don't like to travel with my brother because he **drives recklessly**. [wildly, without care]
As soon as the singer came on stage she **burst into song**.
If your dog starts to **foam at the mouth**, you should take it to the vet immediately.

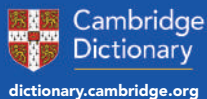
G

More complex collocations

Mary was looking forward to retiring and **taking it easy for a while**.
It's time you **put the past behind you** and started focusing on the future.

Exercises

3.1 Match a word from each box to form collocations. Not all the collocations appear on the opposite page, so use a dictionary such as the Cambridge Online Dictionary to help you if necessary.



disease evidence opportunity smoke
standards teeth wind withstand

arises chatter howls pressure
rises slip spreads suggests

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

3.2 Complete each sentence using a collocation from 3.1 in the appropriate form.

- 1 The scientific human beings first emerged in Africa.
- 2 The was all night and it was raining, so I couldn't sleep.
- 3 The machine has to be made of materials that can a lot of
- 4 Oh, no! There's a fire. Look at the from those buildings.
- 5 It was so cold I couldn't stop my from
- 6 Our survey shows that parents believe have at the school.
- 7 You must accompany Mason on one of his business trips to Asia, if the ever
- 8 An alarming new is among cattle in the south of the country.

3.3 Rewrite the underlined part of each sentence using a collocation from the opposite page.

- 1 I don't want to say no to the chance of meeting such a famous person.
- 2 We'll have to write a contract before you start work, as it's a new position.
- 3 You're working too hard. You should try to relax for a short period of time.
- 4 This new bullet-proof car can take the impact of a rocket-propelled grenade.
- 5 Do you have any interesting little bits of information about our new boss to tell us?
- 6 The minister faced a large number of questions from reporters.
- 7 I had some luck last week. The police found my stolen wallet and nothing was missing.
- 8 There's been a number of violent attacks in the area recently.
- 9 After her divorce Mandy was determined to forget the past and build a new life.

3.4 Answer these questions.

- 1 Who do you think is the most stunningly attractive person you have ever seen?
- 2 What should you do if you are in a car with someone who is driving recklessly?
- 3 Do you prefer walking in the country if there is a gentle breeze or a strong wind?
- 4 Would you write your most intensely personal thoughts and feelings in your diary?

3.5 Choose the correct collocation.

- 1 He said he would throw us out, but it was just a(n) *vain / idle / lazy* threat.
- 2 They rushed the victim to hospital, in the *idle / simple / vain* hope of saving her life.
- 3 The government is encountering *mounting / climbing / rising* criticism of its policies.
- 4 There is *raising / mounting / vain* concern across the world about climate change.
- 5 The horse was *fuming / foaming / fainting* at the mouth, so we called the vet.
- 6 Suddenly, without warning, Marta *busted / bustled / burst* into song.
- 7 The *right / straight / plain* truth is that I hate my job.
- 8 I tried to persuade her but I'm afraid I failed *desperately / miserably / wholeheartedly*.

4

Finding and working on collocations in texts

A

Finding collocations

You can expand your collocation vocabulary by training yourself to notice collocations whenever you read. Note the collocations in these three examples of texts from different sources – a newspaper feature, a film review and a website for London tourists.

LOCAL SPOTLIGHT

As a **newly qualified** teacher at a comprehensive school in Wiltshire, every day Joe **faces the challenge** of **gaining the respect** of a class of 15-year-olds. Joe, 26, admits it is a **tough challenge** but thinks he is **winning the battle**. Joe, who teaches English and media studies, and coaches a school football team, will **qualify fully** in July, **pending the results**¹ of his lesson assessments. With this **milestone passed**², and the increased financial stability it will bring, Joe will **turn his thoughts to** buying his first home.

¹ (formal) as long as he achieves successful results

² major life event behind him

The Interpreter



STARRING
Nicole Kidman
Sean Penn

She has a **gift for languages**, which brings her to the UN. She wants to **make a difference**. She is idealistic in that single-minded, dedicated manner associated with freedom fighters. Silvia (Nicole Kidman) remains an enigma. When Tobin Keller (Sean Penn) begins to investigate her, he is faced with a blank sheet. She is beautiful, blonde, lissom and lithe. She lives alone, has no lover, rides a Vespa throughout New York and works all day, **providing simultaneous translation** for delegates. She has an odd accent, which, like everything else about her, is **difficult to pin down**³.

³ hard to fix or place



Entertaining children in London

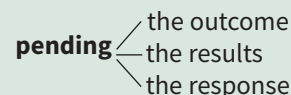
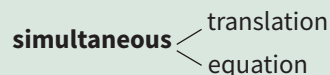
Covent Garden's buskers and jugglers **provide** no-cost **entertainment** in a car-free setting, and you've always **got the chance** of being plucked from the crowd to help out with a trick. Don't **underestimate the value of** London's public transport as a **source of fun**, either. The #11 double-decker from Victoria, for instance, will trundle you past the Houses of Parliament, Trafalgar Square and the Strand on its way to St Paul's Cathedral for a modest sum. The driverless Docklands Light Railway is another guaranteed **source of amusement** – **grab a seat** at the front of the train and pretend to be the driver, then **take a boat** back to the centre of town from Greenwich.

Remember you will also hear collocations in conversations, lectures, songs and films. Try to get into the habit of recording any interesting collocations that you notice.

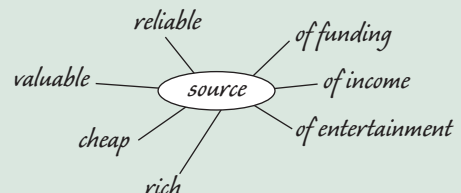
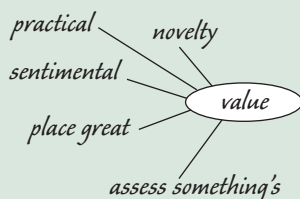
B

Recording collocations

When working on collocations in a text, use your dictionary to find more relating to one or both parts of the original collocation. You can record strong collocations in collocation forks:



and weak ones in collocation bubbles (because there are so many more of them):



Exercises

4.1 Complete each sentence using a collocation from A.

- 1 Tania has always had a so I'm not surprised she wants to study Chinese at university.
- 2 At high tide the sea covers the causeway and the only way to get to the island is to
- 3 It's very crowded in this café. You and I'll get our drinks.
- 4 Once my exams are over I'll planning a holiday.
- 5 Far more people these days manage to against cancer.
- 6 Most politicians say they enter politics because they want to
- 7 Try not to having good friends. Ultimately, friendship is far more important than work.
- 8 He's got the job – a successful in his driving test tomorrow.
- 9 Although they lack experience, doctors are often very enthusiastic and passionate about their work.

4.2 Complete the collocations. The first letters are given to help you. Use a dictionary such as the Cambridge Online Dictionary if necessary.



to j _ _ _ a _ t _ _
 to p _ _ _ u _ t _ _
 to g _ _ t _ _
 to s _ _ _ _ a
 to b _ i _ w _ _ _ a

chance

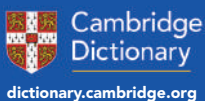
to f _ _ _ a
 to p _ _ _ a
 a d _ _ _ _
 to r _ _ _ t _ t _ _
 a s _ _ _ _ _

challenge

4.3 Check these expressions (a) in a good dictionary and (b) using a search engine. Which two are collocations and which two are not?

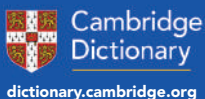
- 1 learn by head 2 learn by heart 3 lose a chance 4 miss a chance

4.4 Answer these questions.



- 1 Name three milestones in your life that you have already passed.
- 2 Are you already fully qualified? If so, as what? If not, when will you be?
- 3 What are some typical sources of income?
- 4 What is the toughest challenge you have ever faced?
- 5 What qualities would be needed by someone providing simultaneous translation?
- 6 What are some examples of things that have sentimental value for you?

4.5 Here is one student's plan for work on collocations. Complete the gaps, using a dictionary if necessary. Then tick the ideas you can use yourself.



- (1) an effort to notice collocations in any English text I read.
- (2) hold of a good dictionary to check other collocations for words that I want to learn.
- Write down at least three collocations for each new word I want to (3) to memory.
- Look back over old homework to see where I have (4) mistakes with collocations and (5) my best to (6) those mistakes in future.
- (7) a point of using good collocations when I have to write or speak in English.
- Read and listen to as much English as (8) because that will expose me to natural collocations.
- Every week revise the collocations I have (9) a note of in my vocabulary file.

A

What is register?

Our use of language changes according to the situation that we are in. If your close friend hosts a party, you could say, 'Thanks for the party. It was a blast.' (very informal) However, if your boss was the host, you would probably say, 'Thanks for the party. I really enjoyed it.' (neutral) In this example, *neutral* and *very informal* are both examples of register.

The register of most language is neutral (it can be used in any situation). However, register can also be formal, informal, characteristic of a certain professional field (e.g. legal, journalistic or media) or specific to official notices and forms.

Our choice of register depends on **what** we are talking about (business, the news, the neighbours), **who** we are talking to (friends, strangers, figures of authority) and **how** we are talking to them (in a letter, in an email, in public, in private). Study the table below and notice how different words and phrases are used to describe the same situation.

example	register	comment
The police are investigating / looking into the arms deal.	neutral	Either version would not seem out of place in any spoken or written contexts.
The cops are trying to dig out info about the arms deal.	informal	Phrasal verbs are often an informal alternative – although some are neutral.
The police are conducting an investigation into the arms deal.	formal	Longer words of Latin or Greek origin often indicate more formal language.
Police to probe arms deal	neutral, journalistic	<i>Probe</i> is typical of newspaper headline style.
The arms deal may be subject to police investigation .	formal, legal and official	<i>Subject to investigation</i> is typical of a bureaucratic or legal style.

Be careful not to think of formal language as written and informal language as spoken. There is a lot of overlap. For example, markedly formal language is most typical of official or academic writing and official legal or bureaucratic speech. Informal language is typical of conversation, personal letters and emails, messages on social media and some journalism.

B

Formal versus neutral collocations

formal (from official documents)	neutral (spoken)
Students must submit their assignments by 1 May.	'You have to hand in your assignments by 1 May.'
Students may request an extension after consulting their tutor .	'You can ask for an extension after you've talked to / had a word with your tutor .'

C

Informal versus neutral collocations

That film was **totally awesome!** (mainly used by teenagers, predominantly US) [neutral equivalent: absolutely amazing/fantastic]

That party was well good! (*Well* used to mean 'very'/'really', mainly by younger UK speakers.)

I **haven't a clue / the foggiest idea** what you mean. [neutral equivalent: I have no idea]

We can **grab a snack** before the meeting if you're hungry. [neutral equivalent: have a snack]

Tip

Make a note in your notebook if a collocation is very formal or informal in register.

Exercises

5.1 Write F (formal), I (informal) or N (neutral) in the brackets at the end of each sentence. Underline the collocations which indicate the register. Then rewrite the formal and informal sentences to make them neutral.

Example: Do not alight from the bus until it stops. (F) *Do not get off the bus until it stops.*

- 1 I feel dead tired all the time. ()
- 2 We were all bored stupid by the poetry reading. ()
- 3 Currency exchange offices are located in the arrivals lounge. ()
- 4 She conducted a study of single-parent family units. ()
- 5 She did her degree in London and found work there in 2015. ()
- 6 I just got the latest software so my computer is bang up to date. ()
- 7 Affix a passport-size photograph to the application form. ()
- 8 Jake asked his tutor for an extension to complete his dissertation. ()

5.2 Match the beginning of each sentence with its ending. Then label each sentence with the appropriate register from the list below. Underline the collocations which indicate the register.

Registers: informal conversation (IC) journalism/news (J) entertainment (E)
technical (T) legal (L) notices (N)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 This is breaking | a ring after dinner. |
| 2 These are the songs that are climbing | according to model and road conditions. |
| 3 There are tons of good reasons | blockbuster from Star Studios. |
| 4 Visitors must keep to the designated | news here on Global TV Extra. |
| 5 In any such case, customers shall forfeit | electronic circuit. |
| 6 Fuel consumption may vary | of the fitness machines to 20 minutes. |
| 7 I'll give you | to win support for the plan. |
| 8 The minister will tour Asia in a bid | the charts this week. |
| 9 Joss Engold stars in the latest | for not studying law. |
| 10 A microchip is a miniaturised | testify for a second time. |
| 11 Please restrict your use | areas at all times. |
| 12 A witness may be asked to | the right to compensation. |

5.3 Complete this conversation between a doctor and a patient, using the verbs in the box in the appropriate form. The language is quite informal, without technical medical terms.

come clear do feel get run take write

Doctor: What can I (1) for you, Mr Wilson?

Patient: Well, Doctor, I've been (2) a temperature for the last couple of days and I've (3) out in a rash on my neck. Do you see? These red spots here.

Doctor: Hmm. Let's (4) a look.

Patient: It's very irritating and I have trouble (5) off to sleep at night. Then I (6) down all day and can't concentrate on my work.

Doctor: Right. I don't think it's anything serious. I'll (7) you out a prescription for some lotion which should help to (8) up the rash.

5.4 Look at how the doctor describes the case in his records using more technical language. Choose the correct word from the choices provided. Use a dictionary to help if necessary.

A patient (1) *presented* / *represented* this morning with an (2) *elevating* / *elevated* temperature. He was also (3) *exposing* / *exhibiting* a neck rash. He further (4) *complained* / *grumbled* of an (5) *inability* / *impossibility* to concentrate.

When we speak metaphorically, we use words in a non-literal sense. For example, when we say a writer **casts light on a situation**, we mean that the writer helps us understand it more clearly, in the same way that putting a light on in a dark room helps us see more clearly.

A

Metaphors based on the body

collocation	example	meaning
face (up to) the facts	You're never going to run in the Olympics. It's time you faced (up to) the facts .	accepted reality
shoulder the blame	Although others were also responsible for the problem, Alice decided to shoulder the blame .	take responsibility for something bad
foot the bill	Choose what you like from the menu – the company is footing the bill .	paying
head a team	Jo heads a team working on crime prevention.	leads a project group
keep someone on their toes	Having three sons under the age of five keeps Jana on her toes .	makes her stay active and concentrated
have an eye for	Gina has an eye for detail, so ask her to check the report.	is good at noticing
go hand in hand with	Unemployment goes hand in hand with social unrest.	happens at the same time or as a result of

B

Metaphors based on weight

Heavy can be used to mean serious or difficult, as in **heavy responsibility**. A **heavy burden** can be either something heavy to carry or a difficult responsibility to deal with, while a **heavy book** can be either one that weighs a lot or one with difficult content. A **weighty tome**, however, would only be used to mean a book with difficult content. Similarly in **weighty matters** or **weighty problems**, *weighty* means difficult and serious.



Light, the opposite of *heavy*, can also be used metaphorically to mean carefree or lacking in seriousness. So **light reading** is reading material that is not serious. If you do something with a **light heart**, you feel carefree and happy.

If someone has a **slim chance** of doing something, there is a chance, but it is small. **Fat chance** (very informal) means almost no chance.

C

Metaphors based on movement

James did a lot of partying in his final year and **ran into difficulties** with his course. His father was **hopping mad**¹ when he only just managed to get his degree. However, when he left university he **walked straight into a job**² in an excellent company. Some people **jumped to the conclusion** that this was because he'd started going out with the managing director's daughter. His mother worried that, if their relationship **hit the rocks**³, he would **run into trouble** at work too.



¹ (informal) extremely angry

² got a job very easily

³ ended (metaphor based on a boat being destroyed on rocks)

Exercises

6.1 Rewrite the underlined part of each sentence using a metaphor from A.

- 1 The presidential visit meant no one had time to relax.
- 2 Rosetta took full responsibility for the failure of the project.
- 3 I don't think Greg will ever win Rosie's heart; it's time he accepted that.
- 4 The company had done so well that year that it agreed to pay for a staff night out.
- 5 I'm glad I'm not in charge of this team.
- 6 Eva is very good at finding a bargain.

6.2 Answer these questions about the metaphors on the opposite page.

- 1 What usually goes hand in hand with inflation: an increase or a decrease in savings?
- 2 If a relationship hits the rocks, is it the end or the beginning of that relationship?
- 3 If you say that someone is hopping mad, do you mean that they are good at athletics or that they are very angry?
- 4 If you run into difficulties or trouble, does that mean that they happen quickly?
- 5 Would you be more likely to call a magazine article featuring gossip about celebrities light reading or a weighty tome?
- 6 If you talk about facing the facts, are the facts more likely to be pleasant or unpleasant?

6.3 Explain the difference in meaning between the sentences in each pair.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1a Jess walked into a well-paid job in the City. | 1b Jess got a well-paid job in the City. |
| 2a Rafael is heading the project team. | 2b Rafael is backing the project team. |
| 3a Dad jumped to the wrong conclusion. | 3b Dad came to the wrong conclusion. |
| 4a Jan left the room with a light heart. | 4b Jan left the room with a heavy heart. |
| 5a Fat chance I've got of winning! | 5b I've got a slim chance of winning. |

6.4 Choose the correct collocation.

- 1 Kieran's constant whistling is *riding / getting / driving* me crazy.
- 2 Sylvia is a first-class designer as she has a good *eye / nose / hand* for detail.
- 3 You mustn't shoulder the heavy *weight / burden / task* of redecorating the house all by yourself.
- 4 There is just a *thin / slim / skinny* chance that Marek might pop in today.
- 5 The committee has some *fat / weighty / heavy* matters to discuss on today's agenda.
- 6 When the results came out, Marco was thrilled to see his name *footing / facing / heading* the list of successful candidates.

6.5 Explain what the play on words is based on in each of these headlines.

1 **ATHLETE RUNS INTO TROUBLE**

4 **SHOEWORLD CO.
TO FOOT THE BILL**

2 **DIET PILLS HAVE FAT
CHANCE OF SUCCESS**

5 **NEW LAW MAKES RABBIT
OWNERS HOPPING MAD**

3 **NEW DIRECTOR KEEPS
ROYAL BALLET ON ITS TOES**

Tip

You may find it useful to draw little pictures in your vocabulary notebook – or imagine them in your mind – to help you remember some collocations.

7

Intensifying and softening adverbs

Adverbs are often used before adjectives and verbs either to strengthen their meaning (intensifying adverbs) or to weaken it (softening adverbs).

Her comments were **deeply offensive**. (intensifier – very/extremely)

Her comments were **slightly offensive**. (softener – a little bit)

A

Intensifying adverbs

Notice how intensifying adverbs are used to mean ‘extremely’ or ‘completely’ in the sentences below. The expressions marked with * are very informal.

Olivia really enjoys doing housework. You should see her flat – it’s always **spotlessly clean**.

It was **downright rude** of Antonio to tell Paula that she looked older than her own mother.

I hope he feels **thoroughly ashamed**.

It’s **blatantly obvious** that Olga is only interested in Richard because he’s so wealthy.

I wonder what she’ll do when she finds out he’s **wildly exaggerated** how rich he really is!

I don’t know what I was worrying about! The exam turned out to be **dead easy***!

This celebrity website is good fun but most of the information is **wildly inaccurate**.

B

Softening adverbs

Note the softening adverbs used in these sentences from newspapers.

The spokesperson said the new insurance scheme was only **slightly different** from the old one. [weak collocation; *slightly* can be used with a wide range of adjectives]

The chief executive said he was **mildly surprised** by the public interest in the firm’s plans. [*mildly* also collocates with *amusing/ed*, *irritating/ed*, *offensive*]

Alfredo Scaluzzi’s new film is **loosely based on** a nineteenth-century novel. [*loosely* also collocates with *centred*, *structured*, *related*, *connected*]

Ms Giroa said she regarded reports that she was about to seek a divorce as **faintly ridiculous**. [fairly formal; *faintly* also collocates with *amused*, *surprised*, *patronising*, *absurd*]

C

Alternatives to very

There are a variety of words that you can use as alternatives to *very* which collocate with most adjectives, for example: *really*, *extremely*, *terribly*, *incredibly* and *awfully*. Other adverbs collocate with certain adjectives and verbs but not with others.

alternatives to <i>very</i>	✓	NOT
highly	unlikely, educated, recommended	appreciate, influence, interesting
strongly	influence	appreciate
greatly	appreciate, influence	
utterly	absurd, ridiculous	sorry, busy, glad, lonely
completely/totally/entirely	different, dependent, separate	
thoroughly	enjoy	

Common mistakes

Absolutely collocates only with adjectives which have strong meanings, e.g. **absolutely** (NOT *very*) **delighted**, **very** (NOT *absolutely*) **happy**.

Exercises

7.1 Match a word from each box to form collocations.

blatantly downright spotlessly
thoroughly wildly

ashamed clean inaccurate
obvious rude

7.2 Complete each sentence using a collocation from 7.1.

- 1 I'm amazed you didn't realise she was lying! It was to me!
- 2 It was of him not to say hello to the secretary.
- 3 I've been hoovering and dusting all day, so now my flat is
- 4 Most of the facts were wrong in that news report. It was
- 5 You should be of yourself. Your behaviour was appalling!

7.3 Rewrite the underlined part of each sentence using a collocation from the opposite page.

- 1 The American writer Mark Twain is famous for commenting that reports of his death had been over-exaggerated.
- 2 This restaurant is recommended by many different people.
- 3 The exam was extremely easy; everyone got high marks. (make this informal)
- 4 The musical *West Side Story* is kind of based on the plot of Shakespeare's play *Romeo and Juliet*. (make this less informal)
- 5 The idea of the boss singing *Happy Birthday* to me struck me as a little bit ridiculous.
- 6 The success of the Wimbledon tennis tournament is 100% dependent on the weather. (give two answers)
- 7 I really enjoyed the days I spent at your lovely house in the country.
- 8 I was just a little surprised by her decision to quit her job so soon.
- 9 I was really delighted when they told me I'd got the job.
- 10 The new model of this camera is a little bit different from the old one.

7.4 Add intensifying adverbs from the opposite page to these sentences to make the words in bold stronger.

- 1 I **appreciate** the fact that you have given me so much of your time.
- 2 Sometimes Tony says **ridiculous** things.
- 3 The crossword in today's newspaper is **difficult**. I can't even start it!
- 4 It's **sweet** of you to offer to help.
- 5 I found his remarks **offensive**; he should apologise.
- 6 She leads a **lonely** life in a tiny house on a remote island.
- 7 We should try to keep the two groups **separate** from each other.
- 8 She is an **educated** person.
- 9 I've been **busy** all week.
- 10 That meal was **expensive**! I'm not eating there again.

7.5 Are the following adverb collocations correct or not? If they are incorrect, correct them using collocations from C opposite.

- 1 I thoroughly enjoyed the film.
- 2 Your help would be strongly appreciated.
- 3 The song is highly influenced by Brazilian folk rhythms.
- 4 I find the situation utterly absurd.

Tip

Look out for more collocations with these words as you listen and read, and record them in collocation bubbles indicating what they do and do not collocate with.

8

Make and verbs that mean *make*

A

Common errors with *make*

The *Cambridge Learner Corpus* shows that some of the most frequent collocation errors made by candidates in advanced English exams relate to the use of *make*. Here are some typical errors and their corrections.

I would like to ~~do~~/give some suggestions – **make some suggestions**

I think that I could ~~have~~/give a contribution to the project – **make a contribution**

I expect you to ~~give~~ a formal apology – **make a formal apology**

There is still some way to go and lots of improvements to ~~do~~ – **improvements to make**

Thank you very much for ~~doing~~ these arrangements – **making these arrangements**

Sometimes candidates use *make* where another verb is required. For example:

We're going to ~~make a party~~ on Saturday – **have a party**

Lana ~~made some interesting~~ research into her family roots – **did ... research**

B

Other expressions with *make*

It's a good idea to **make a habit of** switching off the lights when you leave a room.

If you always say exactly what you think, you'll **make a lot of enemies**.

The team **made** several **attempts** to climb the mountain before they finally succeeded.

I hope that they'll **make a success of** their new restaurant business.

I have to go to a party for a colleague after work but I will try and **make an early escape**.

Our research team has **made** an important **discovery** about how whales communicate.

When doing your accounts, try to ensure you **make** all the **calculations** correctly.

If we move the sofa closer to the window, it'll **make room for** the piano.

I first **made his acquaintance** when he moved in next door. [formal: got to know him]

The house we looked at is just what we want and we've decided to **make an offer** on it.

As no one else has any ideas, I'd like to **make a proposal**. [make a formal suggestion]

We must **make a stand against** the casino they propose to build here. [protest about]

C

Other verbs that mean *make*

collocation	example	comment
create a good/bad impression	Wear your grey suit to the interview if you want to create a good impression .	slightly more formal than make an impression
create a (+ adj.) atmosphere	The lanterns in the garden create a romantic atmosphere.	more formal than make for a romantic atmosphere
stage a protest	The students staged a protest against rising tuition fees.	= make a formal protest
lodge a complaint	Several people have lodged a complaint about the receptionist's rudeness.	= make a formal complaint
rustle up a meal	It took Sam ten minutes to rustle up a meal .	(informal) = make a meal very quickly
run up curtains	This weekend I'm going to run up some curtains for my new room.	= make quickly using a sewing machine
turn a profit	This month our company should turn a profit for the first time.	slightly more informal than make a profit
coin a phrase	I wonder who coined the term 'blogging'.	= invent / make up a new phrase

Exercises

8.1 Are these sentences correct or incorrect? If they are incorrect, correct them.

- 1 Have you any suggestions to make about how to celebrate the school's anniversary?
- 2 We are planning to have a party next Saturday.
- 3 The company director gave a formal apology for his earlier comments.
- 4 The manager had to make a number of changes to office procedures in order to do all the improvements he had planned for the company.
- 5 My sister did all the arrangements for the party.

8.2 Complete each sentence using a word from the box.

acquaintance	attempt	calculations	discovery	enemies
habit	offer	room	stand	success

- 1 Try to make a of noticing good collocations in any text you read.
- 2 A railway official asked us to move our luggage to make for the boy's bike.
- 3 The new CEO has made a lot of by being so autocratic.
- 4 If Pauline makes a of this project, she'll probably get promoted.
- 5 The old gentleman said he was delighted to make my
- 6 Do you think you'll make an on the flat you viewed yesterday?
- 7 Every young scientist dreams of making a that will change the world.
- 8 Rachel made no to contact me when she was over here last year.
- 9 We tried to make a against the new housing development but to no avail: the contractors started work this morning.
- 10 The that you made contained a few inaccuracies.

8.3 Replace *make* in each sentence with an alternative word. Then say whether you have made the sentence more or less formal.

- 1 The Green Party plans to make a major protest against the government's new farming policy.
- 2 Tessa helped me to make some lovely cushion covers for my new flat.
- 3 I regret to inform you that several clients have made complaints about your conduct.
- 4 You won't make a good first impression if you arrive late for your interview.
- 5 It won't take me long to make a meal for the children.
- 6 Do you expect your business to make a profit this year?

8.4 Rewrite each sentence using the word in brackets.

- 1 At the meeting the chairman proposed something rather interesting. (PROPOSAL)
- 2 I hope we can leave soon as I'm terribly tired. (ESCAPE)
- 3 I'm reading a fascinating book about the invention of new words and phrases to express new social and technical needs. (COINED)
- 4 We changed the layout of the hall to make it more relaxed for the yoga class. (ATMOSPHERE)
- 5 I tried to phone the company several times at the weekend. (ATTEMPTS)
- 6 Kim contributed very positively to the discussion. (CONTRIBUTION)
- 7 The service was poor but I wouldn't go so far as to formally complain. (LODGE)
- 8 I first got talking to Roger on a train. (ACQUAINTANCE)

Over to you

Make a point of looking back through any pieces of your writing that a teacher has corrected. Have you ever **made any mistakes** involving collocations with *make*? If so, **make an effort** to use those expressions correctly in your next assignment.

A

Collocations with say, speak, talk and tell

I **wouldn't say no** to a nice cup of tea. [informal: I'd really like]

Needless to say / It goes without saying that the workers voted in favour of the wage increase.

Jana **didn't say a word** when I told her I was leaving.

Generally speaking, people are aware of the environmental consequences of their actions.

Strictly speaking, a tomato is a fruit and not a vegetable because it contains seeds.

She always **speaks very highly** of you. [says good things about you]

Charlie, stop mumbling and **speak properly**. I can't understand a word you're saying.

[generally used by parents or teachers to children, not between adults]

Now we've got to know each other, I think it's time we **talked business**.

At first, Andrew appears to be **talking nonsense** but after a while you realise he's actually **talking a lot of sense**.

I'll **tell you a secret** but please don't tell anyone else.

The old woman looked at Glen's palm and began to **tell his fortune**. [predict his future life]



B

Collocations meaning communicate

example	comment
I asked why she didn't trust him but she wouldn't give me a reason .	NOT say a reason
The charity states its aim as being to help underprivileged children.	(formal) also state your purpose/goal
The staff on reception required each visitor to state their business before issuing them with an entry permit.	(formal) = say what their intentions are
In her lecture Lucia gave an account of her trip to the Andes.	used about both speech and writing
The speech got the message about the policy changes across .	(informal) = conveyed the idea
I declare Hiroshi Yamamoto the winner of the gold medal.	(formal) statement made at the time of the win
He was pronounced dead at 1.10.	(formal) used when making an official statement of death
The old man tried to impart his knowledge to his sons.	(formal) = transfer knowledge; also impart wisdom
That journalist gets amazing stories but he won't divulge his sources .	(formal) = make something secret known; also divulge a secret
The internet is a powerful means of disseminating information .	(formal) = spreading information to a lot of people
We notified the police of the burglary.	(formal) = officially informed
Although found guilty, Robson continued to protest his innocence .	(formal) = insist he was not guilty
He professed ignorance of the dent to the car but I think he was lying.	(formal) = claimed – perhaps insincerely – that he did not know
Did you break the news to her that her mother is in prison?	used for news that is very upsetting

Exercises

9.1 Complete each sentence with the appropriate form of *say, speak, talk or tell*.

- 1 Strictly, you shouldn't be here.
- 2 Joel me a secret and made me promise not to pass it on to anyone else.
- 3 It goes without that we'll invite you to our wedding.
- 4 I spend most days with my three-year-old son, so forgive me if I start nonsense.
- 5 The teachers always very highly of my son's abilities.
- 6 I had my fortune at the fair yesterday.
- 7 It's so hot. I wouldn't no to an ice cream, would you?
- 8 Shall we have lunch first and then sit down to business?
- 9 I think that, generally, it's better to use public transport than drive yourself.

9.2 Rewrite the underlined part of each sentence to make it more formal.

- 1 The victim was asked why he had not told the police sooner about the mugging.
- 2 The older generation has always attempted to pass its wisdom on to young people.
- 3 Stockman has always insisted that he is innocent.
- 4 Robert claimed that he knew nothing of the damage to the car.
- 5 The reporter had no option but to explain where she had got her information from.
- 6 The doctors said he was dead when they arrived at the scene of the accident.
- 7 The judges said that Magda Karlson had won the competition.
- 8 The charity does a great deal to inform people about its activities.

9.3 Are these sentences correct or incorrect? If they are incorrect, correct them.

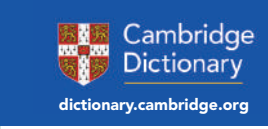
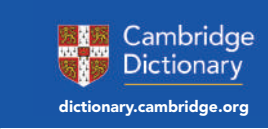
- 1 Do you think I managed to give the message across in my speech?
- 2 Needless to say, he didn't tell a word to his parents about what had happened.
- 3 You can't chew gum and say properly at the same time.
- 4 He refused to say his reasons for turning down our invitation.
- 5 She was devastated when we dropped the news to her.
- 6 In your report we would like you to give a detailed account of what happened.
- 7 I really like this documentary maker; she tells a lot of sense.
- 8 At the beginning of your dissertation you must say your goals clearly.

9.4 Use a dictionary to find nouns to complete these phrases based on collocations in B.

- 1 of innocence in the face of evidence to the contrary
- 2 a company's of aims
- 3 of information among the population
- 4 of a crime to the police
- 5 of the winner of a competition

9.5 Use a dictionary to complete these collocation forks.

1	2	3
declare	impart	divulge
..... someone a winner knowledge wisdom sources



A

News items

The Justice Minister said he would **abide by the decision**¹ of the High Court to free the prisoner.

The police, **acting on a tip-off**³, arrested the thieves as they left the building.

Hollywood star Glenda Nixon has **filed for divorce**⁴. She and her husband Kevin Lomax have lived apart for the last six months.

The new regional governor will **take up office**² on 1 March, following his party's recent election victory. The Education Commission has been asked by the government to **come up with an alternative** to the present schools examination system.

The police intend to **come down heavily on**⁵ anyone causing trouble at tomorrow's football final.

¹ (formal) accept the decision

³ a secret warning

² (formal) start work in an official position

⁴ made an official request for a divorce

⁵ punish very severely

B

Everyday conversation

Note how B uses a collocation with a phrasal verb to repeat A's ideas.

A: It was great just sitting in the sunshine and enjoying the feel of the place, wasn't it?

B: Yes, it was nice to just sit there **soaking up the atmosphere**.

A: I think we should both arrange our work schedules so we don't have to work in May.

B: Yes, I'll try to **free up some time** so we can go away together.

A: I'm finding it hard to find time to practise the French I learnt at school.

B: Yes, I have a similar problem **keeping up my Spanish**.

A: Well, all that gardening has made me hungry.

B: Yes, it certainly helps to **work up an appetite**.

A: It'd suit my arrangements if we could meet up at lunchtime.

B: Yes, that would **fit in perfectly with my plans** too.

A: The hotel wasn't as good as I thought it would be.

B: No, it didn't **live up to my expectations** either.



C

Other phrasal verbs with strong collocations

burst into laughter/tears [suddenly start to laugh/cry]

When she saw the damage the floods had done to her house, she **burst into tears**.

dip into savings/funds [spend part of some money which was being saved]

The club had to **dip into** their emergency **funds** to pay for the repairs to the roof.

jot down an address / a phone number / a room number [write down quickly]

Can I **jot down** your email **address**?

see off an intruder/opponent [get rid of, defeat]

He's a tough guy. He **saw off several intruders** who were trying to break into his house.

adhere to principles / beliefs / ideals / a philosophy [formal: continue to maintain a belief]

It's difficult to **adhere to one's beliefs** when one is being constantly attacked.

Tip

It is often difficult to remember the meanings of phrasal verbs. When a phrasal verb has a set of collocations as in the examples in C, write them down together. This is a good way of remembering their meaning.

Exercises

10.1 Complete the collocations using prepositions from the box.

by down for in with to up up to up with

- 1 file divorce
- 2 come an alternative
- 3 take office
- 4 adhere a philosophy
- 5 live expectations
- 6 abide a decision
- 7 jot someone's address
- 8 fit plans

10.2 Complete each sentence using a collocation from 10.1 in the appropriate form.

- 1 I'd been looking forward to the course but unfortunately it my expectations.
- 2 Has anyone a good alternative to the petrol- or diesel-fuelled car yet?
- 3 I should your address in case I forget it.
- 4 The new president of our club is due to office next week.
- 5 We have to the decision of the committee; we have no choice.
- 6 Most members of the group a common philosophy.
- 7 I don't have any special arrangements, so can easily your plans.
- 8 Melissa Bragg has divorce in a New York court.

10.3 Answer these questions using collocations from the opposite page.

- 1 What can you do with savings or funds in an emergency?
- 2 What can you do with principles or ideals?
- 3 What can you try to do with a language if you don't want to lose it?
- 4 What can guard dogs help you to do if you have intruders?

10.4 Correct the collocation errors in these sentences.

- 1 Everyone broke into laughter when she told the story.
- 2 We had a run along the beach to work in an appetite before lunch.
- 3 The police have said they intend to go down heavily on anyone carrying an offensive weapon at the match.
- 4 Do you think you could free out some time to have a quick meeting this afternoon?
- 5 The police acted on a rip-off and managed to avert a possible disaster.
- 6 I hope the party will live on to your expectations.
- 7 We sat on our hotel balcony, soaking through the atmosphere of the carnival.
- 8 Tanya quickly saw out her opponent in the semi-final and now goes on to the final.

10.5 Answer these questions. Write full sentences using the word in brackets in a collocation from the opposite page.

- 1 What do you plan to do in future to make sure you don't lose your English? (KEEP)
- 2 What film or gig or sports event have you been to that wasn't as good as you expected? (LIVE)
- 3 What sort of thing might tempt you to use some of your savings? (DIP)
- 4 Your best friend is getting married 100 miles away tomorrow and all the trains have been cancelled. What would you try to do? (COME)
- 5 At short notice some friends have invited you to stay for the weekend. They've already made some plans for the weekend. What would you do your best to do? (FIT)
- 6 How easy do you find it always to act according to your principles? (ADHERE)

A

EMILY



In my mid-twenties I **joined the staff** of a language school. The pay wasn't brilliant but I could **make a living**¹ and there were many **aspects of the job** that I enjoyed. The other **members of staff** were nice and I enjoyed teaching the students. A few years later, after returning from **maternity leave**, I decided to **go part-time**. Luckily I was able to **do a job-share**² with another woman who had a small child. Then the school began to go through a difficult period and had to **lay off staff**³. I decided to **go freelance**⁴. I had managed to build up a **network of contacts** and this gave me a good start. I soon had a substantial **volume of work** – private students and marking exams – and was able to **earn a good living**.

¹ earn enough to live (can also be used just to refer to one's job and how one earns one's money: *She makes a living as a hairdresser*)

² situation where two people share equal parts of the same job

³ dismiss staff because there is no work for them to do

⁴ work for several different organisations rather than working full-time for one organisation

Common mistakes

People usually **do work**, NOT **make work**. If we talk about people **making work**, it means that they create work for other people to do, e.g. *A baby makes a lot of work for its parents – but it's worth it.*

B

BEN



After graduating, I **practised medicine**¹ for a number of years in London. I managed to **carve a niche for myself**² as a specialist in dermatology. Then I realised I needed some fresh challenges and so I did a job swap for a year with my **opposite number**³ in a clinic in Vancouver. When I returned, I went back to my old job and also **took up the post**⁴ of editor of a leading medical journal. I **held that position** for a number of years. I'm now hoping to go abroad again and so am letting everyone know that I **am open to offers**.

¹ worked as a doctor

² make a special position for myself

³ someone doing the same job in a different location

⁴ started work

C

JULIA



After graduating in economics, I did the usual thing of **putting together my CV**¹ and applying for jobs. I got a very **tempting offer** from an investment bank and accepted it. I was put on a **fast-track scheme**² and was **moving up the ladder**³ fast. However, one day I **had a change of heart**⁴. I realised I'd stopped enjoying the excitement. I felt I needed to **get my priorities right**⁵. I decided that other aspects of my life should **take priority over**⁶ my work. I **handed in my resignation** and moved to the country.

¹ CV = *curriculum vitae*, a written description of your education, qualifications, skills and career

² system for rapid training and promotion of talented staff

³ being promoted

⁴ my attitude or mood changed

⁵ give importance to the right aspects of life

⁶ be more important to me than

Common mistakes

We say someone is **under a lot of / considerable pressure**, NOT under **high pressure**.

Exercises

11.1 Match the beginning of each sentence with its ending.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1 My husband and I do | of contacts. |
| 2 Circulate the report to all members | the staff in our company. |
| 3 Jonas has been happier since he went | of work this month. |
| 4 I hope it won't be necessary to lay | of staff. |
| 5 It's not easy to make | part-time. |
| 6 Meeting people is the best aspect | a job-share. |
| 7 Marian was the last person to join | off many of our staff. |
| 8 Anna will be going on maternity | of the job. |
| 9 Try to build up a good network | a living as an actor. |
| 10 We've had a ridiculous volume | leave next month. |

11.2 Complete the conversation using words from the opposite page.

Megan: Did you know my son's in Australia at the moment? He's doing a job swap with his opposite (1), the person who (2) a similar position to his in the company's Sydney office.

José: Wow, that's good! But I thought he wanted to go to the States this year?

Megan: Well, yes. He did have a very tempting (3) from a company in New York and he was about to accept, but then he had a (4) of heart.

José: So, have you met the exchange person from Sydney?

Megan: Yes, he's been to dinner a couple of times. He'd like to settle here in fact and has asked us to tell everyone he's (5) to offers from any companies that might be interested. Maybe your firm might be interested?

José: Perhaps. We could do with someone with good Australian contacts. But we could really do with someone who could (6) a post before the end of the year.

Megan: That could work out perhaps. He certainly seems very nice. And he'd be motivated to do well for you because he's so keen to stay here.

José: And do you think your son will stay in Australia?

Megan: I hope not. I've told him to get his priorities (7) Being near his mum should (8) priority over Australian beaches and sunshine!

11.3 Rewrite each sentence using the word in brackets.

- 1 The recession meant that the company had to make some workers redundant. (LAY)
- 2 Your family should really be more important to you than your work. (PRIORITY)
- 3 Nita soon gained several promotions at work. (LADDER)
- 4 Harry hates his new boss so much that I think he'll soon leave. (RESIGNATION)
- 5 Vic earns good money as a freelance journalist. (LIVING)
- 6 I need to write down all my qualifications and experience before I apply for jobs. (CV)
- 7 My father always wanted to work as a doctor in a rural community. (PRACTISE)

11.4 Correct the seven collocation errors in this paragraph.

George makes a life as a sports reporter on a local newspaper but he is under high pressure at work at the moment. He's had far too much work to make recently. He's been put on a fast-train scheme for promotion and they're really pushing him. It's so hard that he's thinking of handing over his resignation and going freelancing. It wouldn't be easy but I'm sure he'd soon work a niche for himself as a sports journalist.

A

Discussing job applicants

- Guy: So which of these applicants do you think we should interview? They all seem to **fit the job description** quite well to me. It's quite a **daunting task to narrow the list down** to just one person.
- Lisa: I agree. So, let's start by **taking up references** for these ten people.
- Guy: OK. So why did you pick these ten out of the fifty who applied?
- Lisa: Well, these ten all seem to be people who realise the importance of **working as a team**. They've all shown that they are capable of **mastering new skills**. And they're all clearly comfortable with **taking on responsibility**.
- Guy: Did you automatically eliminate the two who'd previously **taken industrial action**¹?
- Lisa: One of them – I'd also heard rumours about his involvement in a **professional misconduct** case. He was certainly **relieved of his duties**² at ARG under mysterious circumstances. But the other was standing up for a woman who'd been **wrongfully dismissed**³, even though he knew he might lose his own job. So he sounded good to me.
- Guy: Fair enough. He must have strength of character to risk **losing his own livelihood**.
- Lisa: That's right. So could we **pencil in a meeting** for considering the references? And then I'd better leave you and go and **clear my desk**⁴ before I go home.
- Guy: Yes, sure. How about Friday at 10?

¹ gone on strike² (formal) dismissed³ (formal, legal) unfairly dismissed⁴ deal with all the papers on one's desk (also used when someone is clearing their desk because they are leaving their job)

Common mistakes

If workers refuse to work, they **go on strike** or **stage a strike**, NOT ~~make~~ a strike.

B

Conversation about a new job

- Alexa: I hear your brother's **landed a fantastic new job**¹.
- David: Actually it's not as good as he hoped. He's got a terribly **heavy workload** and that means working some very **unsocial hours**. He also complains about having to do lots of **menial tasks** around the office, **running errands** for his boss.
- Alexa: But he's paid well?
- David: Not really. He just about gets a **living wage**². And all the **overtime** is **unpaid**.
- Alexa: He'll just have to **throw a sickie**³ from time to time.
- David: Yes, I suggested he did that too, but he says he's afraid of **getting the sack**⁴ if he does. He feels there might **be** some **prospects for** him there eventually, even if he is just being used as **sweated labour**⁵ at the moment.
- Alexa: Well, with any luck he'll eventually find that he can **realise his potential**⁶ there.
- David: I hope so. But they have a very **high turnover of staff** and it won't be easy for him to **stay the course**⁷.
- Alexa: No, but he's very determined, isn't he? So let's hope it all works out.

¹ (informal) got a new (and usually a good) job² enough money to live on³ (informal) take a day off work pretending to be sick⁴ (informal) being dismissed⁵ workers who are paid very little and work in very bad conditions⁶ achieve all that he is capable of⁷ remain there until he is successful

Exercises

12.1 Find a collocation in A that matches each definition.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 to make a provisional date for a meeting | 6 unfairly sacked |
| 2 an alarmingly difficult task | 7 to be deprived of your source of income |
| 3 to become skilled at doing new things | 8 behaviour unacceptable for someone in a particular job |
| 4 to request statements from referees | |
| 5 to have the skills required for a job | |

12.2 Complete this paragraph using words from the box in the appropriate form.

be fit land run sweat take

Charlotte was surprised but happy to (1) a job on her local newspaper as soon as she left university. She was surprised because she didn't feel that she (2) the job description, but she was happy because she had always dreamt of working as a journalist. So she didn't really mind when she found that she was spending much of her time (3) errands for the editor. Her brother said she was just being used as (4) labour but she felt confident that there (5) good prospects for her there. She was sure she would soon have the chance to (6) on more responsibility.

12.3 Complete each conversation using a collocation from the opposite page to make B agree with what A says.

- 1 A: I think that Adam will leave his new job before the year is out.
B: Yes, I agree. I don't think he'll either.
- 2 A: Had you heard that they may fire some members of staff?
B: Yes, I did hear a rumour that some people might
- 3 A: Inflation is so high that I don't seem to earn enough to live on any more.
B: No. I don't feel I earn myself.
- 4 A: Has the HR manager been removed from his job?
B: Yes, he was yesterday.
- 5 A: I hope the workers don't decide to go on strike.
B: Yes, it would be very unfortunate if they decide to
- 6 A: It's going to be hard to decide which of the job applicants to shortlist.
B: Yes, I don't know how we are going to

12.4 Answer these questions about your own work or ask someone else these questions and write down the answers.

- 1 What kind of menial tasks does your job involve?
- 2 Do you think this job will allow you to realise your potential?
- 3 Do you ever have to work unsocial hours? If so, why? If not, why not?
- 4 Does there tend to be a high turnover of staff at your workplace?
- 5 If you do overtime, is it paid or unpaid?
- 6 Have you ever thrown a sickie? If so, why? If not, why not?
- 7 Have you ever taken or would you ever consider taking industrial action?
- 8 In your job is it necessary to work as a team?
- 9 Do you have a heavy workload?

Over to you

It will probably be particularly useful for you to learn work collocations that relate to your own professional life. Look on the internet for information in English about the job that you do or are interested in doing in the future. Make a note of any interesting collocations that you come across.

A

Talking about thoughts

I **honestly think** we can win the match tonight. [NOT I strongly think]

I'm not sure if I want to invest in your business or not, but I'll **give it some thought**.

Bear in mind that there are often delays to flights during bad weather. [remember]

It's common knowledge that Hannah is looking for a new job. [everyone knows]

My teenage son hasn't yet **grasped the importance of** revising for exams. [understood how important something is]

I **take the view** that we are all responsible for our own actions. [believe]

It's **a foregone conclusion** that Jaime will win the race. [absolutely certain]

I'm not quite sure what I'm going to do but I've got a **rough idea**. [general idea]

I don't **subscribe to the theory** that nature and nurture are of equal significance but it is now a **widespread belief**. [hold the opinion]; [generally held view]

Opinions are divided as to whether mothers of young children should go out to work or not, but **it is my firm conviction** that different things suit different families. [people hold different views]; [I am totally convinced]

Common mistakes

We say I am **becoming aware** of the problem, NOT I am **getting aware**.

B

Judging

collocation	example	meaning
judge someone harshly	Don't judge him too harshly . He really couldn't have done things differently.	be very critical of someone
poor judgement	Deciding to set up a business now shows poor judgement of the economic situation.	
pass judgement on	Di's quick to pass judgement on other people but she's far from perfect herself.	criticise
against your better judgement	I finally agreed to go out with him, against my better judgement .	despite the knowledge that something is a bad idea
a lack of judgement	Her approach to the recent discipline problems in school showed a lack of judgement .	an inability to judge a situation wisely
an error of judgement	Promoting Alec was a serious error of judgement .	bad decision

C

Metaphors of thinking

We can talk about **thinking laterally**¹. We can say someone has a **fertile imagination**². We can **wrestle with a problem**³ and we can have a **nagging doubt**⁴. We can also talk about something **fuelling speculation**⁵, and sometimes people **jump to conclusions**⁶.

¹ approaching a problem in an imaginative and original way rather than using a traditional approach

² one that produces lots of original and interesting ideas

³ struggle to find a solution

⁴ an unpleasant feeling of doubt that will not go away

⁵ encouraging people to consider that something may be true

⁶ guess the facts about a situation without having enough information

Exercises

13.1 Look at A. Correct the collocation errors in these sentences.

1 Opinions are separated on the issue of single-sex schools and there are sound arguments on both sides of the case.

2 I believe that the government will win another term in office but my girlfriend takes a different opinion.

3 I strongly think that you'd be making a serious mistake if you took that job.

4 I don't believe it's a foregone fact that the larger company will win the contract.

5 People are gradually getting aware of the problem of climate change.

6 You should bear in thought that your visitors will be tired after their long flight.

7 I've got a raw idea of what I want to say in my essay but I haven't planned it properly yet.

8 Increasing numbers of people today subscribe for the theory that small is beautiful.

13.2 Complete the paragraph using words from the box.

error firm grasped laterally pass poor

Recent research shows that people who spend time meditating each day improve their mental abilities. It seems that meditation particularly enhances our ability to think in creative, unusual ways, in other words, to think 'outside the box' or think (1) It may, then, have been an unfortunate (2) of judgement on the part of the management at BNM & Co. to put a stop to the yoga classes that staff had organised for their lunch breaks. 'It would seem that our managers have not yet (3) the importance of these classes,' explained yoga instructor Zandra, 'but it is not my place to (4) judgement on them. Their judgement may be (5) at the moment but it is my (6) conviction that as people come to understand yoga better, they will see how it could benefit the company as well as individual members of staff.'



13.3 Rewrite each sentence using the word in brackets.

- 1 It's unwise to draw conclusions too quickly about people's motives. (JUMP)
- 2 Everyone knows that Ellie has been taking money from the till. (COMMON)
- 3 I agreed to help him though I knew it was wrong. (AGAINST)
- 4 I'm afraid your decisions show you are unable to judge situations well. (LACK)
- 5 We have to decide when to have the party. Can you think about it? (THOUGHT)
- 6 I think you are being too critical of him. Remember he's only 18. (HARSHLY)
- 7 Surprisingly, a large number of people believe left-handed people are more intelligent. (WIDESPREAD)

13.4 Use a dictionary such as The Cambridge Online Dictionary to find frequent collocations with these words. Your collocations can use the words literally or metaphorically.

- 1 a fertile 2 to fuel 3 to wrestle with 4 a nagging

A

Business news

Charles Park and Sons have **announced record profits** for last year despite a slight **decline in demand** for one of their key products, caused by increasingly **fierce competition**¹ in the sector. They say they are already well on the way to **meeting their targets** for the first quarter. Their new models will **go into production**² in the spring and this is expected to **boost**³ their **sales and profits** even more.

The government today announced its intentions to **stimulate growth** in the Southwest by **allocating** a large **part of its** development **budget** to industrial projects in the area. Roger Middle, who **chaired the committee** working on this scheme, said that local people welcomed the decision, which should **generate** more **business** for local firms. They appreciate that their area has many **unique selling points** for businesses and their employees, and feel that development will **pay dividends**⁴ for everyone living and working in the area.

Clothing firm G & L has announced plans to build a new factory in the Midlands. Their spokesperson, Mark Mulloy, said yesterday that the proposal **made sound business sense**. 'It will be easier for us to **maintain quality** and **promote the interests** of our shareholders at the same time as **satisfying the demands** of our **target market**,' he said.

SIB Distribution held an **emergency meeting** last night to discuss the crisis caused by yesterday's rise in fuel prices. Their MD said, 'This **hike in prices**⁵ will seriously **affect the bottom line**⁶. It's a considerable challenge for us as we already operate on **narrow profit margins**. However, we have **set ourselves clear objectives** and are confident we will still be able to **balance the books**⁷. We have no intention of **calling in the receivers**⁸ yet!'

¹ NOT high competition

² start being made

³ increase

⁴ bring advantages

⁵ (journalistic) rise in prices

⁶ affect the net income

⁷ make sure the amount spent is not more than the amount earned

⁸ going bankrupt

B

Describing trends

An important part of many business reports is the description of trends. The *Cambridge Learner Corpus* shows that there are a number of collocation errors which are frequently made when candidates write about business in advanced English exams.



Common mistakes

We say a **slight decrease/increase**, NOT a little decrease/increase, and a **substantial decrease/increase**, NOT a strong decrease/increase.

When comparing two things in terms of quantity, we say, for example, Exports were **five times greater than** imports, NOT Exports were five times larger than imports.

Exercises

14.1 Are these sentences true or false?

- 1 A business executive will feel worried if the company experiences a decline in demand for its products.
- 2 A business CEO is pleased if the company does not meet its quarterly sales targets.
- 3 A hike in the price of raw materials is likely to present a difficult challenge for a business that uses those materials.
- 4 Marketing and sales staff will promote their products' unique selling points.
- 5 Business managers are likely to be happy about calling in the receivers.
- 6 A company is likely to feel more secure if it has narrow profit margins.

14.2 Complete each sentence using a word from the opposite page.

- 1 It was a sad day for the company when it finally had to call in the
- 2 I'm sure you'll agree that our new mobile phone has a number of unique selling
- 3 We use a professional accountant to help us balance our
- 4 The bank agreed that our plans make sound business
- 5 We must ensure that the research project does not negatively affect the bottom
- 6 We look forward to next spring, when our exciting new line will go into
- 7 All your hard work will eventually pay
- 8 We are confident that our new business strategy will help boost both sales and

14.3 Correct the collocation errors in these sentences.

- 1 The company is pleased to report a strong increase in profits over the last quarter.
- 2 The new health and safety committee is to be tabled by a retired doctor.
- 3 There is increasingly high competition between airline companies.
- 4 The company's exports to Japan had considerable growth over the last decade.
- 5 The sales figures for March show a little decrease on those for February.
- 6 Our sales in the domestic market are certain to have a rise next year.
- 7 Last year sales were three times larger in Europe than in Australia.
- 8 We feel that this proposal does considerable business sense.
- 9 Although we need to reduce our costs, it's important we attain the quality that our reputation is built on.
- 10 Business leaders hope new government policies will stimulus growth.

14.4 Answer these questions about the collocations in this unit.

- 1 When might the Managing Director of a company call an emergency meeting?
- 2 What kind of age group is a sports car company likely to have as its target market?
- 3 Why would shareholders be pleased if their company announced record profits?
- 4 In what situations other than business do people set themselves objectives?
- 5 Name three things that a business would have to allocate part of its budget to.
- 6 How might a company try to stimulate growth in demand for its products?

Over to you

On the website www.companieshouse.gov.uk you can find reports on several million companies. Look up a company that interests you and make a note of any interesting collocations that you find.

A

What is marketing?

The Marketing Expert Home | **Definition** | Key terms | Case studies

Marketing is the process of studying and defining the needs of **target customers** as well as promoting products to fulfil those needs. For example, if your company produces ice cream, you need to learn as much as you can about **consumer demands** and **preferences**. (What flavours do they like? What size pack do they prefer?)

How do companies find out about their customers?
Companies **conduct** / **carry out market research**. They may do this through questionnaires, surveys or **focus groups**¹.

What do companies need to know about their customers?
They want to find out about **consumer behaviour** and **buying habits** – for example, where do they shop and what do they buy? They may also want to find out the age and **income bracket**² of their customers. This helps them to create a **demographic profile**³ of a typical customer. Building up a picture of the customer is all part of **customer relationship management**⁴ (**CRM**).

What do companies do with this information?
Companies will use the information to make decisions about **product development** and **design**. It also helps them to look at **market segmentation**⁵ so that they can target certain areas of the market or certain types of consumers. It also helps companies to know what their own **market share** is.

¹ a group of potential customers who give their opinions about a product, brand, packaging etc.
² a section of the population classified according to their level of income
³ information such as the age, gender and occupation of a group of people
⁴ the strategies that companies use to analyse and manage their contact with customers
⁵ the way the market is divided into different consumer groups and the differences between them

Tip

A *customer* is a person who *buys* a product and a *consumer* is someone who *uses* a product – often it can be the same person, but not always.

B

Getting the message across

What makes a successful **marketing campaign**? What's the best way to **reach** the **target audience**? Justine Blake, Head of Marketing for a major fashion retailer, explains more:



'We use a number of different ways to communicate with our customers. There are the more traditional channels like TV and billboard advertising, as well as **product placement**¹. But these days we're also doing much more **guerrilla marketing**². For example, in one recent campaign we installed special "mirrors" on bus shelters, that showed people what they would look like wearing some of our latest designs.

'We have our own **in-house marketing team** but we also use an **advertising agency** which specialises in that type of work. Our **brand identity**³ is very important and one of our aims is to **build brand awareness**⁴. We want customers to feel confident about the quality of our clothing and so increase **customer satisfaction** and **loyalty**.

'Our latest online campaign featured a video about a young girl and her grandmother going clothes shopping together. It was a lovely story about having positive role models. It **went viral**⁵ and was shared on social media all over the world! Of course, the more **free airtime**⁶ or **press coverage**⁷ we can get, the better. In the fashion world, **celebrity endorsement**⁸ can also have a huge impact.

'Ultimately, we want to **engage with our customers**⁹ and bring them the best products we can.'

¹ a company pays for their product to be featured in a film

² a company promotes their products in an unconventional way, often on a low budget

³ how a business wants to be seen by its customers

⁴ increase knowledge of a brand among potential customers

⁵ become very popular through social media

⁶ time featured on e.g. TV, without payment

⁷ reporting in the press

⁸ a famous person is paid to promote a product

⁹ communicate with customers

Exercises

15.1 Match a word from each box to form collocations.

marketing free product
income consumer brand

placement behaviour identity
campaign airtime bracket

15.2 Complete each sentence using a collocation from 15.1.

- I enjoyed the film, but there was a lot of in it. All the top-brand cars, phones, watches and so on. It was a bit distracting.
- We want to build a really strong as a trustworthy company.
- One of the aims of our research was to identify certain patterns of : specifically where they bought our products and how much they spent.
- This is a luxury brand, clearly aimed at consumers in the higher
- Our latest was very successful – sales increased by over 20%!
- The company were really lucky – there was a whole news item on their latest innovation, so they got a lot of as a result.

15.3 Complete the collocation forks. Use a dictionary to find one more word to add to each list.

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|---|
| <p>1
.....
.....</p> | <p>loyalty
satisfaction
needs
expectations</p> | <p>3
.....
.....</p> | <p>identity
awareness
recognition</p> |
| <p>2
.....</p> | <p>segmentation
share</p> | <p>4
.....
.....</p> | <p>development
design
placement</p> |

15.4 Look at B. Choose the correct collocation.

- It's been 10 years since Kate first set up our *in-office* / *out-of-office* / *in-house* marketing team, and now we employ 13 marketers working in 3 countries.
- We want to increase brand *understanding* / *awareness* / *recognise* among young professionals.
- Our last campaign went *airtime* / *guerrilla* / *viral* and was shared on social media all over the world.
- One way to measure *customer* / *target* / *brand* satisfaction is to put a questionnaire on your website, and ask questions about how happy people are with your service.
- We got a lot of *public* / *press* / *paper* coverage when we gave out free energy monitors as part of last year's 'Energy Week'.
- The *objective* / *customer* / *target* audience for our new sportswear range is active parents.

15.5 Read these remarks by different people. Then answer the questions.

Chloe: We want to encourage people to keep buying our products and so we give them discounts when they spend a certain amount of money.

Thierry: To promote a monster film, we created giant 'footprints' on the beach. People loved it!

Clare: If we want to emphasise how healthy the snack bars are, we could get a famous sports personality to appear in the ads.

Bruno: We invited some potential customers to look at the new packaging and give their feedback.

Veronique: Our market research focused on finding out the age and gender of our customers.

Freddy: We asked people to tell us where they shopped and how often they bought our products.

- Who wanted to know about the demographic profile of their customers?
- Whose company used a focus group to do some research?
- Who is talking about celebrity endorsement?
- Who wanted to know about their customers' buying habits?
- Who is talking about customer loyalty?
- Whose company uses guerrilla marketing?

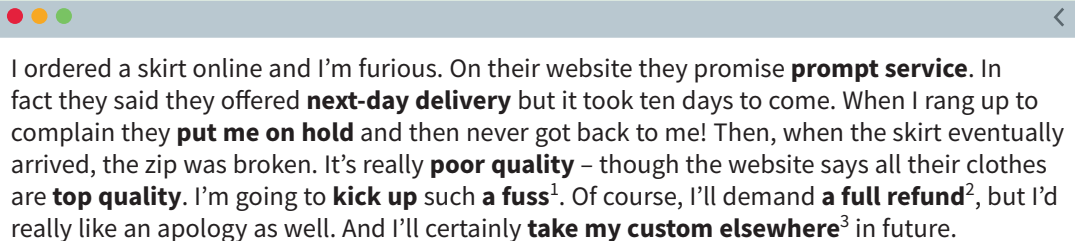
A

Shopping online or on the high street

Most companies **carry out surveys**¹ to find out what customers or potential customers feel about their products and services. I answered one recently about **online shopping**. I personally much prefer to **go shopping** on the high street rather than to shop on the internet. You get a much better impression of whether something is good **value for money** or truly **fit for purpose**² when you can touch it. And I feel if you have a problem with a purchase, it's easier to go back and **make a complaint** if you've bought something from a shop. But shopping online has its advantages, and many companies **offer you a discount** when you **place an order** online. And, of course, lots of online companies have plenty of **regular customers** and plenty of **satisfied customers**. I suppose the bottom line is that it's good for us as consumers to have as much **healthy competition** as possible.

¹ or **do surveys**, NOT ~~make surveys~~ ² good at doing what it is supposed to do

B

Complaining about service


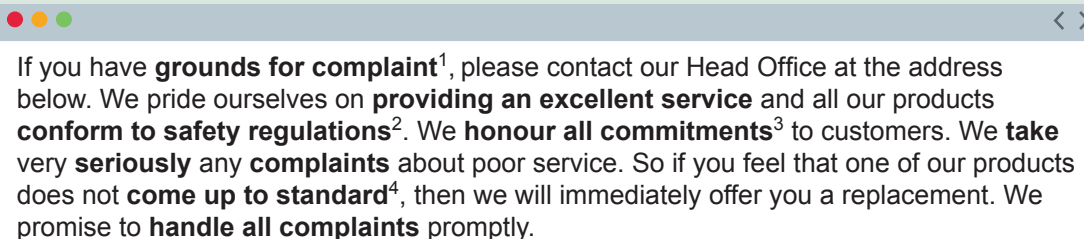
I ordered a skirt online and I'm furious. On their website they promise **prompt service**. In fact they said they offered **next-day delivery** but it took ten days to come. When I rang up to complain they **put me on hold** and then never got back to me! Then, when the skirt eventually arrived, the zip was broken. It's really **poor quality** – though the website says all their clothes are **top quality**. I'm going to **kick up such a fuss**¹. Of course, I'll demand **a full refund**², but I'd really like an apology as well. And I'll certainly **take my custom elsewhere**³ in future.

¹ (informal) make a very forcible complaint

³ not buy from the same place again

² ask for all my money back (NB NOT ~~strongly~~ demand because the verb *demand* cannot be made stronger in English – it is already strong enough)

C

Company promise


If you have **grounds for complaint**¹, please contact our Head Office at the address below. We pride ourselves on **providing an excellent service** and all our products **conform to safety regulations**². We **honour all commitments**³ to customers. We **take very seriously** any **complaints** about poor service. So if you feel that one of our products does not **come up to standard**⁴, then we will immediately offer you a replacement. We promise to **handle all complaints** promptly.

¹ a reason for complaining

³ do what we said we would do

² obey all the rules or laws relating to safety

⁴ reach appropriate standards

Tip

Learn more collocations relating to the topic of customer service by looking at the customer services page of a company website, for example, that of John Lewis, a British department store: www.johnlewis.com/customer-services. Make a note of any interesting collocations.

Exercises

16.1 Look at A. Correct the collocation errors in these sentences.

- 1 Have you ever made a complain to the management about the food in a restaurant?
- 2 I hate making shopping on Saturdays as the town is so crowded then.
- 3 If you want your shopping delivered, you can put your order with us online or by phone.
- 4 We made a large-scale customer survey before developing our new product range.
- 5 On-the-web shopping is proving increasingly popular.
- 6 I was surprised by the weak quality of the acting in that film we saw last night.

16.2 Choose the correct collocation.

- 1 This shop gives very good *worth / cost / value* for money.
- 2 Every business wants *satisfactory / satisfied / satisfying* customers.
- 3 He is an economist who believes in the advantages of *healthy / rich / fertile* competition.
- 4 I don't need next-day delivery but service should be reasonably *punctual / prompt / present*.
- 5 I hate it when you phone a company and get put on *hole / hang / hold* for ages.
- 6 Dan kicked up a terrible *fuss / foot / fever* about the service we received.
- 7 The hotel manager *dealt / handled / honoured* our complaint very efficiently.
- 8 We can't sell our old cooker because it doesn't *perform / inform / conform* to modern safety regulations.
- 9 I would prefer not to take my custom *somewhere / anywhere / elsewhere*.
- 10 The service at the hair salon did not *run / come / do* up to standard.

16.3 Complete the emails using words from the opposite page.

Reply Forward

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to complain about the service I received in your Cambridge branch.

I bought a suit there recently but it is poorly cut and does not fit well, even though it is the size I normally take. I am a (1) customer of yours and have never had any problems before. I returned the suit to the shop the next day, but the manager refused to give me a full (2)

I request that you look into this matter and (3) this complaint seriously. Otherwise I may be forced to take my (4) elsewhere.

Yours faithfully,
John Coleon 01727 717317.

Reply Forward

Dear Mr Cole,

Thank you for your letter regarding your purchase of a suit from us. We apologise for the inconvenience caused to you.

Our company is committed to (5) an excellent service and selling (6) quality garments. We therefore enclose the requested refund and trust that you will continue to shop with us and will never again have (7) for complaint about our goods.

Yours sincerely,
Jason Campbell
Customer Services Manager

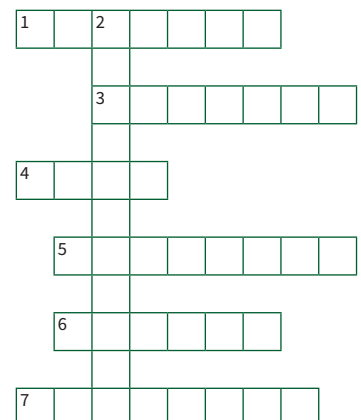
16.4 Complete the crossword.

Across

- 1 When choosing new offices you must ensure that they will be fit for — .
- 3 To get your money back, you'll have to prove you have — for complaint.
- 4 I have no option but to demand a — refund.
- 5 I am afraid that your service simply fails to come up to — .
- 6 As a respected firm we always — all our commitments.
- 7 It is our policy to offer students a — on books and stationery.

Down

- 2 Your helmets do not conform to safety — .



A

Courses and qualifications



When she was a small child, Amelia's teachers identified her as having unusual intelligence and remarkable **mental agility**¹, and they put her on a special programme for **gifted children**. Amelia **won a scholarship** to **attend** a local grammar **school**. By the age of eighteen, she was a **straight-A student**². She **applied to**³ several **universities** and was fortunate enough to **secure a place** at Cambridge University to **read**⁴ **English Literature**.

In the first **academic year** of the English Literature programme, the **core subjects**⁵ were *The development of the novel* and *Contemporary poetry*. Amelia had a large number of **set texts**⁶ to read. It was hard work but she loved it. Her professors were all **distinguished scholars** and her courses were taught by some of the world's **leading authorities** in the field. She

completed her studies with considerable success and **graduated from university** last year. In the meantime, her parents have decided that it is time they made up for their lack of **formal education** and they have **signed up for** a number of evening **courses**⁷. Eventually they hope to **meet the entry requirements** for university entrance and to be able to complete a degree as **mature students**⁸.

¹ ability to think quickly and clearly

² a student who always gets very good marks

³ formally requested a place at

⁴ (formal and increasingly old-fashioned) do or study

⁵ subjects which all the students on the course have to do

⁶ specific books which students must study

⁷ or **enrolled on ... courses**

⁸ students who are older than average

B

Harry's school report

MATHEMATICS	Harry's work has shown a marked improvement this term. However, his attention occasionally wanders in class.
ENGLISH	Harry has a natural talent for English. He achieved full marks ¹ in the last class test.
FRENCH	There is room for improvement in Harry's work in French. He seems to find it difficult to learn vocabulary by heart .
GEOGRAPHY	Harry has a thirst for knowledge and is a quick learner . It is a pity that sometimes his concentration in class wavers ² .
SCIENCE	Harry has demonstrated an ability to apply what he learns to the wider world. He showed considerable initiative in the way he approached his project on energy.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	Although Harry has a proven ability ³ for tennis, he will not make any progress until he stops playing truant ⁴ . This must not continue.

¹ 100%

² concentration is not steady

³ ability shown by his achievements

⁴ being absent without permission

Common mistakes

You attend school to **acquire knowledge**, NOT get knowledge.

Exercises

17.1 Answer the questions using collocations from A.

- 1 What happens when you successfully complete a degree course?
- 2 What do you call students who are in their thirties or older?
- 3 What are, for example, Harvard, the Sorbonne and Cambridge University?
- 4 What kind of people teach at Harvard, the Sorbonne and Cambridge University?
- 5 What do you call children who are particularly intelligent or have special talents?
- 6 What do you call students whose marks are always excellent?

17.2 Match the beginning of each sentence with its ending.

- | | |
|--|---------------|
| 1 We were all very impressed by the student's mental | heart. |
| 2 My grandmother is very intelligent but she's had little formal | place. |
| 3 I've never found it easy to learn scientific formulae by | education. |
| 4 I'd love to study medicine there but it's very hard to get a | ability. |
| 5 For the first-year Shakespeare exam we had to read six set | requirements. |
| 6 I am so proud of you for managing to get full | agility. |
| 7 Your work is not too bad but there is certainly still room for | learner. |
| 8 Your little girl has shown herself to be a very quick | marks. |
| 9 The test has been designed to enable pupils to demonstrate their | texts. |
| 10 I hope to study there but I may not be able to meet the entry | improvement. |

17.3 Complete this teacher's letter to the parents of a problem pupil.

Dear Mr and Mrs Greaves,

We are very concerned about Peter's behaviour. He has played (1) from school three times this month and has been seen in town in school hours. When he does come to class, his attention (2) and he does not seem able to concentrate on his lessons. He does not seem to understand the work and yet he never asks any questions or requests any help. The only time he (3) any initiative is in devising excuses for not having done his homework. Although he has a (4) talent for art, he is not even taking any interest in art lessons.

This is disappointing, as last year there was a (5) improvement in Peter's work and we hoped he might (6) a scholarship. However, unless he starts to (7) school regularly and to put more effort into his studies, he will certainly not even meet the (8) for the university course he has plans to (9) on next year.

I would be grateful if you could come into school to discuss this situation further.

Yours sincerely,
Thomas Brooker
(Headteacher)

17.4 Answer these questions.

- 1 What are the core subjects for pupils at primary school in your country?
- 2 Have you ever signed up for a course that you didn't complete?
- 3 If you could take a degree course now, what subject would you like to read?
- 4 Which university would you apply to?
- 5 When does the academic year begin and end in your country?
- 6 What do you need to do to secure a place at university in your country?

17.5 Use a dictionary to find different words to complete each collocation.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 a thirst for | 3 his wavers |
| 2 join a | 4 proven |

A

Preparing for a research assignment

Here is an extract from a study skills leaflet given to students at a university, containing advice on how to tackle a research project. Note the collocations in bold.

- All students are expected to **submit a 5,000-word report**, detailing their research project and **presenting** their **findings**.
- **Select a research topic** in discussion with your tutor. You will need to formulate a **working hypothesis**¹ when you begin your study. The purpose of your research is to see if your data **supports the hypothesis**².
- If you are **undertaking**³ a **study** which involves informants or volunteers, read the advice on **research ethics**⁴ in the department handbook.
- A key section of your report will be a **literature review**. This is not simply a summary of your **background reading**, but an **in-depth critique**⁵ of the most important books and articles, where you can show your awareness of current research.
- Make sure you **provide**⁶ a **rationale** for your study, and always **back up your conclusions** with evidence; never exaggerate any claims you make.
- Wherever appropriate, you should **lay out your results** in the form of tables, charts and diagrams.

¹ a theory which can be used provisionally but may change

² We usually do not say *prove the hypothesis*; *prove* is too strong.

³ (formal) carrying out; (informal) doing

⁴ a system of standards which control how research is done

⁵ examination and judgement of something, done carefully and in great detail

⁶ (formal) give

B

Other collocations often used in essays, reports and assignments

The book offers a **vigorous**¹ **defence** of free-market economics and **makes the case for** privatisation of all state-owned industries. It **confronts issues** which are of current importance in developing countries.

McGraw **puts the case for** single-sex primary education but he fails to **tackle** all of **the issues** that opponents of this approach to early schooling have raised.

This essay cannot give an **exhaustive**² **account** of climate change; it focuses only on the risk to sea levels. Recent **research indicates** that sea levels are rising very rapidly.

Physicists have recently begun to **formulate new theories** about the nature of the universe. The big question is how to **test** these **theories**.

Although Kristov's book **covers a lot of ground**, it does not offer a **full explanation** of the events leading to the civil war. Indeed, **the thrust**³ **of Kristov's argument** is that such an account cannot be written, since the people with **first-hand**⁴ **knowledge** of those events are no longer living.

This essay provides a **critical analysis**⁵ of international trade agreements.

¹ very strong and forceful

² extremely detailed

³ the main idea or opinion that is discussed

⁴ experienced directly

⁵ a detailed study or examination which assesses quality

Common mistakes

We say **do research**, NOT ~~make~~ research. The internet is a good place to **do research**.

Exercises

18.1 Complete each sentence using a verb from the box in the appropriate form.

cover	indicate	present	provide	put
review	tackle	test	undertake	

- 1 It is a huge task to a study involving hundreds of participants.
- 2 Fischler her findings at an international biochemistry conference last year.
- 3 Chapter 2 the literature on urban regeneration and concludes that more research is needed.
- 4 I have a rationale for the study in the introduction to this essay.
- 5 The research that owning a pet increases life expectancy by five years.
- 6 The next step was to the theory by carrying out a set of experiments.
- 7 The essay a lot of ground.
- 8 The book a number of issues which were previously ignored.
- 9 The lecturer the case for a dramatic change in economic policy.

18.2 Rewrite each sentence using a form of the words in brackets.

- 1 The system of standards for conducting research are described in the university's research manual. (ETHIC)
- 2 You need to make an examination and judgement of the arguments which is very detailed. (DEPTH, CRITIQUE)
- 3 You need to read books and articles which give you information about the subject. (BACKGROUND)
- 4 You do the analysis in order to find out whether the data indicate that your initial idea was correct. (HYPOTHESIS)
- 5 All the interviewees were people who had knowledge of the situation from direct experience. (FIRST)
- 6 It is impossible to give a complete explanation of the decline of agriculture in the 1960s. (FULL)

18.3 Complete each sentence using a word from the box in the correct form. Then number the events in the order in which they would occur in real life.

- Write a analysis of previous studies.
- Form a hypothesis.
- out your results in tables and diagrams.
- your report.
- a topic.
- Make the for studying the topic in the introduction.

case
critical
lay
select
submit
work

18.4 Correct the collocation errors in these sentences.

- 1 The trust of Torsten's argument is that public transport can never replace the private car.
- 2 Economists reformed a new theory of inflation in the late 1980s.
- 3 It is important that we should front the issue of climate change immediately.
- 4 In her essay, she put forward a vigorated defence of the European Union's constitution.
- 5 I shall not attempt to give an exhausting account of population growth in this essay.
- 6 The article does not back down its conclusions with enough convincing evidence.

Over to you

Find an article on the internet relating to an academic subject that is important to you. Print it out and highlight any useful collocations you notice in it.

A

Organising your social life

[Reply](#) [Forward](#)

Hi Nadia,

How was your weekend? My old school friend Emma came on a **flying visit**¹, which was fun. We had a **girls' night out** on Saturday with a couple of other friends. We **went out for a meal** to a local restaurant. So much for me **sticking to my diet!**

Emma was here for a **surprise party** for her parents on Sunday. She and her brother wanted to **spring a surprise on**² them for their 30th wedding anniversary – they thought 30 years together definitely **called for a celebration**³ – so they decided to **throw a party** for them. The vicar who'd married them even **put in an appearance**⁴! They asked me along too and it was lovely, a really **special occasion**. I was just sorry I couldn't **spend** much **quality time**⁵ with Emma, but it was only a **whirlwind visit**⁶. What about you? Is life its usual busy **social whirl**⁷? Do you still **go clubbing** every weekend?

Claire

¹ a visit that doesn't last long

² to surprise

³ meant that a celebration was appropriate

⁴ came just for a short time

⁵ time where people can give their complete attention to each other

⁶ brief and very busy visit

⁷ non-stop set of social events

B

Formal entertaining

PENNISTON INTERNATIONAL YOUTH FESTIVAL

Dear Councillor Patel,

First let me thank the County Council for **playing host to**¹ the welcome reception for our international colleagues and for **making us** so **welcome** at County Hall last week. We were also grateful that you were able to **find time to pay us a visit** at our weekly meeting, where we were delighted to hear that you intend to **join the festivities** at the opening ceremony of the festival.

We would further like to invite you and your spouse to **attend a formal function**, to be held at the Castle Hotel, Penniston, on 27 July, at 7.30 pm, to mark the closing of the festival.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Janowski (Committee Chair)

CASTLE HOTEL PENNISTON

Whether you are planning a formal party, a **family gathering**² or simply want to **wine and dine**³ new business contacts in a **convivial atmosphere**⁴, the 16th-century Castle Hotel is **the perfect venue**⁵. Our 24 bedrooms, restaurants and Function Room can be reserved by calling us on 1327 5547655 or by booking online at www.castlepenniston.com.

¹ providing the facilities for

² social event where a family comes together, usually to celebrate something

³ take out for dinner and drinks

⁴ (rather formal) a very friendly and welcoming atmosphere

⁵ place where a public event or meeting happens

Common mistakes

We say **organise a barbecue** or **have a barbecue**, NOT ~~make~~ a barbecue.

Exercises

19.1 Complete the conversation words from the opposite page.

Marta: How was Will's (1) retirement party?

Dave: Great. You should have seen his face; he really had no idea about it and he was so moved. It was a really nice gesture for the company to (2) a party for him like that. They really wined and (3) us. And even the MD put in an (4) ! What happened to you? I was surprised not to see you there.

Marta: Oh, well I was planning to come, but then my friends (5) a surprise on me too that same night.

Dave: Was it a (6) occasion?

Marta: Yes, it was my birthday and my friends had arranged a girls' (7) out and invited lots of friends that I hadn't seen for ages.

Dave: Sounds great. Happy birthday, by the way.

19.2 Choose the correct collocation.

- 1 My parents have always *gave / made / had* my friends feel very welcome.
- 2 My aunt came on a *quality / whirling / flying* visit last week.
- 3 It's quite difficult to *hold on / keep with / stick to* a diet when you're eating out with friends.
- 4 You've passed your exam! Well, that *takes / gives / calls* for a celebration!
- 5 We hope you will *give / find / spend* time to visit our exhibition of students' artwork.
- 6 It's important to try to spend plenty of *welcome / convivial / quality* time with your family.
- 7 My sister's life is a constant *special / active / social* whirl.
- 8 I recommend you *pay / spend / go* a visit to the folk museum while you're in Dekksu.
- 9 Athens *threw / gave / played* host to the first modern Olympic Games in 1896.

19.3 Rewrite each sentence using a collocation from the opposite page. Then say whether the sentence you have written is more or less formal.

- 1 We could go to a nightclub later.
- 2 The restaurant has a really friendly atmosphere.
- 3 Rio de Janeiro held the Olympics in 2016.
- 4 She has a mad social life.
- 5 I have to go to a formal function on Thursday.
- 6 We invite you to join in the fun at the opening of the Arts Festival.
- 7 Grapsley Park is a great place for an outdoor concert.

19.4 Which do you prefer:

- 1 when you're too tired to cook, ordering a takeaway or eating out?
- 2 plain food or rich food?
- 3 having a family gathering or having a barbecue with friends?
- 4 giving a dinner party or going out for a meal?
- 5 paying your friends a visit or playing host to friends at your own home?
- 6 a whirlwind visit from a friend, or a relative who stays for a week?



A

Types of language and conversation

Some conversations are not serious. They consist of **idle chatter**, in which the speakers just **exchange pleasantries**¹ or share **juicy**² **gossip** about their friends and colleagues, **exchanging news** and **spreading rumours**. **Rumours are always flying around** in any society, of course. But sometimes when you **engage someone in conversation**, it may become more serious. You may **open your heart** to the person you are talking to, for example. You may even find yourself **drawn into an argument**. Some people always want to **win an argument**; for others, **losing the argument** is not important as they simply enjoy a good discussion. If you are in a very noisy place, it can become impossible to **carry on a conversation** of any kind and it is also hard for parents to **hold a conversation** when there are small children in the room.

¹ (formal) make polite conversation

² (informal) interesting because it is shocking or personal

B

Managing topics

[Reply](#) [Forward](#)

Hi Sophia,

As you know, I wanted to talk to my parents yesterday about my plans for dropping out of university but I didn't have much luck. First of all, I found it very hard to **broach the subject**¹. As soon as I started explaining how badly I wanted to start earning, one of them would **change the subject**. It was as if they were deliberately trying to avoid something they sensed was going to be a problem. Eventually I managed to **bring up the subject** again and they finally started to **take me seriously**. I tried not to **overstate my case**² for leaving and just put things as simply as I could. But then they started to **bombard me with questions**³. Why did I really want to leave? What would I do? Did I realise that I would get a much better job with a degree? Dad didn't listen to my answers – he just started making **broad generalisations** about the importance of education. He went on and on for about half an hour before telling me to **drop the subject** and never refer to it again. So I'm not sure what to do next. Any advice?

Liam

¹ begin a discussion of a difficult topic

³ ask me lots of questions

² give too much importance or seriousness to a point of view

C

Adjective + noun phrases

collocation	example	meaning
bad/strong/foul language	TV dramas today use much more bad/strong/foul language than they did 40 years ago.	swear words, taboo language; <i>foul</i> suggests much stronger disapproval than <i>bad</i> or <i>strong</i>
four-letter words	Please try to express your feelings without using four-letter words .	swear words, taboo words (many of which have four letters in English)
opening gambit	'You're a teacher, aren't you?' was his opening gambit .	a remark made in order to start a conversation
a rash promise	Don't make any rash promises . Think before you agree to anything.	promises made without thinking
an empty promise	She's full of empty promises . You shouldn't believe a word she says.	promises made which the speaker has no intention of keeping
a tough question	Do I regret anything? That's a tough question .	difficult question to answer

Exercises

20.1 Look at A. Correct the collocation errors in these sentences.

- 1 It can be hard to carry out a serious conversation in a noisy room.
- 2 He finds it very difficult to open his head and talk about his feelings to anyone.
- 3 I don't like discussing things with people who always want to gain every argument.
- 4 My mother always used to tell me not to spill unkind rumours.
- 5 I usually find it better not to get driven into an argument with Paul.
- 6 We had a very enjoyable time just sitting in the park enjoying some idling chatter.
- 7 I managed to resist all his attempts to engage me into conversation.
- 8 I've never talked to him much – we've done no more than change pleasantries.

20.2 Complete each sentence using a word from the box in the appropriate form.

bring	broach	drop	hold	lose	strong	take	tough
-------	--------	------	------	------	--------	------	-------

- 1 I the argument because I didn't know enough about the subject.
- 2 I think it's time we the subject of our marriage with our parents.
- 3 No one will your ideas seriously unless you present them more effectively.
- 4 My mother can't get used to hearing well-dressed young people using language in public places.
- 5 Whenever I try to up the subject of moving to London, he leaves the room.
- 6 I've said I'm sorry – why can't you just the subject?
- 7 They're sure to ask you some questions at your interview but you can take time to think before you answer.
- 8 I felt so ill last week that I could barely a conversation.

20.3 Match the two parts of these collocations.

- | | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| 1 juicy | promise |
| 2 broad | generalisations |
| 3 exchange | gambit |
| 4 take | question |
| 5 four-letter | seriously |
| 6 tough | word |
| 7 rash | gossip |
| 8 opening | news |

20.4 Rewrite each sentence using the word in brackets.

- 1 Please stop talking about this subject immediately. (DROP)
- 2 Sam has a habit of promising things that he has no intention of doing. (EMPTY)
- 3 You must give due importance to the lab's safety regulations. (SERIOUSLY)
- 4 It's better not to spend too long trying to make your point. (OVERSTATE)
- 5 Could we please start talking about something else? (SUBJECT)
- 6 Did you hear the rumours that people were spreading about your boss last year? (FLYING)
- 7 There are rather a lot of rude words in the play. (LANGUAGE)
- 8 Such general statements tend to be rather meaningless. (BROAD)
- 9 The way he began the conversation took me by surprise. (GAMBIT)
- 10 The children asked me lots and lots of questions about my trip. (BOMBARD)

A

Political newspaper headlines

A PM CALLS APRIL ELECTION¹

B MINISTER RESIGNS FROM OFFICE

C PARTY SECURES SLIM MAJORITY²

D ISLANDS DECLARE INDEPENDENCE

E GOVERNMENT'S HUMILIATING DEFEAT

F PARTY PRESENTS SHOW OF UNITY³G UNPOPULAR REGIME TOPPLED⁴H LEFT PROCLAIMS VICTORY⁵

I ARMY SEIZES POWER

J PRESIDENT DELIVERS KEY SPEECH⁶¹ officially announces that an election will take place² wins a small majority³ publicly appears to be united⁴ (journalistic) made to fall (of regime or government)⁵ makes an official announcement of victory⁶ (formal, journalistic) makes/gives a speech

B

TV

The police have been carrying out a **nationwide search** for 22-year-old Ryan Tait, who has not been seen since **trouble broke out** on Saturday night at the hotel where he was working. This evening they announced that they had found some **vital clues** but there are currently no plans to **call off the search**¹.

Following the robbery of over \$10m from its main city branch, the bank has offered a **substantial reward** to anyone providing information leading to the **recovery of the money**.



Management and workers at the troubled Longside car factory have finally agreed to **enter into talks** and hopes are growing that they may soon **reach agreement**. The **dispute arose** some weeks ago when management tried to introduce new working conditions. Workers have **held demonstrations** in the city in support of Longside staff. Management described the situation as **a test of strength** and union attempts to **negotiate a settlement**² have so far proved unsuccessful. However, an independent arbitrator has **acted as a go-between**³ and has succeeded in **brokering**⁴ an agreement to talk.

TV chiefs have **bowed to**⁵ public **pressure** and have **entered into an agreement** not to show scenes of gun violence on **prime-time**⁶ **television**. They will **hold a press conference** later today where they will explain their decision to **impose** this degree of **censorship**.

¹ stop searching² have formal discussions in the hope of coming to an agreement³ delivered messages between people who were reluctant or unable to speak to each other⁴ arranging⁵ given in to⁶ most popular time of day for watching TV

Exercises

21.1 The sentences below come from the stories beneath some of the headlines in A. Which headline does each sentence go with? Two of the headlines are not used.

- 1 A military coup has taken place and the country's popular monarch now faces exile.
- 2 In last night's vote, the government's new education bill was rejected.
- 3 Paul Cox, minister in charge of public finance, has decided that he wishes to spend more time with his family.
- 4 Previous rifts between rival ministers would appear to have been healed.
- 5 The Conservatives have succeeded in gaining 200 of the 390 seats.
- 6 The country will now be going to the polls somewhat earlier than anticipated.
- 7 Widespread and well-orchestrated rebellions have achieved their aim of overthrowing the country's dictator.
- 8 The country has voted that it no longer wishes to be ruled by its 19th-century colonisers.

21.2 Complete this news item with collocations from the opposite page. The first letters are given to help you.



Last night the Culture Minister (1) d..... a s..... in which she promised to try to (2) b..... an a..... between the government and the film industry with regard to the decision to (3) i..... stricter c..... on films. After the speech, which was broadcast (4) on p..... t....., the minister (5) h..... a press c..... She promised to appoint an independent negotiator to (6) a..... as a (7) g.....-b..... in the hope that the government and the film industry would soon (8) r..... a.....

21.3 Rewrite each sentence using the word in brackets.

- 1 The President has finally agreed to the public's demand to hold a referendum. (BOWED)
- 2 Early this morning the Eco-democratic Party announced it had won the election. (VICTORY)
- 3 The police detective discovered the clue which led to the stolen jewels being found. (RECOVERY)
- 4 The police will not stop searching until the child has been found. (CALL)
- 5 We were on holiday when the recent political troubles started. (BROKE)
- 6 The police are searching the whole country for the missing boy. (CARRYING)
- 7 The two parties will try to come to an agreement today. (SETTLEMENT)
- 8 Today thousands of students demonstrated against the increase in fees. (HELD)

21.4 Explain the difference between the sentences in each pair.

- 1 The rally is a test of the army's strength.
The rally is a show of the army's strength.
- 2 The police have found vital clues.
The police have found significant clues.
- 3 The woman has offered a small reward for the return of her cat.
The woman has offered a substantial reward for the return of her cat.
- 4 The politician delivered a passionate speech.
The politician made a passionate speech.
- 5 The countries involved in the dispute have agreed to enter into talks.
The countries involved in the dispute have entered into an agreement.

Over to you

Use a dictionary to find extra collocations for:

to hold a

to broker a

to (an) agreement

a majority

A

Current affairs in the press

Golfer Rick Tate has issued an **apologetic**¹ **apology** for his **disorderly conduct** at the weekend. However, he **refused point-blank**² to **provide an explanation** for his behaviour and today further **damaging disclosures**³ about his private life have been published in *The Daily Planet*.

The leader of the opposition has accused the Prime Minister of **misleading the electorate** in his **public pronouncements** on security. He has demanded that the PM **clarify his position** without delay. The PM's office has **declined to comment**.

The head of the National Union of Students (NUS) has **re-opened the debate** on tuition fees as **evidence emerges** of government plans to raise them still further. The NUS is committed to **taking a firm stance**⁴ against tuition fees and has **flatly rejected**⁵ claims that it may be about to change its position.

The President has **issued a statement** relating to the health of her husband, who is **critically ill** in a private hospital following a massive heart attack. **Regular updates** on his condition will be provided.

Migrant workers **seeking permission**⁶ to stay in this country may have to submit a **detailed account** of their work and personal lives to the visa authorities before they are **given leave**⁷ to stay.

¹ (formal) humble

² completely refused

³ sensitive, private information which has been revealed

⁴ (formal) position

⁵ (formal) completely denied

⁶ (formal) asking permission

⁷ (formal) permission

B

Feelings and reactions in connection with current affairs

verb + noun	example	meaning
take issue with	I take issue with some of the points made in the speech.	(formal) disagree with
gauge reaction	The government leaked the story to the press in order to gauge public reaction .	test the response
excite speculation	The incident has excited speculation that the couple may be about to divorce.	(formal) caused rumours to circulate
air a grievance	Workers have aired their grievances to reporters about the new pay structure.	(formal) complained

adjective + noun	example	meaning
a dissenting voice	When it came to the vote, there was only one dissenting voice .	(formal) person who disagreed
a vociferous opponent	Our local MP is a vociferous opponent of having a casino in our city.	someone who opposes something loudly and publicly
passionate entreaty	Plans to extend the airport went ahead, despite passionate entreaties from local residents.	requests made because of strong beliefs
a throwaway comment	I don't think the politician really meant to say she was leaving the party – it was just a throwaway comment .	an unintentional remark which should not be taken seriously

Exercises

22.1 Correct the two collocation errors in each sentence.

- 1 The committee, with one disagreeing voice, voted to take a firm post on the issue.
- 2 It was only a throwoff comment but it has thrilled a lot of speculation.
- 3 As new evidence submerges of government involvement in the scandal, people are beginning to question the Prime Minister's public pronunciations on the affair.
- 4 The prince refused blink-point to provide a detailing account of his actions that night.
- 5 The minister was accused of mislaying the electorate when he said that very few migrant workers had been handed leave to stay in the country.

22.2 Look at A. Complete each sentence using the word in brackets in the appropriate form.

- 1 The film star's son was arrested for behaviour. (ORDER)
- 2 The reporter asked the minister to the government's position on health service reform. (CLEAR)
- 3 The jury felt that the accused had been unable to provide a satisfactory as to why he had gone to the house. (EXPLAIN)
- 4 The council will issue a at the close of their meeting today. (STATE)
- 5 She rejected the allegation that she had a financial motive. (FLAT)
- 6 Anyone seeking for permanent residence here is subject to a set of standard checks. (PERMIT)
- 7 There have recently been a number of damaging in the press about the politician's personal financial affairs. (DISCLOSE)
- 8 After years of silence on the issue in the press, teachers are now hopeful that the debate on school discipline will be (OPEN)

22.3 Complete each second sentence using a collocation from the opposite page. Both sentences should have the same meaning.

- 1 The singer has strongly and publicly opposed the war.
The singer has been a of the war.
- 2 We carried out market research to see whether the public would like our new car.
We carried out market research to to our new car.
- 3 The rock star made an emotional request for the earthquake victims, which produced a huge response.
The rock star's for help for the earthquake victims produced a huge response.
- 4 The team will post accounts of their progress on their website every few days.
The team will post on their progress on their website.
- 5 The newsletter allows staff to complain openly about conditions.
The newsletter gives staff the chance to publicly.
- 6 I opposed the committee's stance on this matter.
I with the committee's stance on this matter.
- 7 The actor would not say anything about the accusations that had been made.
The actor on the accusations that had been made.
- 8 The doctors announced that the film star was very ill indeed.
The doctors announced that the film star was
- 9 The politician made a public statement humbly regretting his derogatory comments about the town.
The politician issued an for his derogatory comments about the town.

A Talking about festivals

Ballynoe Fiddle Festival

(18 JULY)

This fun **festival falls on** the third Saturday of July, and the village becomes the centre of wild music for the whole day. The **festival celebrates** the birthday of Pat Davey, a famous local musician. This year's special guests include Anne O'Keefe (fiddle) and Ger Downes (guitar), who will **uphold¹ the annual tradition** of playing at the house where Darvey was born.

¹ also *keep up*² (journalistic/literary) very old³ also *festival marks*⁴ usually refers to the time around Christmas and New Year

GOLDEN APPLE WEEK

(3–9 SEPT)

Every year, the villagers of Hartsby **hold an unusual festival** – the Week of the Golden Apple. Hartsby, at the centre of the apple-growing region, celebrates this **tradition**, which **dates back to** the Middle Ages, at the beginning of every September. The festival is held to celebrate the apple harvest. Come and **join in the festivities** and eat as many apples as you want! Tickets £5 (children £2).



FIRE AND LIGHT FESTIVAL

(18 DEC)

It may be winter, dark and cold, but the village of Taft will be in **festive mood** on December 18th. **Wearing traditional dress**, the women of the village **perform dances** around a huge fire in the main square, while the men keep up **the age-old² tradition** of wearing large, brightly coloured hats and carrying lanterns. The **event marks³** the beginning of the **festive season⁴**.

B Traditional festivities

Different religions often have **movable feasts¹** which depend on the phases of the moon. There is a **rich tradition** of music and dance in central Sweden.

Jazz and blues are part of the **cultural heritage** of the southern United States.

Every year the town **puts on a** firework **display** as part of the festival.

We have a **proud tradition** of raising funds for charity through our annual town festival.

This month some of our students are **observing the festival of** Ramadan.

In a **break with tradition** this year's festival will feature modern dances alongside traditional ones.

¹ can refer to any arrangement, plan or appointment where the date is flexible

C A wedding celebration

Look at this speech by the best man (usually the bridegroom's best or oldest male friend) at a wedding. He mixes informal and formal collocations, which can have a humorous effect.



'Ladies and gentlemen, according to **long-standing¹ tradition**, I now have to make a speech, but it'll be very short, so here goes. I never thought Theo would ever **get hitched²**, but he's finally decided to **tie the knot³**. Yesterday he was suffering from **pre-wedding nerves**, but today he looked calm and happy as he and Jade were **joined in matrimony⁴**. So now, I'd like to **propose a toast⁵** to the bride and groom. Please **raise your glasses**. To Jade and Theo! May they have many years of **wedded bliss⁶**!'

¹ which has existed for a long time^{2/3} (informal) get married⁴ (formal: used as part of the marriage ceremony) married⁵ also **make a toast**⁶ (usually used slightly humorously) happiness through being married

Common mistakes

Dress is an uncountable noun when it refers to a style of clothing (e.g. **traditional dress, formal dress**). Don't say *traditional dresses*; this would mean dresses for women only.

Exercises

23.1 Match the beginning of each sentence with its ending.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 This year's National Day festival | a traditional dance from the region. |
| 2 In this region we have a rich | the tradition, despite opposition. |
| 3 A group of children performed | festival in spring. |
| 4 This year's festival represents a break | celebrates 50 years of independence. |
| 5 The tradition of carol singing dates | of giving food to older villagers every New Year. |
| 6 The people are determined to uphold | with tradition, as it will be held in May. |
| 7 The town holds its annual | tradition of poetry, music and dance. |
| 8 Our village has a proud tradition | back hundreds of years. |

23.2 Correct the collocation errors in these sentences.

- 1 All the men wore traditional dresses consisting of green jackets and white trousers.
- 2 The festival makes the beginning of the Celtic summer.
- 3 The festival is part of the region's cultural inherit.
- 4 Hundreds of people, locals and tourists, join on the festivities.
- 5 The annual 'Day of the Horse' drops on 30 March this year.
- 6 Everyone in the village was in feast mood as the annual celebrations began.
- 7 The average age at which couples tie the strings is rising.
- 8 This region has a ripe tradition of folk singing and dancing.
- 9 Getting joined to matrimony is a significant reason for celebration.
- 10 The area is famous for observing a number of age-standing traditions.

23.3 Read these remarks by different people. Then answer the questions.

Alicia: Grandparents' Day is a movable feast, depending on when Easter falls.

Brona: Every year we put on a display of traditional arts and crafts.

Monica: Nowadays, only older people observe the Festival of the Dead.

Erik: The festive season usually gets underway towards the middle of December.

Evan: The harp is part of the cultural heritage of Wales.

- 1 Who is talking about the beginning of a period of celebration?
- 2 Who is talking about something that represents the identity of a group of people?
- 3 Who is talking about something that happens on a different day each year?
- 4 Who is talking about something that not everyone celebrates?
- 5 Who is talking about people organising an exhibition of some sort?

23.4 Answer these questions about weddings.

- 1 Does *get hitched* mean get (a) engaged (b) married (c) divorced?
- 2 What kind of happiness do married couples hope for?
- 3 What do the bride and bridegroom 'tie' when they get married?
- 4 What is the difference between making toast and making a toast?
- 5 What phrase means the nervousness people feel before they get married?
- 6 What formal expression meaning to marry is used in the marriage ceremony?
- 7 Why do people raise their glasses?
- 8 Are the two expressions referred to in questions 1 and 3 formal or informal?

Over to you

Look up a festival that is special in your country on the Internet. What information in English can you find about it? Make a note of any interesting collocations in the text. A good starting-point for your search might be: www.festivals.com.

A Advertisements for beauty products

Tressy Products

For long-lasting colour and to treat sun-damaged hair use Tressy Products.



EcoCream has **anti-aging properties**. It has been **clinically proven** to **banish wrinkles**.¹ Daily application of this **luxury cream** will make **fine lines** and other signs of aging disappear, leaving you with a **flawless complexion**.



You'll feel good and you'll look good if you eat one of our **tasty snacks** whenever you're feeling **peckish**.² Each one is only 60 calories and is rich in vitamin D.



Enjoy the **unrivalled service** at our **exclusive beauty salon** in London's West End.

Daisy shampoo will bring out the **natural highlights** in your hair.

- ¹ get rid of lines
² (informal) feeling hungry

B Interview with a fashion model

Reporter: Would you say that fashion has always been important to you?

Lily: Well, ever since I was a child, I've loved reading **glossy magazines**¹, looking at the photos and finding out **what's in fashion**.

Reporter: And as you grew up, did you buy **designer label** clothes?

Lily: Oh, no! I couldn't afford them, and I was actually quite happy with **high-street fashion**². But I loved looking at fashion shows on TV, especially when Paris or Milan designers **launched their new collections**.

Reporter: And now you are the one showing us the **new season's look**³ and **setting the trend**⁴!

Lily: That's right. I still can't quite believe it.

Reporter: So what should we be wearing this year?

Lily: Well, there is a **stunning range** of new leisurewear about to **hit the high street**⁵. It's based on the new adventure-influenced trend we saw coming out of Paris and I think it's going to be a **hugely popular** look. And it's going to be comfortable to wear too.

Reporter: That's good. So, have you ever let yourself become a **fashion victim**⁶?

Lily: Well, I must admit I've worn some **excruciatingly uncomfortable** shoes in the past, so I'm happy to report that flat shoes are definitely **back in fashion**!

¹ magazines printed on high-quality paper with lots of photos and adverts

² clothes bought in ordinary shops rather than from special fashion designers

³ the new fashion style

⁴ starting the fashion

⁵ become available in chainstores

⁶ a person who always wears fashionable clothes even if they make them look ridiculous or don't suit them



Exercises

24.1 Look at A. Add a word to each sentence to make the language typical of advertisements.

- 1 These vitamins have been proven to protect the body from winter viruses.
- 2 Our snacks cost only 99p.
- 3 We manage a number of spas in Paris and New York.
- 4 Our new shampoo will subtly bring out the highlights in your hair.
- 5 Our lipsticks come in a range of colours.
- 6 We guarantee you will be impressed by the service provided by all our hotels.
- 7 Our new concealer will make the lines around your eyes disappear.

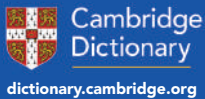
24.2 Match the beginning of each sentence with its ending.

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| 1 I don't believe those ads that claim their creams have anti-aging | peckish. |
| 2 While working in France, Amy launched her new summer | hair. |
| 3 Why not have a bowl of soup or a banana if you're feeling a bit | wrinkles. |
| 4 We guarantee that you will see instant results with our luxury hand | magazines. |
| 5 You should use this shampoo to revive your sun-damaged | high street. |
| 6 Sometimes I wish it were really possible to banish | cream. |
| 7 This five-star hotel offers its guests unrivalled | salons. |
| 8 The designer's new range of beautiful shoes has just hit the | properties. |
| 9 At the airport she bought herself a couple of glossy | collection. |
| 10 This part of town is famous for its classy hotels and exclusive | service. |

24.3 Complete this article from a fashion magazine using collocations from B. The first letters are given to help you.

A stunning (1) r..... of new summer clothes is about to (2) h..... a high street near you. Vibrant colours are (3) b..... in fashion, and there were also many more practical designs in the collections (4) l..... last week at the Paris fashion show than we have seen for some time. The Paris designs instantly (5) s..... the trends which have quickly been taken up and adapted for the mass market. Such adaptations for the (6) h..... street fashion stores may not carry designer (7) l..... but they allow us all to wear the new (8) s..... look. We are confident that this will be a hugely (9) p..... look as it is designed with comfort as well as elegance in mind. So there's no need to be a fashion (10) v..... this summer!

24.4 Find three collocations for each word. One is in this unit. Use a dictionary such as the Cambridge Online Dictionary to find two more.



- | | | |
|------------|----------------|-----------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| luxury | excruciatingly | flawless |
| | | |
| 4 | 5 | 6 |
| unrivalled | launch | exclusive |
| | | |

A

The daily commute



GREG: I live in a small town in the US. Outside the big cities there are very few **local transport links**, so I have to drive to work. It's a busy **commuter route** so I end up **getting stuck in traffic**¹ most days. Luckily, there's also a **toll road**² I can take for part of the trip. It's expensive but isn't as crowded – even in **rush hour**.



PAOLA: I travel about an hour each way on a crowded **commuter train** and it's often difficult to get a seat. My **season ticket**³ is very expensive because I always have to travel at **peak time**⁴. Sometimes, when there are **engineering works**⁵ or cancellations, we have to take a **replacement bus service** which is even slower!



LARS: I live in Denmark and lots of people commute by bike here. We have a good **cycle network** and most roads have separate **cycle lanes** which are very safe. I enjoy cycling and it's often quicker, especially when there's **traffic gridlock**⁶ on the main roads into Copenhagen.



AKIKO: I live in a **commuter town** outside Tokyo and there's a very good **bus and rail network** here. The trouble is, it's really busy – **overcrowded trains** are normal. There's even a special person employed by the underground to push people onto the trains!

¹ be slowed down by heavy traffic

² a road you have to pay to use

³ a ticket which is valid for a certain period of time (often a month or a year)

⁴ the time when most people want to go somewhere, often leading to higher prices (opp. **off-peak**)

⁵ repair or maintenance work

⁶ when roads are so blocked with traffic that nothing is moving

B

Problems and solutions

The minister for transport is being interviewed about current transport problems and future policies.

Interviewer: So, Minister, we've been hearing a lot on the news recently about all the problems faced by commuters: **packed trains**¹, **fare rises**, **train strikes**. What is the government planning to do?

Minister: Well, this government's policy has always been to **invest in infrastructure** and to **provide more local transport services** for the hard-working commuters of this country.

Interviewer: But for commuters **facing a** ten percent **hike**² in fares for services which are constantly **running late** or not at all, that policy doesn't seem to be working.

Minister: **Train operators** are re-investing the majority of their profits in new trains and better services and the government is supporting that. In addition, we are trying to **ease traffic congestion**³ in big cities by restricting private car use and encouraging **car-sharing programmes** and **park-and-ride schemes**⁴. The **congestion charge**⁵ in London has helped to reduce traffic and improve **air quality** and our road-building programmes have aimed to **alleviate bottlenecks**⁶ in key areas.

Interviewer: I'm glad you mentioned traffic. Commuters who drive also seem to be facing increasing difficulties, such as **road closures** and detours which in turn cause **lengthy tailbacks**⁷ and **bring traffic to a standstill**⁸. It's not surprising more people are choosing to **work from home** more regularly!

¹ trains which are very crowded

² expecting a quick increase

³ reduce traffic jams

⁴ schemes where people can park their cars out of town and take a bus into a town/city centre

⁵ a charge for vehicles which enter a specific zone within a city

⁶ reduce places where too many cars try to get through at the same time

⁷ long queues of traffic

⁸ stop (traffic) completely



Exercises

25.1 Match the beginning of each sentence with its ending.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Jaime uses the AP-7 toll 2 The cost of a season 3 Transrail apologised to passengers after a series of peak- 4 We are calling on the city council to build more cycle 5 The government has announced four new projects to improve rail 6 The new road taxes will fund improvements to commuter | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) time delays on morning services. b) trains in the downtown area. c) lanes and provide bike racks in the centre. d) road when he drives into Valencia every day. e) ticket has increased by ten percent – more than inflation! f) networks around our major cities. |
|---|--|

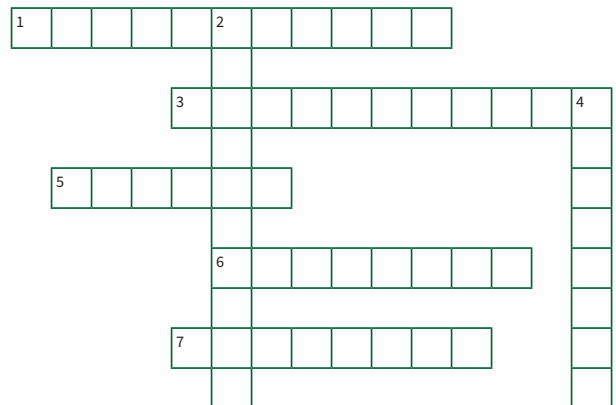
25.2 Correct the collocation errors in these sentences.

- 1 The construction work in the city centre has caused traffic to a standstill and cars have been queuing on the ring road for several kilometres.
- 2 The town now has three park-and-drive schemes which will help keep cars out of the centre.
- 3 Environmental campaigners are arguing that widening the motorway will do nothing to allow bottlenecks but will only increase the volume of traffic.
- 4 Rail passengers at all the main stations were protesting today at train rises of more than 2.3%.
- 5 The new government has promised to invest to infrastructure projects to improve road and rail links around the country.
- 6 The NATO summit will mean road closings around the area for security reasons.

25.3 Complete the word puzzle.

Across

- 1 If the train isn't running, there's usually a ___ bus service, but it can be slow.
- 3 There are usually ___ works on that line at weekends, so trains are delayed.
- 5 I'm sick of travelling on ___ trains. The rail company really must do something about the overcrowding.
- 6 The accident caused a ___ of 10 km around the city yesterday as cars were stopped on the motorway.
- 7 The drive to work for many people was longer than usual this morning, as there were roadworks on a key ___ route into Liverpool city centre.



Down

- 2 City councillors have proposed introducing a ___ charge to reduce traffic and pollution.
- 4 There was complete traffic ___ this morning when a lorry overturned and blocked the main junction.


25.4 Rewrite each sentence using a collocation from the opposite page based on the word in brackets.

- 1 I hate travelling during the time when everyone else is travelling as it's always so crowded. (RUSH)
- 2 Since the high-speed train link to the capital arrived in 2015, this has become a popular place where people live while travelling to another place for work. (TOWN)
- 3 Commuters are furious as they are going to have a big rise in fares for the second time this year. (HIKE)
- 4 It is hoped that the new tunnel will reduce traffic jams by taking cars out of the centre. (CONGESTION)
- 5 Services on West Express Trains are delayed this morning due to high winds and flooding. (RUNNING)

A

An exciting trip

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I'd always had a **thirst for adventure** and often **get itchy feet** so I could hardly **contain my excitement** when I set off for South America for a year. It was a very **arduous¹ journey**. I should have **broken the journey²** somewhere but I did it all in one go. Next time, I'll **have a stopover³** in São Paulo, have a bit of a rest and **do the sights** there before travelling on.

After two fantastic weeks in the Amazon I got a flight on a **low-cost airline** to Rio de Janeiro. I then tried to get a flight to Peru but they were all full, so they **put me on standby⁴**. Luckily I got a seat.

In Peru I **went trekking** in the Andes. The guide took us **off the beaten track** and I felt like an **intrepid⁵ explorer** from another century in some **unexplored wilderness**. There was a real **sense of adventure**. One day we actually got **hopelessly lost**. We were afraid they'd have to **send out a search party** to look for us. But then we met some locals who helped us get back on to our path.

¹ difficult, tiring, needing a lot of effort

² stopped for a short time

³ have a brief (usually) overnight stay in a place when on a long journey to somewhere else, usually by air


⁴ made me wait to see if a seat became available

⁵ brave, with no fear of dangerous situations

B

Articles about travel adventures

North Pole Expedition



Some longed-for **sunny spells** have **boosted** the **spirits¹** of three British women hoping to set a polar trekking record. The women have **faced severe weather conditions** since setting off to walk to the North Pole 18 days ago. However, the team's base camp manager said she had spoken to them yesterday by satellite phone and they had been relieved to report the weather was sunny and **their spirits were high²**.

London to Tangier by train

Whilst this journey may not compare in terms of **sheer epic grandeur** to some of the great American train journeys, it does **have a special charm** all of its own. It may not be cheap but if you **keep your eyes peeled**, you can find some surprisingly good deals. If **your budget doesn't quite stretch to³** a sleeping compartment, you can always just curl up in your seat for the night. Let the rhythmic motion and the dull rumbles of the train **lull you to sleep**. The first **leg of the journey** gives you very little indication of what lies ahead ...

¹ made feel more cheerful ² they were in a positive mood ³ you can't afford

Tip

Look at www.nationalgeographic.com or an adventure travel company such as www.keadventure.com.

Exercises

26.1 Complete these descriptions of TV documentaries using a word from the box.

arduous beaten intrepid sense sights trekking unexplored

1 John Howes presents essential holiday tips for those heading off the track, while Anneke Zousa does the of New York in record time.

4 In 1957, Anna Trensholm went through the mountains of north-eastern Turkey and filmed every step of her way. This unique footage reveals the harshness of her journey.

2 In this fascinating film, Grieshaus gives us a picture of the largely wilderness of the Kara Kum Desert.

5 This film conveys a genuine of adventure, as we travel with its makers through the dense jungles of Guyana.

3 Like a(n) explorer of the 19th century, James Westly travelled with only two companions.

26.2 Choose the correct collocations.

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I have always had itchy (1) *hands / feet / fingers* and last summer I had the amazing opportunity to travel to the – for me at least – (2) *unexplored / unplanned / unprepared* territory of the Gobi Desert. My budget wouldn't (3) *spread / stretch / afford* to travelling on a normal flight but I couldn't find a (4) *low-cost / low-key / low-cut* airline to fly me there. In the end, I got a (5) *stand-up / stand-off / standby* ticket and it was not too expensive. Once there, I joined a group and we made a journey on horseback into the desert. You wouldn't believe the sheer (6) *very / mere / epic* grandeur of the region. If you keep your eyes (7) *peeled / scaled / washed* you can see all sorts of amazing plants and creatures. We were lucky with the weather. We were told that the previous group had had to (8) *meet / face / address* severe weather (9) *circumstances / coincidences / conditions*. Our main problem was that one day we got (10) *hopelessly / fearlessly / carelessly* lost and they had to send out a search (11) *group / party / set* to find us. We felt so stupid. Anyway, the Gobi Desert may not be everyone's choice of holiday destination but I can assure you that it (12) *does / gets / has* a very special charm of its own.

26.3 Rewrite each sentence using the word in brackets.

- 1 At the beginning the journey was straightforward. (LEG)
- 2 I couldn't afford to travel first class. (STRETCH)
- 3 After we arrived at our base camp we felt more cheerful. (BOOSTED)
- 4 There will be periods of sunshine in most areas today. (SPELLS)
- 5 We broke our journey to Australia in Singapore. (STOPOVER)
- 6 Jack has always longed to have adventures. (THIRST)
- 7 Grandmother is very cheerful today. (SPIRITS)
- 8 The movement of the ship helped me to fall asleep. (LULLED)

26.4 Use a dictionary or the Cambridge Online Dictionary to find two more collocations for these words.

- 1 arduous 2 wilderness 3 uncharted

A

Sports training

Read this blog entry by a professional swimmer trying out a new training camp.

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It's week two of our training programme here in the New Zealand training camp. We've had the chance to **do**¹ several **extreme sports** like white-water rafting and rock climbing. I've also **acquired** quite a **taste for**² snowboarding. I didn't like it much at first – I found it really hard to **keep my balance**. But my instructor said she was sure I'd **get the hang of it**³ in a couple of hours, so I decided to **take up the challenge** and, sure enough, I mastered it. I thought I was **pretty fit**⁴ but I'm really having to **push myself to the limits**⁵ to be able to cope. I'm so shattered at night that it only takes me about two seconds to fall into a deep sleep. Anyway, despite the tiredness, I'm **having a whale of a time**⁶. Anybody would **jump at the chance**⁷ to try out some of these sports, I'm sure. Must go to bed now to **summon up the energy** for tomorrow. Let's hope all this will help me **keep in shape**⁸ for the next swimming tournament!



¹ NOT make

² begun to enjoy

³ (informal) become able to do something

⁴ (informal) fairly fit

⁵ make a considerable effort

⁶ (informal) having a fantastic time

⁷ (informal) really like to do something

⁸ stay in good physical condition

B

Sports news

The mood amongst the crowd **reached fever pitch**¹ at yesterday's match between India and Pakistan. In the last few minutes of the game Khan **played brilliantly** and secured a **convincing victory** for Pakistan.



In the cricket match between Australia and South Africa the **score** currently **stands at** 65 for 3 wickets. We'll bring you the **latest scores** on the hour, every hour.

The teams **took the field**² to the applause of 40,000 spectators. Despite **putting up** a determined **performance**, the England team seemed unable to **break through the** formidable Italian **defence**. After some impressive tackles, Italy was **awarded a penalty** just before half time. The **penalty was missed**, much to the delight of ...

Yesterday's match was full of excitement with three players being **given yellow cards** and some controversial **free kicks**. The game was lost when the Blues **scored an own goal**³ in the last two minutes. The crowd **went wild**⁴.

¹ became very excited/agitated

² went on the pitch

³ scored a goal in error against their own team

⁴ became crazy with excitement (can also be used for other emotions, such as rage)

Tip

Listen to commentaries in English relating to a sport that interests you and find a website dedicated to that sport. Note down any collocations about the sport that you notice being frequently used. You may find this website useful: www.bbc.com/sport.

Exercises

27.1 Look at A. Choose the correct collocation.

- 1 I'm finding it hard to *summon up / acquire / reach* the energy to do anything much in the evenings these days.
- 2 Have you ever tried any *formidable / fever / extreme* sports?
- 3 I didn't realise how difficult the marathon would be when I originally *took / had / got up* the challenge.
- 4 I don't think I could ever *acquire / educate / achieve* a taste for bungee jumping.
- 5 I'd *rise / jump / take* at the chance of a trip to Venice if I were offered one!
- 6 It won't take you long to get the *balance / taste / hang* of cross-country skiing as you're such an experienced downhill skier.

27.2 Complete each sentence using a word from the page opposite.

- 1 Don't yourself to the limits now. Conserve some strength for later on.
- 2 I'm having a of a time learning how to surf, though I find it almost impossible to my balance.
- 3 I've just heard the scores. Italy's winning and excitement's reaching fever
- 4 The score in the rugby match currently at 27 to 5 and France looks set to win a convincing
- 5 You must try harder to keep in over the winter. You could walk to work instead of going by bus, for example.
- 6 John Shane was given a yellow for performing an illegal tackle on an opponent.
- 7 The captain took the free and it reached Jobbs, who instantly scored.
- 8 Fortunately for Wales, Scotland every penalty that they were during the match.
- 9 When the headteacher offered a prize to the pupils who built the best raft over the holidays, children from every class decided to take up the

27.3 Rewrite each sentence using the word in brackets.

- 1 I'd love to meet Usain Bolt, wouldn't you? (JUMP)
- 2 The spectators stood and clapped as the teams went on to the pitch. (TOOK)
- 3 You should only attempt this climb if you have a reasonable level of fitness. (PRETTY)
- 4 The crowd was extremely excited at the end of the match. (WILD)
- 5 We very much enjoyed our time in Australia. (WHALE)
- 6 I decided to be brave and start my own business. (CHALLENGE)
- 7 The little boy soon learnt how to ride his bike without stabilisers. (HANG)
- 8 The team captain felt dreadful when he kicked the ball into his team's goal. (OWN)

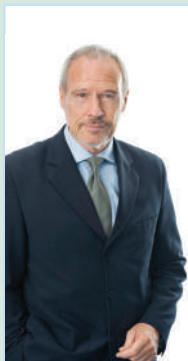
27.4 Complete each sentence using the word in brackets in the appropriate form.

- 1 I get the football scores sent through to my mobile. (LATE)
- 2 The home team won a victory. (CONVINCE)
- 3 Our team put up an excellent (PERFORM)
- 4 It took some time before our team succeeded in breaking through the Reds' and scoring our first goal. (DEFEND)
- 5 After being a penalty, the player scored the winning goal. (AWARD)

A

Decisions and solutions

Hans Brokaw, head of a company that manufactures garden furniture, is announcing to his senior staff **plans** he is **making** for the business to be exclusively online.



HANS BROKAW

As you know, for some time now we've been **toying**¹ with the **idea** of transferring all our business to online-only sales as a **long-term solution** to the problem of finding good retail outlets. You'll remember that at the last team meeting Rob **unveiled**² a **plan** to move the business to the web in three phases over nine months. And Philippa did a great job **drumming up support**³ for the move among the sales and marketing people. Since then, as you also know, we've had a **slight change of plan**, and, **acting on a suggestion**⁴ from the logistics team, we've now decided that the move should happen over 12 months. In order to **implement**⁵ such a **plan**, we need to **draw up a schedule** and **stick to**⁶ that **schedule**.

So I'd like to make a **tentative suggestion**⁷. Before we **launch the scheme**, I think we should invite the web designers to come here and take us through the process from their side. That will give us the opportunity to **exercise greater control** over things. I don't think we should just **leave** everything **to their discretion**⁸. I'm just aware of how important it's going to be to **cover every eventuality**⁹ before we commit 100% to going online.

We propose to end our relationship with the garden centres where we currently sell. We've reached this decision **after careful consideration**. We do believe that realistically it's the only **option open to us**. **The deciding factor** was losing our biggest customer – the Greenway garden centre chain. After that, we really had no choice.

¹ considering, but not in a focused way

² showed / made known for the first time

³ increasing support for something

⁴ doing something as a result of a suggestion

⁵ put into operation

⁶ keep to

⁷ a suggestion that you are not sure will be accepted

⁸ leave everything to their judgement

⁹ consider all possible situations and difficulties

B

Making plans

Note the collocations in this speech at the start of an annual youth summit.



Good morning, friends, and welcome to our summit, the first of what we plan to be an annual event! I have been waiting for this day with **eager anticipation**¹ for a long time. We **came up with the idea** five years ago and **preparations have been underway**² ever since. There was a certain amount of **necessary groundwork**³ to do, of course, before our sponsors were able to **reach the decision** to support us. But then we were able to turn our attention to how best to **put our ideas into practice**.

¹ feeling of great excitement about something that is going to happen

² happening

³ work done in preparation

C

Rejecting plans

Someone may **declare outright opposition** or **outright hostility** to a plan. [say they are completely opposed/hostile] A plan can be **rejected out of hand**. [totally rejected] Those who do not like a plan or piece of work may offer **constructive criticism**. [criticism which is useful and intended to help or improve]

Common **mistakes**

Note that we **come to** or **arrive at** a conclusion, NOT **make** a conclusion.

Exercises

28.1 Match the two parts of these collocations.

- | | |
|------------|-------------------------|
| 1 unveil | every eventuality |
| 2 stick to | a lot of support |
| 3 make | something a reality |
| 4 leave it | a schedule |
| 5 drum up | a plan |
| 6 cover | to someone's discretion |

28.2 Complete each conversation to make B agree with what A says.

- A: I think we should do what Ruby is proposing.
B: Yes, I think we should definitely act her suggestion.
- A: We need to make a timetable for what needs to be done.
B: Yes, we need to draw a schedule.
- A: We need a lot of discussion before we can put the scheme into operation.
B: Yes, we need a couple of meetings before we can implement the
- A: We need to be able to have more influence over what's happening.
B: I agree. We must greater control over things.
- A: It's not an answer to the problem that will solve it permanently.
B: I agree. It's not a solution.
- A: We don't really have that choice.
B: I agree. That is not open to us.

28.3 Complete each sentence using a word from the box.

change consideration factor groundwork launch outright suggestion

- After careful, we decided not to sell the business.
- We'll do the necessary and then the scheme in May.
- I was very shocked to encounter such hostility to my plan.
- Money is always the deciding in business decisions.
- It was only a tentative, not a final decision.
- There's been a slight of plan, I'm afraid.

28.4 Correct the collocation errors in these sentences.

- Final preparations for the music festival are now undergone.
- I was very upset when they rejected my suggestions out of foot.
- The company came on with the idea of encouraging customers to recycle packaging.
- I don't think you will find it easy to get your ideas into practice.
- He declared his offright opposition to the plan.
- Constructed criticism is always welcome, but negative criticism is not.

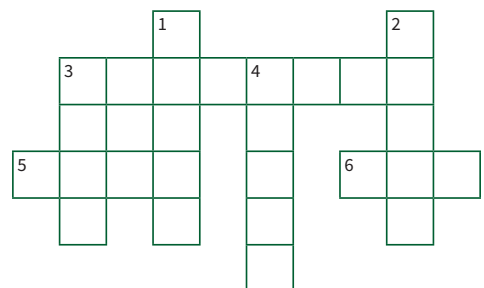
28.5 Complete the word puzzle.

Across

- It's difficult to put the idea into — .
- He leaves me to — the plans for our holidays.
- We should — on this suggestion at once.

Down

- The kids are full of — anticipation.
- We need to — a decision today.
- There's been a change of — .
- I — with a few ideas, but rejected them.



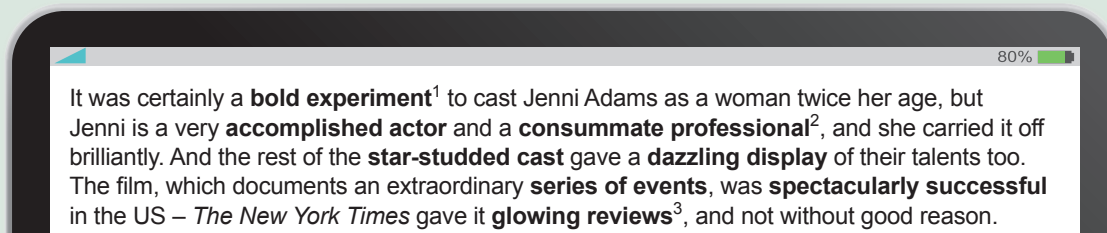
Note the collocations in these reviews of the same film from different publications.

Quality newspaper

LARISSA

Larissa is an excellent film. It tells the story of what happens when a young woman decides to try to find out what really happened to her grandmother, who disappeared in Russia in the 1930s under mysterious circumstances. As the **suspense builds up**, *Larissa* sets off **an amazing chain of events**. It's an incredibly gripping film and its direction shows **startling originality**.

Movie review app



¹ a brave and risky thing to do ² (formal) complete professional ³ very positive reviews

Popular (tabloid) newspaper

Whoever decided to **cast** Jenni Adams **in the role of** the disappearing grandma in *Larissa* must have been out of their mind. An **unmitigated disaster**⁴, **strongly influenced**⁵ by the very worst kind of Hollywood sentimentality. The only

good thing was the theme music. The cinema next door was showing *Screech of the Vampire* – now *that* I would **highly recommend**⁶ ... if you **can bear the suspense**⁷!

⁴ total disaster

⁵ or **heavily influenced**, but NOT highly influenced

⁶ **thoroughly recommend** is also possible

⁷ can stand the excitement

Entertainment magazine

Larissa



STARRING
Jenni Adams

DIRECTED BY
Joel Hanson

I usually **think highly** of Joel Hanson's films but this one, based on a novel by Slevan Gorsky, is a **dismal failure**. In spite of the **all-star cast**, the film just didn't **hold my attention** the way the book did. I was a college student when I read it, but it made a **lasting impression**⁸ on me. It **fired my imagination** more than any other book has ever done, and **awakened my interest** in Russia in the 1930s so much that my poor old bookshelves are groaning with books on Russian history! The film, however, simply failed to **create**⁹ **the atmosphere** of Leningrad in the 1930s which the book achieved so successfully.

⁸ we can also say **an indelible impression**, meaning a permanent one ⁹ also **evoke the atmosphere**

Common mistakes

Someone can have a **considerable reputation** or a **well-deserved reputation**, but NOT a high reputation.


Exercises

29.1 Complete the review using words from the opposite page. The first letter is given to help you.

1,000 NIGHTS
☰

NOW PLAYING

The recently released film *1,000 Nights* does not have a (1) s..... cast but it will not fail to make a (2) l..... impression with its startling (3) o..... and its dazzling (4) d..... of new talent. Jon Hayden is cast in the (5) r..... of Tim Alexon, a man of principles trying to make his way in the world of big business. It is Hayden's first appearance on the big screen, but he shows himself as an exceptionally (6) a..... actor playing the little man caught up in an intriguing and at times terrifying (7) s..... of events. The use of unknown actors was a bold (8) e..... but it turned out to be (9) s..... successful. *1,000 Nights* will (10) f..... the imagination of even the most cynical of viewers.



29.2 Cross out the option which *cannot* be used in each sentence.

- 1 Alla Repina has a *high / considerable / well-deserved* reputation as a character actor.
- 2 The *all-star / star-studded / starring* cast is set to make the film a box-office success.
- 3 My cousin *highly / spectacularly / thoroughly* recommended the play.
- 4 The plot is based on an extraordinary *series / burst / chain* of events that happened in New York in the early 1800s.
- 5 The stage sets were obviously *strongly / highly / heavily* influenced by the work of the surrealist artist Salvador Dalí.
- 6 The film made a(n) *consummate / lasting / indelible* impression on me.
- 7 The author *evoked / created / wrote* a magical atmosphere.

29.3 Complete each sentence using a word from the opposite page.

- 1 I admire that producer because he is such a consummate
- 2 We all began to feel increasingly nervous as the suspense built
- 3 All that writer's books have received glowing
- 4 The central character's actions set off an amazing chain of
- 5 To my mind the play is an unmitigated
- 6 Making a film lasting six hours was quite a bold
- 7 I'm afraid the novel didn't really succeed in holding my
- 8 I couldn't watch the film at the most exciting point – I just couldn't bear the

29.4 Name the following:

- 1 an actor whose work you admire
- 2 a film director whom you think highly of
- 3 a film that has recently been spectacularly successful
- 4 a book that has awakened your interest in a different place or period of history

29.5 Two of the collocations on the opposite page are strongly negative ways of saying that something did not succeed. Which are they?

Over to you

Go to www.imdb.com (The Internet Movie Database) and read some of the items and reviews there. Make a note of any useful collocations not in this unit.

A

Health and safety regulations

Dear colleague,

As you are probably aware, the government has recently **passed** new **laws** relating to health and safety in the workplace. These new **regulations** have been **introduced**¹ to **standardise procedure** in workplaces across the country and ensure that employers **adhere to standards**.

The enclosed guide details the steps you need to take in order to **comply with** these new **laws**. All employers **have an obligation to carry out a risk assessment**². Failure to do so will leave us **in breach of the law**³. The purpose of the risk assessment is to **minimise danger** to employees and also to make it easier for employers to **satisfy the requirements** of the regulations.

All department heads **have an obligation** to read the information in the guide carefully. Please do so, and if you have any further questions, I will be happy to answer them.



Health and Safety Officer

¹ also **brought in** ² an exercise to identify and assess risks ³ (formal) breaking the law

Common **mistakes**

We say: We could not **arrive at an agreement** or We could not **reach an agreement**, NOT We could not ~~get to~~ or We could not ~~find~~ an agreement.

B

Planning permission

If you wish to build, say, an extension to your house, it is **absolutely essential**¹ to **seek permission**² to do so. If your **plan is approved**, then you will be **granted permission**³ to build. But it is becoming more difficult to **obtain permission**⁴ as the government has **introduced new legislation** which has **tightened controls**⁵. It can take quite some time after **putting in an application** for **permission to be given**. This is because the planning officers have to ensure that your plans do not **infringe the regulations**⁶ relating to building in your area.

Be wary of treating the planning officers as **faceless bureaucrats**⁷; they are **in a position of** considerable **authority**, though some of them are more vigorous about **exercising authority**⁸ than others. Some will be prepared to **cut through the red tape**⁹ for you, whereas others might seem to be doing all they can to block your plans, especially if they think you are trying to **flout the rules**¹⁰.

¹ NOT very essential

² (formal) ask for permission

³ (formal) given permission

⁴ (formal) receive permission

⁵ made the rules tougher

⁶ (formal) break the rules

⁷ used as an insult to officials, suggesting that they lack character

⁸ (formal) using that authority

⁹ deal quickly and effectively with bureaucratic procedures

¹⁰ (formal) intentionally break the rules

Tip

Language relating to the law and to regulations often has its own special, often formal, collocations. These are more likely to be used in written English, so avoid using them in informal speech.

Exercises

30.1 Complete these collocations from A using a word from the box.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 requirements | 5 a new law |
| 2 an obligation | 6 in regulations |
| 3 at an agreement | 7 to standards |
| 4 out a risk assessment | 8 authority |

adhere	arrive
bring	carry
exercise	have
pass	satisfy

30.2 Rewrite the underlined part of each sentence to make it more formal.

- You will be punished if you continue to ignore the rules.
- All our sister organisations stick to the standards listed in the Code of Practice.
- We asked for permission to build on a field next to our house and after some time we were given that permission.
- It is important that all citizens should do what the law says they should do.
- If your business doesn't meet the legal requirements, you may find yourself prosecuted for breaking company law.

30.3 Complete this letter of complaint using words from the opposite page.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to complain about the behaviour of our town council. When its members were elected to (1) of authority, they promised to (2) the ridiculous amount of red tape that is choking modern society. Yet all they have done is (3) still more pointless new legislation, thus (4) controls over the ordinary family. They have turned out to be no better than their predecessors, (5) bureaucrats, all of them. Their latest decision – to (6) a plan to build a multi-million new council office block – is an absolute disgrace!

Yours faithfully,

Edward Williams

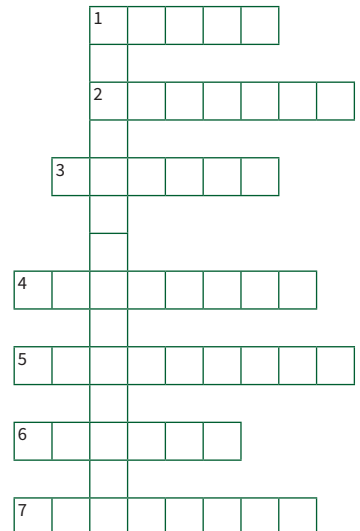
30.4 Complete the word puzzle.

Across

- The builders had friends in high places and got away with flouting the — for several years.
- It is hard to find staff who — all our requirements.
- Extreme sports are risky, but we do all we can to minimise the — to participants.
- I chose not to — my authority and impose a punishment as it was a special holiday.
- It is absolutely — that we do not put staff at risk.
- By building a house without permission the builder found himself in — of the law.
- It took time but eventually we — permission to demolish our garage.

Down

- Before the shop opens for business you must carry out a — .



30.5 Find one other possible collocation for each of the verbs in the box in 30.1. Use a dictionary to help you.

A

Damaging the environment

Read this extract from a report on getting rid of waste.

Disposal of household waste is a daunting task for local authorities. Towns and cities cannot just **dump**¹ such **waste** and hope it will go away. Household waste contains many materials and substances which are extremely **harmful to the environment**, and authorities need long-term solutions. Efforts to **recycle waste** are only a partial solution. Meanwhile, the problem of **toxic**² **waste** remains. One expert recently warned that the risks to **public health** are so great that we may have less than a decade to avoid an **environmental catastrophe** on a global scale.

¹ dispose of in an irresponsible manner

² poisonous

B

Climate change and its consequences

Here is an interview with Gary Prime, an American rock star known for his support of environmental campaigns, who is visiting London.

Interviewer: Would you agree that climate change is the most urgent issue facing us today?

Prime: Definitely. You only have to look at the changing **weather patterns** in many parts of the world. It's **absolutely vital** that we **change our ways** before it's too late. Parts of Europe which used to be cooler now experience intense, **searing heat**¹, and **temperatures soar** above the average every summer. Other areas suffer **widespread flooding** on a regular basis. We can't continue in this way without there being **dire**² **consequences**.

Interviewer: So what can people do in the face of this **irreversible climate change**?

Prime: Well, for a start we can all **reduce our carbon footprint**³ by flying less, and reduce our **food miles**⁴ by buying local produce. Some airlines have schemes now for **offsetting carbon emissions**⁵.

Interviewer: Flying's only one part of it, though. Most of the problems come from **vehicle emissions** and power stations.

Prime: True, but there are things we can do about that too. Buy a **hybrid car**⁶, develop **alternative energy sources** for homes, **solar heating** for instance, and build more **offshore**⁷ **wind farms**. Oil supplies will **run dry**⁸ within 50 years. **Renewable energy** can make a real difference. And politicians shouldn't be afraid of introducing **green taxes**⁹ and incentives to encourage **eco-friendly design** in architecture. With sufficient will, we can **find a solution**.

Interviewer: Gary Prime, thank you for giving up your time for this interview.

Prime: No problem. I've got just enough time to catch my flight to Los Angeles.

¹ extreme heat ² extremely serious

³ amount of carbon dioxide created by a person/business

⁴ distance food has to travel between where it is grown or made and where it is consumed

⁵ paying for an equivalent amount of carbon dioxide to be saved elsewhere

⁶ a car can alternate between different energy sources (e.g. petrol and battery)

⁷ at sea, away from the coast

⁸ run out

⁹ taxes relating to the protection of the environment



Common mistakes

- We say **absolutely vital**, NOT very vital.
It's **absolutely vital** that everyone plays their part in combating climate change.
- We say **find a solution**, NOT give a solution.
We need to **find a solution** to the problem of energy supplies.

Exercises

31.1 Read these remarks by different speakers, and then answer the questions.

- Sylvia: We found that poisonous chemicals had been thrown into the river.
Tomas: We have to protect everyone from illnesses caused by environmental problems.
Marcos: We can collect glass and plastic from homes which can then be re-used.
Gerard: We are heading for a major disaster in terms of the pollution of the oceans.
Ulla: We must stop using this chemical. It can destroy plant and animal life.

- 1 Who mentions public health?
- 2 Who is complaining about people dumping toxic waste?
- 3 Who is talking about avoiding the use of something which is harmful to the environment?
- 4 Who is explaining about recycling household waste?
- 5 Who is sounding a warning about an environmental catastrophe?

31.2 Complete each sentence using a word from the opposite page.

- 1 We looked out to sea and spotted some wind farms.
- 2 Oil supplies are likely to dry within the next 200 years.
- 3 It's absolutely that we all do something to reduce global warming.
- 4 As a green organisation we only use architects who specialise in design.
- 5 Continued use of fossil fuels will have consequences in the long term.
- 6 The airline has a scheme where you can your carbon emissions.

31.3 Rewrite the underlined part of each sentence using a collocation from the opposite page based on the word in brackets.

- 1 How far our food travels before we consume it should be a concern for everyone. (MILE)
- 2 Energy which comes from inexhaustible sources, such as wind, is our greatest hope for the future. (RENEW)
- 3 The region has experienced flooding over large areas in recent years. (WIDE)
- 4 We have caused the world's climate to alter in a way that cannot be changed back. (CHANGE)
- 5 We must do something to eliminate the problem of toxic waste. (SOLVE)
- 6 We should all try to reduce the amount of carbon we emit. (FOOT)
- 7 Wind farms located out at sea can provide a partial solution to the problem. (SHORE)
- 8 The minister chairs a committee aiming to improve the way we get rid of rubbish from our homes. (DISPOSE)

31.4 Correct the collocation errors in these sentences.

- 1 Temperatures expanded during the summer months and reached a record high.
- 2 We must change our way before it is too late.
- 3 They now have a sun heating system in their house; it's very economical.
- 4 The desert experiences soaring heat during the day but is cold at night.
- 5 The weather designs have changed in recent years: winters are milder, summers are hotter.
- 6 He has one of those mixed cars which alternates between petrol and battery power.
- 7 The government must present green taxes so people who damage the environment pay more.
- 8 Vehicle transmissions are the main source of pollution in big cities.
- 9 We need to find alternative energy origins for private homes.

Over to you

Go to the United Nations Environment Programme website at www.unep.org and make a note of useful collocations you find there connected with the environment.

A

City life

Read this advertisement for new houses in the city and note the collocations.

Secure your new home now in the exciting city of Lorchester

In the **bustling**¹ centre you can enjoy high-quality **urban living**, with **reliable public transport** and shops and restaurants whose **long opening hours** will suit your busy lifestyle.

Phone us now on 00345 877223 to visit our extensive range of show houses and apartments, or take a virtual tour at www.incitilife.com.

¹ full of busy activity

B

Country life versus city life

Jerome has just moved from his home village into a big town. He emails Rosie about it.

Hi Rosie,

Well, I did it. I moved into town. I must say I don't miss the **rustic charm**¹ of life in **the back of beyond**²! For some people my old village is a **rural idyll**, but for me it was always just a **quiet backwater**³ in **the middle of nowhere** where nothing ever happened and where I was **bored rigid**⁴. I've only been in town a week, but I love everything about it – the **crowded streets**, the **hectic pace**⁵ of life, the fact that you can get a cappuccino or **hail a taxi** at two in the morning.

So when are you coming to visit?

Jerome

¹ appeal that is simple and picturesque

⁴ (informal) extremely bored

² an extremely isolated place

⁵ very busy and fast pace

³ a quiet, isolated village

C

City Council plans

GOOD NEWS FOR INNER CITY LIFE

City councillors last night approved extensive plans for **urban regeneration**.

Key features of the plan include the restoration of **derelict buildings**¹ and a **tree-planting scheme**.

The hope is that the **inner city** will soon resemble the **leafy suburbs** as an attractive and **desirable place to live**. Planners believe that an increase in the number of **residential dwellings**² in the town centre will ease the problem of **congested roads** and night-time crime: with commercial and recreational facilities **within walking distance** and **open all hours**, it is hoped that many people will choose to leave their cars at home, and that it will be safer to walk on the street at night.

¹ buildings that are not cared for and are in a very bad condition ² (formal, official) homes

Exercises

32.1 Complete each sentence with *the city* and *the country* in the correct space.

- 1 There is a less hectic pace of life in than in
- 2 It's much easier to hail a taxi in than in
- 3 You are less likely to find reliable public transport in than in
- 4 You are more likely to find rustic charm in than in
- 5 You are more likely to find congested roads in than in

32.2 Explain the difference in meaning between the sentences in each pair.

- 1 The roads are very congested. The streets are very crowded.
- 2 We live in the inner city. They live in the leafy suburbs.
- 3 He lives in a quiet backwater. She lives in a bustling city centre.
- 4 I enjoy urban living. I love my rural idyll.

32.3 Put the collocations in the box into pairs that are similar in meaning.

city life	long opening hours	rustic charm	in the back of beyond	open all hours
urban living	in the middle of nowhere	rural idyll		

-
-
-
-

32.4 Rewrite the underlined part of each sentence using a collocation from the opposite page.

- 1 The village is regarded as a quiet place where nothing happens, but the people who live there love it.
- 2 She lives in a simple cottage miles away from any other inhabited places.
- 3 The government plans to provide funds to subsidise the modernisation and improvement of our cities.
- 4 The city announced a plan to plant more trees.
- 5 The south side of the city is an area where many people would like to have a home.
- 6 The city council has declared that part of the town may only be used for people's homes.

32.5 Find collocations on the opposite page with the opposite meaning to these phrases.

- 1 smart, modern buildings
 - 2 quiet roads (2 answers)
 - 3 a quiet city centre
 - 4 urban decay
 - 5 the urban nightmare
 - 6 restricted opening times
- (2 answers)

32.6 Use a dictionary to find three collocations for these words.

- 1 countryside
- 2 landscape
- 3 village(s)

32.7 Answer these questions.

- 1 Do any types of TV programmes or films bore you rigid? If so, what types?
- 2 Would you consider living in a remote country village in your country to be living in a rural idyll?
- 3 Do you have a reliable public transport system in the place where you live?
- 4 Are there any derelict buildings where you live?
- 5 What sort of facilities are there within walking distance of the house or flat where you live?

A

Managing your finances

Read this leaflet on personal financial management given out by a university to its students. Note the collocations.

KEEPING AFLOAT¹ – HOW TO MANAGE YOUR FINANCES

While you're doing your degree, your main **source of income** may be a student loan or, if you're lucky, a grant or scholarship. But you may well still need to **supplement² your income** by getting some kind of part-time work. Here are some tips for avoiding financial problems:

- **Open a current account** at the campus bank – they have a team there specialises in helping students with their financial matters.
- If you **get into debt**, try to **clear³ your debts** as soon as possible.
- If things are difficult, you may have to economise by, say, **cutting down on luxuries**. This is far better than **running up huge debts⁴**.
- If you have a credit-card debt, try to **make a payment** every month, however small. Never exceed your **agreed credit limit**.
- It's a bad idea to **borrow heavily** to repay your debts. Always seek advice from your bank about how to clear **outstanding⁵ debts** and **pay back loans**.
- Never **run up an overdraft⁶** if you can avoid it. If you do need one, remember that most banks will offer students an **interest-free overdraft**.



¹ having enough money to pay what you owe (can also be **staying afloat**)

² add something to something to make it larger or better

³ pay in full

⁴ continuing to spend and therefore owing a large amount of money

⁵ not yet paid

⁶ amount of money that a customer with a bank account is temporarily allowed to owe to the bank

B

Financial crimes and disputes

These newspaper extracts are all concerned with financial crimes and problems.

Credit-card fraud¹ has reached an all-time high. One in ten people is a victim of **identity theft²** and the crime is on the increase.

People are being encouraged to **put down a deposit⁵** on new homes, thanks to low interest rates. But if borrowers **default on repayments⁶**, banks are obliged to **call in loans⁷**.

Mr Ambrose **spent a fortune** staying at expensive hotels. He managed to **run up³ a bill** of £17,000 at one hotel. He used his employer's funds and **falsified⁴** records. He made **fraudulent claims** for travel expenses.

The company is now under new management. Its backers have **written off debts⁸** of £500,000 on the promise of new **cost-cutting measures** designed to solve the company's financial problems.

¹ crime of misusing another person's credit card without their permission

² stealing someone's personal details, usually in order to access their bank accounts or credit cards

³ accumulate

⁴ changed something, e.g. a document, in order to deceive people

⁵ pay a sum of money in advance as part of a total payment

⁶ fail to pay a debt

⁷ demand that people pay back the money the bank has lent to them

⁸ accepted that an amount of money has been lost or that a debt will not be paid

Exercises

33.1 Match words from each box to form collocations from the opposite page and use them to complete the sentences below.

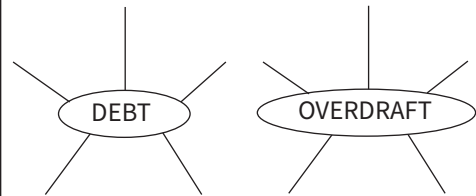
borrow make spend stay supplement afloat a fortune heavily my income a payment

- I of €500 every month to my credit-card account.
- When I was a student I got a job in a fast-food outlet to
- I used to on books when I was at university.
- I had no grant or scholarship, so I had to to finance my studies.
- Small firms find it difficult to when costs and interest rates are high.

33.2 Copy and complete the collocation bubbles using words from the box. Some words collocate only with *debt*, some only with *overdraft* and some with both. Use a dictionary to help you find one more collocation for each bubble.



to arrange a(n) a bad to be in
 to clear a(n) deep in facility to get a(n)
 to get into a hefty the national
 to pay off a(n) -ridden to run up a(n)
 an unauthorised



33.3 Correct the collocation errors in these sentences.

- The firm has huge debts and has had to borrow \$10 million. The new chief executive has introduced cost-cutting methods.
- When I left university I had no upstanding debts, unlike most of my friends, who owed thousands of pounds.
- The manager falsified company recordings and stole money from her employer.
- I had no resource of income, so I had to get a job, and quickly.
- We placed down a deposit on a new car last week.
- She faulted on her loan repayment and had to sell her business.
- Many people don't trust online banking because they are afraid of identification theft.
- If we don't cut up on luxuries, we're going to find ourselves in serious debt.
- There are special offers for students who enter a current account at the university bank.
- You will pay a lot of interest if you go over your discussed credit limit.

33.4 Answer the questions about collocations from the opposite page.

- What object is a person or company being compared to when we use the collocation *keep or stay afloat* metaphorically?
- What are you eventually expected to do with a loan?
- If a bank *calls in* a loan, do they (a) give it (b) write it off (c) demand full payment?
- If someone defaults on a payment, do they (a) not make it (b) make it in full (c) partially make it?
- What is the crime called when someone makes illegal use of another person's credit card?

33.5 Complete each sentence using the word in brackets in the appropriate form.

- The accused was found guilty of company records. (FALSE)
- The insurance company takes all claims very seriously. (FRAUD)
- I try to make a into my savings account every month. (PAY)
- Identity is becoming an increasingly common crime. (THIEF)
- I was glad that the bank was able to offer me an overdraft. (INTEREST)

Budget speech



As we can all testify, this country's economy is strong and getting stronger.

Our measures to **curb inflation**¹ have proved highly successful. The **rampant inflation**² of the previous government is a thing of the past. Inflation currently stands at 2 percent. The strength of the **current economic climate** suggests that **interest rates** are unlikely to be raised again this year. This should help us to build up a culture of **investing for the long-term**.

This government has **steered the economy** through seven years of **uninterrupted economic growth**; a trend which is set to continue with our major success in **stimulating growth**. And in the latest quarter, the economy has been growing at an annual rate of 2.5 percent.

All indicators show that **industry is thriving**³. But we are particularly proud of the **steady growth** experienced by small businesses. We have made it our aim to **safeguard their interests**⁴ and the healthy economy we have created has enabled them to **increase output**. The **plummeting profits**⁵ caused by the previous government's misguided policies are now safely behind them.

Our goal is to establish world-class public services through investment and reform in order to ensure that taxpayers receive real **value for money**. **Public spending** goes to provide strong and dependable public services. These are vital to **extend opportunity**, tackle **social exclusion**⁶ and improve people's life chances.

The **taxes** that we **levy**⁷ allow us to **allocate resources** to achieve that goal. And we have **met with** considerable **success**⁸. In particular, we must now **build on the success**⁹ of the climate-change **levy we introduced** last year.

Another of our goals is to win the battle against the **black economy**. If **left unchecked**¹⁰, the black economy – I think here particularly of the loss to our economy of **undeclared earnings**¹¹ and other tax-evasion practices – will **push up costs**¹² and lead to **rising unemployment**. This government is committed to its eradication.

¹ control inflation [continuous increase in prices]

² very dramatic, uncontrolled inflation

³ doing very well

⁴ protect their interests

⁵ rapidly falling profits

⁶ the problems of the underprivileged, of those who have less fortunate places in society than others

⁷ impose or introduce

⁸ been very successful

⁹ develop previous success

¹⁰ not stopped

¹¹ income that people fail to report to the tax authorities

¹² make costs rise

Exercises

34.1 Match the beginning of each sentence with its ending.

- | | |
|--|------------|
| 1 The government is finding it very difficult to curb | exclusion. |
| 2 The country is suffering because of the current economic | interests. |
| 3 Although heavy industry is in decline, service industries are | inflation. |
| 4 The CEO is anxious to safeguard his company's | climate. |
| 5 New machinery has enabled the factory to increase its | resources. |
| 6 The tax authorities plan to tackle the issue of undeclared | output. |
| 7 The budget plan explains how we intend to allocate our various | thriving. |
| 8 We must tackle and solve the problems caused by social | earnings. |

34.2 Which of these phrases would a finance minister be likely to use about the economy under his/her own guidance and which about the economy under a previous rival government?

build on success extend opportunity leave inflation unchecked levy heavy taxes
meet with success poor value for money rampant inflation
rising unemployment safely steer the economy steady growth
thriving black economy thriving industry uninterrupted growth

34.3 Find the opposite of the underlined words in these collocations on the opposite page.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 to invest for the <u>short</u> term | 6 <u>soaring</u> profits |
| 2 to <u>restrict</u> opportunity | 7 <u>private</u> spending |
| 3 <u>declared</u> earnings | 8 to <u>reduce</u> costs |
| 4 <u>falling</u> unemployment | 9 to <u>lower</u> interest rates |
| 5 <u>stunting</u> growth | 10 to <u>abolish</u> a levy |

34.4 Complete each sentence using words from 34.3 (either those underlined above or their opposites) in the appropriate form.

- The government has more control over than over spending.
- Tax inspectors make spot checks to ensure we do not have any earnings.
- If you have a steady and secure income, then it may be sensible to invest for the rather than the term.
- unemployment is a sign of a healthy economy.
- If the government wants to slow down the economy by interest rates, then a company's costs will be and so their profits may
- A progressive government will want to opportunity and to growth.
- A political party might think it was a good idea to slow growth down but it would be very unlikely to say that it wanted to growth.
- The government has decided to a levy on commercial waste collection in order to encourage recycling.

Over to you

Go to www.economist.com/index.html. Enter your own country in the Search box and select an article that interests you. Make a note of any more useful collocations relating to the topic of the economy.

A

Facing and solving social problems

Read these short reviews of books about social problems and note the collocations in bold.

To Dream a Better Life BY KEN LOMOND

How can we best **address the issues** surrounding large-scale economic migration? Can economic migration be seen as a **force for good**¹, rather than always seen as a problem that must be tackled? This book offers a **novel**² solution.

Disaster and After BY SANDRA HALEY

Should rich nations **provide relief** when disasters occur in poorer countries, or is this too little, too late? Haley's book calls for a **fresh drive**⁷ to address the issue, and **makes a plea**⁸ for governments to **break the cycle**⁹ of dependency.

A Fragile Calm BY ALEXANDER FLEIG

When **law and order break down**, when **riots erupt**³ and **public disorder**⁴ threatens **the social fabric**⁵, politicians tend to take **draconian**⁶ measures which rarely work. Fleig's book looks at alternatives and offers lessons from history.

Cities in Crisis BY MARK GOLANZ

Problems of **run-down**¹⁰ areas in big cities are the subject of this book. **Antisocial behaviour, underage drinking** and **dysfunctional**¹¹ families all come under intense scrutiny in this wide-ranging study.

¹ a positive influence

² new and original

³ burst out suddenly

⁴ expression of dissatisfaction by crowds of people, especially about a political matter

⁵ social structure

⁶ extremely severe

⁷ new effort

⁸ an urgent or emotional request

⁹ bring a stop to a negative pattern of behaviour

¹⁰ in a very bad condition

¹¹ not behaving normally

B

Neighbourhoods and housing

In these extracts from meetings where local problems are being discussed, the second speaker echoes the ideas of the first speaker by using the collocations in bold.

A: The problems faced by poorer households are very complex indeed.

B: Yes, there are many issues affecting **low-income families**, and they are indeed complex.

A: When someone becomes homeless, our immediate task is to find a roof for them.

B: Yes, our job is to **provide shelter** as quickly as possible.

A: Fifteen percent of families are living in houses without running water. Many are in houses which are so bad no one should be living in them.

B: That's right. Too many people are living with **poor sanitary conditions** and it's unacceptable that there are houses are **unfit for human habitation**.

A: The problem is that houses are too expensive for most ordinary families.

B: Yes, the government should do something to provide **affordable housing**.

A: The people who encourage others to commit violent acts should be dealt with firmly.

B: That's right. Anyone **inciting violence** deserves harsh punishment.

A: The thing is, people should be more vigilant about crime in their local communities.

B: Yes, it would be good if more **neighbourhood watch schemes** could be **introduced**.

C

Other collocations connected with social issues

He was arrested for possessing an **illegal substance**. [formal: an illegal drug]

Families who **claim benefits** often feel ashamed. [financial support from the state]

Green organisations are increasingly important as a **force for change** in the world today.

Exercises

35.1 Complete each sentence using a verb from the box in the appropriate form. You do not need to use all the verbs in the box.

address	answer	break	break down	break up
finish	give	incite	make	provide
			supply	

- How can we the issue of alcohol abuse?
- Aid agencies emergency relief, but is this always the best thing?
- In 1997, law and order completely and there was chaos.
- Social workers try hard to the cycle of abuse in families where violence occurs.
- Community leaders a plea for understanding and tolerance of cultural differences.
- People who violence should be severely punished.

35.2 Complete each sentence using a collocation from the opposite page.

- The house has no roof, and there are rats in it. It is unfit
- The lack of a mains water supply means that they have very poor
- At night you often see 14- and 15-year-olds consuming alcohol. The city has a big problem with
- That part of the city has many homes where people behave very badly with regard to others around them. There is a big problem with
- Hundreds of people protested in the streets, and sometimes things got violent. For several days there was major
- Neighbourhood committees can have a positive influence in the community, and indeed most people believe they are a force

35.3 Match the beginning of each sentence with its ending.

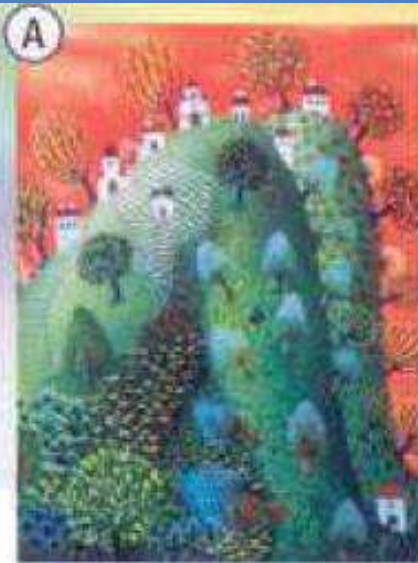
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1 Poor people often have to claim | the issues of global poverty and disease. |
| 2 The city council introduced a | shelter and food to the earthquake victims. |
| 3 The government took some draconian | benefits in order to survive financially. |
| 4 All governments need to address | erupted in all the major cities. |
| 5 The authorities had to provide | neighbourhood watch scheme. |
| 6 As the discontent grew, riots | measures to prevent public disorder. |

35.4 Correct the collocation errors in these sentences.

- The violence threatened the sociable fabric.
- The minister said it was time for a fresh driving to cut crime.
- Customs officials found some illegitimate substances in the passenger's luggage.
- The run-out areas of the city are often dangerous at night.
- We hope our new organisation will be a force for political changing.
- He proposed a novelist solution to address the issue of social inequality.
- Multifunctional families are a difficult problem for social workers.
- The union representative did a plea for the workers to stand firm.
- There were scenes of publicity disorder on the streets last night.
- It is very difficult for young people to find affordable building.



Readings



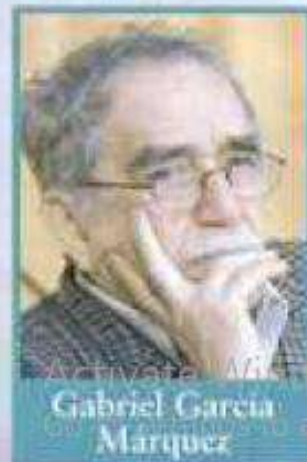
One Hundred Years of Solitude

One Hundred Years of Solitude

by the Colombian author Gabriel García Márquez is the novel that made magical realism popular around the world. It tells the story of seven generations of the Buendía family, who live in an isolated South American village called Macondo. This is a place where supernatural happenings are part of everyday life – at one point everyone living in the

village suffers from both insomnia and amnesia. Many characters also have magical qualities. One man, whose girlfriend is 'the most beautiful girl ever born', is always followed by hundreds of butterflies, and people who die early in the story often return as ghosts.

The book has dozens of characters, which can make the plot difficult to follow, but a family tree helps you work out who's related to who. This brilliant novel, which Márquez says is based on his childhood memories of living with his grandparents, has sold over ten million copies worldwide.



Gabriel García Márquez

OWS
activate Wir

B

THE HOUSE OF THE SPIRITS



The House of the Spirits was the first novel written by the Chilean author Isabel Allende. It tells the story of three generations of women whose lives are changed by their country's politics. The women's story, which takes place in an unnamed South American country, begins when the granddaughter, Alba Trueba, finds some diaries that her grandmother Clara wrote 50 years earlier.

As a child, Clara realises she can see the future and is able to predict almost every event in her life. She marries a powerful landowner named Esteban Trueba, who builds her a large house in the country. The house is full of ghosts and spirits, which advise Clara on how to deal with family problems. The story takes place at a time when political groups are battling for control of the country – a fight that ends in a bloody coup and political chaos. This famous novel, which began as a letter to the author's dying grandfather, is considered a classic of the magical realism genre.



4

a) Look at the defining relative clauses in **blue** and the non-defining relative clauses in **pink** in the reviews. Choose the correct words in these rules.

- *Defining/Non-defining* relative clauses tell you which person, thing, etc. the writer or speaker is talking about.
- *Defining/Non-defining* relative clauses add extra non-essential information.

b) Look again at the defining relative clauses in **blue**. Answer these questions.

- 1 Which words (*who, which, etc.*) can we use for: people, things, possessives, places, times?
- 2 Do we use commas (,) with these relative clauses?

c) Look at the underlined defining relative clauses in these sentences. Why can you leave out *that* in sentence 2?

- 1 *It's the novel **that** made magical realism popular around the world.*
- 2 *She finds some diaries (**that**) her grandmother Clara wrote 50 years earlier.*

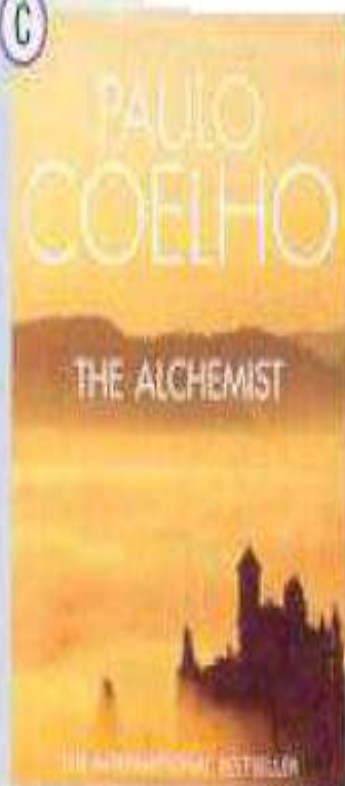
d) Look again at the non-defining relative clauses in **pink**. Answer these questions.

- 1 Do we use *that* in these relative clauses?
- 2 Can we leave out *who, which, etc.*?
- 3 Do we use commas with these relative clauses?

e) Look at these underlined reduced relative clauses. What are the verb forms in **bold**? What types of word can we leave out?

- 1 ... everyone (*who is*) **living** in the village suffers from both insomnia and amnesia.
- 2 ... the first novel (*that was*) **written** by the Chilean author Isabel Allende.

C



The Alchemist by the Brazilian author Paulo Coelho is a story about following your dream. It's about a shepherd boy named Santiago, ¹ *who* travels from his home in Spain to Egypt hoping to find some treasure ² _____ is buried near the Pyramids. He meets many people ³ _____ are travelling along the same road, but nobody knows ⁴ _____ the treasure is hidden. However, Santiago eventually meets the famous Alchemist, the only man alive ⁵ _____ can turn lead into gold.

Finally, the time comes ⁶ _____ Santiago realises that the treasure ⁷ _____ he's been looking for can only be found within himself. This powerful tale, ⁸ _____ has been translated into 61 languages, has sold over 30 million copies worldwide. Its success helped Paulo Coelho, ⁹ _____ other books include *The Fifth Mountain* and *The Valkyries*, to become the best-selling Brazilian author ¹⁰ _____ has ever lived.



April Fool!

Most people know that April 1st is called April Fool's Day because people often play practical jokes on each other on this day. **However**, it's not just friends and family you have to beware of – big companies, newspapers and TV stations also do their best to fool the public.

In 1998 Burger King published an ad in *USA Today* announcing a new item for their menu – the left-handed Whopper. This was the same as a normal Whopper, **apart from** one thing – the burger itself was rotated 180° so that the ketchup would drip out of the right side of the burger **instead of** coming out of the left. The ad fooled thousands of people, **despite** being published on April Fool's Day. And in 2002, the British supermarket chain, Tesco, advertised a 'whistling carrot'. The ad explained that the carrot had been genetically engineered to grow with air holes down the side so that it would start whistling when it was fully cooked.

These two adverts are relatively recent, **whereas** Britain's most famous April Fool hoax is much older. In 1957, the BBC documentary series *Panorama* showed Swiss farm

workers pulling spaghetti from 'spaghetti trees'. The programme told viewers that the farmers were enjoying an excellent spaghetti harvest **due to** a very mild winter. **As** spaghetti wasn't very common in the UK at that time, many people believed the report. Hundreds of viewers even phoned up to ask where they could buy their own spaghetti trees!

Another famous April Fool's Day joke, this time from 1962, comes from Sweden. It was announced on the news that it had become possible to watch colour programmes on black and white TVs **because of** some new technology the TV station had invented. People were told to pull a nylon stocking over the screen so they would be able to watch the programmes in colour. **Since** almost everyone in Sweden had a black and white TV in those days, hundreds of thousands of people tried to do this, **even though** the news was broadcast on the morning of April 1st.

You might think that people were more easily fooled back in those days. **Nevertheless**, you should be careful next April 1st – this time the April Fool might be you!



6 Breaking codes

Codes of conduct

VIEW ●●●

Topics of three. Choose two of these topics: cosmetic surgery; vegetarian; smoking in public places. Take turns to give opinions, position and give the opposite opinion if appropriate.

Vocabulary phrases with *take*
Grammar uses of verb+*ing*
Review discussion language (2):
opinions

Activity Phrases with *take*

Use the phrases in bold you know. Check new ones in V6.1 p126.

- How long do you **take a long time** to get ready in the morning?
- Have you **taken** a lot of **risks** in your life?
- Do you think you **take** life too **seriously**?
- Do you **take advice** from?
- Do you think anyone you know **takes** you **for granted**?
- Do you think you **take responsibility for** things you shouldn't?
- Has anyone ever **taken advantage of** you when you've needed to help them?
- Do you **take any notice of** people who criticise you?
- Do you **take your time** when you're clothes shopping?
- Do you ever **take sides** in family arguments?

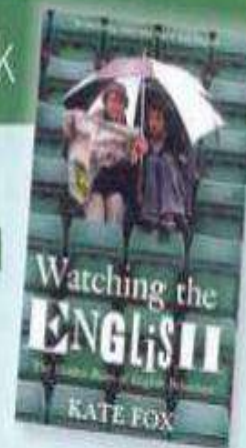
Work in pairs. Take turns to ask and answer the questions in 1a). Ask follow-up questions if possible.

Review and Grammar

Pick of the week

What every visitor to England needs to know

Henry Hardcastle reviews Kate Fox's new book.



As an Englishman, I **was laughing** out loud and cringing with embarrassment as I read *Watching the English* by Kate Fox. This highly **entertaining** book looks at how the English behave and uncovers the hidden social rules that mystify foreign visitors, for example how we behave on public transport. Apart **from asking** for information – "Is this train going to Victoria?" – **talking to strangers on trains** just isn't done! In fact it's absolutely normal for commuters to **spend years travelling** on the same train together **without exchanging** a word.

Help with Grammar **Uses of verb+ing**



However, despite not wanting to engage in conversation with strangers, people standing at a bus stop will often break an uncomfortable silence by talking about the weather.

'Weather-speak' usually starts with a question which invites the other person into a conversation: "Chilly, isn't it?". But the hidden rule is we have to agree – that's taken for granted. **Disagreeing could cause offence** and the conversation would stop. The only way of stating our true feelings is after agreeing ("Yes, it is.") we can then take a risk and add "but I quite like this kind of weather".

As Fox points out, foreign visitors **taking part in any conversation with an English person** may find it tricky at first. There's no use trying to get

personal information out of us because we don't like gossiping about ourselves. We're very uncomfortable when we're being asked questions such as "How old are you?" or "Are you married?". We also **avoid talking** about money. Indeed, the English **dislike people asking** them what they earn or what they paid for something – that's very personal information.

Once I'd **finished reading** *Watching the English*, I did just that – I watched them. It was **fascinating**. And the more I watched, the more I found myself agreeing with Kate Fox's conclusion. She states that **in spite of appearing cold and unfriendly** (and often being told that they are) the English are, in fact, just very private people.

6 a) Use a verb+ing form to complete these sentences about you.

- 1 I can't stand ...
- 2 ... is the best way to relax.
- 3 I think is really fun.
- 4 I'm ... next week.
- 5 I think football is ...
- 6 I really enjoy ...
- 7 I'm thinking of ... next year.
- 8 I spend a lot of time ...

b) Work in pairs. Take turns to tell each other your sentences. Ask follow-up questions.

Get ready ... Get it right!

7 Imagine an English tourist is coming to your country. Write eight tips about the social codes in your country. Use these ideas or your own. Try to use a verb+ing form in each tip.

- behaviour on public transport
- queuing
- dress codes
- saying please and thank you
- starting conversations
- talking to strangers
- talking loudly in public
- subjects you shouldn't talk about
- things that might cause offence

People travelling on public

- 5 a) Read part of another review of Kate Fox's book. Find and correct ten more mistakes.
- b) Work in pairs. Compare answers. Explain why you have made each change.
- c) **RB.1** Listen and check.

The section of Kate Fox's book ^{explaining} explain the rules of queuing is fascinating and the English obey these rules without think about it. Jump a queue will certainly annoy those people queue properly. However, despite feel intense anger towards the queue-jumper, the English will often say nothing – stare angrily is more their style.

Then there are the rules for say please and thank you. The English thank bus drivers, taxi drivers, anyone give them a service. In fact the English spend a lot of time say please and thank you, and they hate not be thanked if they think they deserve it. Not say thank you will often cause a person to sarcastically shout out, "You're welcome!"

Language Drills

Conjunctions

A conjunction is a word like *and*, *but*, *although*, *because*. Conjunctions have an important function because they join other words and phrases together. Without conjunctions, we could only make very, very simple sentences. See also [What is a Conjunction?](#)

Introduction to Conjunctions

We can consider conjunctions from three aspects.

1. What do Conjunctions Do?

Conjunctions have two basic functions or "jobs":

- **Coordinating conjunctions** are used to join two parts of a sentence that are grammatically equal. The two parts may be single words or clauses, for example:
 - *Jack **and** Jill* went up the hill.
 - *The water was warm, **but** I didn't go swimming.*
- **Subordinating conjunctions** are used to join a subordinate dependent clause to a main clause, for example:
 - *I went swimming **although** it was cold.*

Here are some example conjunctions:

Coordinating conjunctions	Subordinating conjunctions
and, but, or, nor, for, yet, so	although, because, since, unless

2. What do Conjunctions Look Like?

Conjunctions have three basic formats:

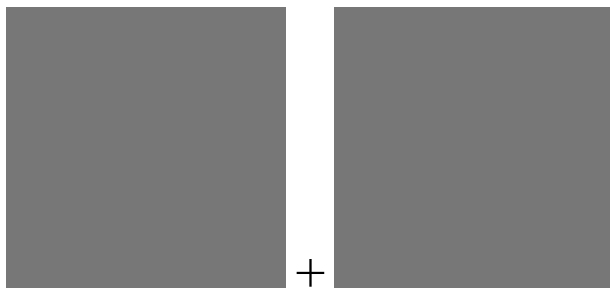
- a. **single word**
for example: *and, but, because, although*
- b. **compound** (often ending with *as* or *that*)
for example: *provided that, as long as, in order that*
- c. **correlative** (surrounding an adverb or adjective)
for example: *so...that*

3. Where do Conjunctions Go?

- **Coordinating conjunctions** always come **between** the words or clauses that they join.
- **Subordinating conjunctions** usually come at the **beginning** of the subordinate clause.

Coordinating Conjunctions

A **coordinating conjunction** joins parts of a sentence (for example words or independent clauses) that are grammatically **equal** or similar. A coordinating conjunction shows that the elements it joins are similar in importance and structure:



There are seven coordinating conjunctions, and they are all short words of only two or three letters:

- *and, but, or, nor, for, yet, so*

Look at these examples - the two elements that the coordinating conjunction joins are shown in square brackets []:

- I like [tea] **and** [coffee].
- [Ram likes tea], **but** [Anthony likes coffee].

Coordinating conjunctions always come **between** the words or clauses that they join.

When a coordinating conjunction joins independent clauses, it is always correct to place a comma before the conjunction:

- I want to work as an interpreter in the future, **so** I am studying Russian at university.

However, if the independent clauses are short and well-balanced, a comma is not really essential:

- She is kind **so** she helps people.

When "and" is used with the last word of a list, a comma is optional:

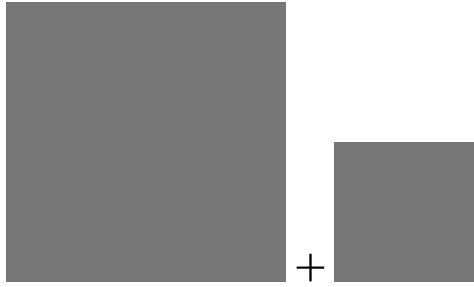
- He drinks beer, whisky, wine, **and** rum.
- He drinks beer, whisky, wine **and** rum.

The 7 coordinating conjunctions are short, simple words. They have only two or three letters. There's an easy way to remember them - their initials spell "FANBOYS", like this:

F	A	N	B	O	Y	S
for	and	nor	but	or	yet	so

Subordinating Conjunctions

A **subordinating conjunction** joins a subordinate (dependent) clause to a main (independent) clause:



Here are some common subordinating conjunctions:

- *after, although, as, because, before, how, if, once, since, than, that, though, till, until, when, where, whether, while*

Look at this example:

main or independent clause	subordinate or dependent clause	
Ram went swimming	although	it was raining.
	subordinating conjunction	

A subordinate or dependent clause "depends" on a main or independent clause. It cannot exist alone. Imagine that somebody says to you: "Hello! Although it was raining." What do you understand? Nothing! But a main or independent clause can exist alone. You will understand very well if somebody says to you: "Hello! Ram went swimming."

A subordinating conjunction always comes at the beginning of a subordinate clause. It "introduces" a subordinate clause. However, a subordinate clause can come **after** or **before** a main clause. Thus, two structures are possible:

Source: <https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/conjunctions.htm>

Lesson One

Quite a few – Quite a number of (Quite a lot)

Examples:

- *We've got **quite a few** Americans working here.*
- *I'd like to order another one hundred boxes of red wine; we sold **quite a number of** them last summer.*

It should be noted that **Quite a few** is used for countable nouns only, whilst for uncountable nouns one could use **Quite a bit of**:

- e.g.
1. *They had **quite a bit of** money in their Clients' Account.*
 2. *Don't worry, there's **quite a bit of** time left yet.*

Quite a bit (and **Quite a lot**) can also mean **quite often**:

- e.g. *I've been to Japan **quite a bit** this year.*

Also note the use of **Quite a while** which means for **quite a long time**,

- e.g.
1. *I've been studying English for **quite a while** now.*
 2. A: *How long are you intending to stay here?*
B: *I'm not sure but probably **quite a while**.*

Ages (A very long time)

Examples:

- *I meet your brother quite a bit these days but I haven't seen your sister in/for* **ages**.*
- *It seems **ages** since I was last here.*

* **In** would only be used after a negative or superlative construction,
e.g. *It's the **best** film I've seen **in** ages.*

But not in the future, i.e. we would **not** say: *We won't arrive **in** ages.*

Well off (Rich)

Examples:

- *He is so **well off**, he doesn't know what to spend his money on.*
- *If I were as **well off** as she is, I'd retire.*

Well off does not necessarily have to refer to money; it can also be used in respect of opportunities, facilities etc.,

- e.g. *Young people today don't know how **well off** they are.*
i.e. children nowadays do not appreciate the opportunities which are open to them and which were not available to their parents.

Better off is the comparative form of **Well off**, i.e. **richer**.

- e.g. *He is far **better off** than I am.*

However, it can also be used to mean "It would be/it is better for you, him, it, etc.".

- e.g.
1. You'd be **better off** going on the motorway than taking a country route, if you want to arrive there by 6 o'clock.
 2. She's *better off* without her husband; he made her life a misery.

Note that this meaning of **Better off** is still used in the comparative sense. This construction should not be confused with **Had better** which is a slightly stronger form of **should**,

- e.g. *I'd better go now; I've got quite a few things to do.*

The opposite of **Better off** is **Worse off**, i.e. **poorer**.

- e.g. *Even though my brother has been working for quite a number of years, he is worse off than me.*

To hear of (To be familiar with/to know the existence of/to recognise the name of a person, thing or situation – usually famous in a particular field of entertainment, art or profession)

Examples:

- *Have you ever **heard of** a company called ABC Limited?*
- *I'm surprised you've never **heard of** him; he's quite well-off.*
- *Before we came to London, we had never **heard of** this type of crime.**

To hear and **To hear of**, therefore, have different meanings and it is quite possible to **hear of** a musician without ever having **heard** him or her play.

* i.e. *We never knew that this type of crime occurred.*

To hear about

i. (To hear, find out what has happened to someone)

Example:

- **A:** *Have you **heard about** John?*
- **B:** *No, tell me.*
- **A:** *Unfortunately he has lost his job.*

ii. (To find out about something)

Examples:

- *I found this school in the Yellow Pages. How did you **hear about/of*** it?*
- *I was very happy to **hear about/of*** the recent addition to your family.*

* Note that **To hear of** can be used in the same way as **To hear about** for this meaning only.

iii. (To receive information about someone/something from somebody else – e.g. reputation, character etc.)

Examples:

- *At long last we have met; I've **heard** quite a bit **about** you.*
- *I'm surprised you haven't **heard** more **about** our company; we've got quite a reputation.**

*There is a slight difference between the above sentence and "I'm surprised you haven't **heard of** that company....." which means that the person being spoken to does not know that the company exists.

The sentence above (**about**), on the other hand, suggests that the person is aware of the company's existence but knows nothing more about it.

To hear from (To receive news, communication from someone)

Examples:

- *I haven't **heard from** him in ages.*
- **A:** *When was the last time you **heard from** your daughter?*
B: *Oh, quite a while ago.*

Fussy (Difficult to please, not easily satisfied)

Examples:

- *Tell me what you want to eat before I make dinner because I know you're a **fussy** eater/how **fussy** you are.*
- *She's not very **fussy** about whom she goes out with, providing he's well-off.*

Note also the words **Choosy**, **Particular** and **Picky** which have the same meaning as **Fussy**.

To make a fuss (To complain, to be difficult, i.e. a person, not a thing)

Examples:

- *If I'm in a restaurant and the service is slow, I can't help making a **fuss**.*
- *I do wish you'd stop making a **fuss** and continue with your work.*

Do not confuse this expression with **To make a fuss of** / **To fuss over** which means to show affection towards a person or animal, to give someone a lot of care and attention.

- e.g.
1. *My dog loves to **be made a fuss of/fussed over**.*
 2. *We've stayed in quite a few hotels recently where the staff **made** too much **fuss of** us.*

Stale (Unfresh – e.g. bread, biscuits or air)

Examples:

- **In a restaurant:**
*Waiter, sorry to make a fuss, but this bread is **stale**.*
- *I think I'd better open the window in the conference room; it's a bit **stale*** in there.*
- *Can you remind me of how the company's accounts system works?
I am sorry, my mind is a little **stale** on this matter.°*

Note the word **Stalemate** which describes the situation where neither side in a dispute or negotiations can progress or win,

- e.g. *It's clear that we've reached a **stalemate**; we'd be better off starting again.*

*The word **Stuffy** is probably more common as far as air is concerned.

° i.e. I have forgotten how it works.

To go off

i. (To go bad – food/milk)

Examples:

- *This milk smells like it has **gone off**/it's **off**.*
- *Don't be so fussy! I'm sure those sausages haven't **gone off**/aren't **off**.*

ii. (To ring – alarm clock/bell)

Examples:

- *My alarm clock **went off** an hour earlier than it was supposed to this morning.*
- *You'd be better **off** without a car alarm; they're always **going off** at the wrong time.*

Note that **To go off** can only be used for an alarm and not, for example, for the telephone or a doorbell. One could, however, say *I wasn't happy when the phone **went** at six o'clock this morning.*

iii. (To explode, to fire, i.e. a bomb or a gun)

Examples:

- *Have you heard about that bomb which **went off** in the city centre yesterday?*
- *He claims that the gun **went off** accidentally, but I've heard about his past and I'm a bit suspicious.*

iv. (To stop liking something or someone) **Colloquial**

Examples:

- *I've **gone off** her coffee. I think we'd all be better off if she just offered us tea.*
- *She **went off** her last boyfriend after hearing about his past relationships.*
- *I'm **going off** the idea* of doing business with them, they're far too fussy!*

* i.e. *I'm changing my mind about*

v. (To be sent – a letter or a fax – often used in the office)

Example:

- *Quite a number of letters **went off** this morning but they won't arrive for ages because of the strike.*

vi. (To leave for a particular place, to travel around)

Examples:

- On the telephone:
*I'm sorry, you've missed her; she **went (off)** to work quite a while ago.*
- *I heard about your journey; you **went (off)** round the world, didn't you?*

vii. (To be switched off/to stop working – usually something powered by electricity or gas)

Example:

- *This room smells stale because the air conditioning **went off** during the night.**

* Compare with ...*the air conditioning is off*, which means that it was not switched on in the first place.

To get one's own back on someone/To get someone back (To get one's revenge)

Examples:

- *It's no use making a fuss of him. He still wants to **get his own back on you/to get you back** for what you did to him last week.*
- *I've heard that the bomb which went off near the police station was planted by a terrorist organisation, trying to **get their own back** for recent arrests.*

Compare with *To get/come back to someone on/with something* which means to come back to someone **on** a particular matter or **with** the information they require. It is usually used on the telephone,

- e.g.
1. *I'm sorry I don't have the details **on** me now. Would you mind if I **got/came back to you** later (on that matter)?*
 2. *Can you **get/come back to me with** their phone number this afternoon; I want to make a fuss about the stale food they sent us.*

May/Might as well

i. (One should do something only because there is nothing better to do)

Examples:

- *We **may as well** go to John's place again, unless you can think of something more interesting to do.*
- A: *Shall we go off to work now?:*
B: *I suppose we **might as well**.*

Might as well and **May as well** are interchangeable, but it is very important to understand the difference between **May/Might as well** and **May/Might**. The difference between *We may/might go to the pub* and *We may/might as well go to the pub* is that the first sentence expresses a **possibility** – *Maybe we won't go*, whilst the second sentence expresses a **suggestion** to go to the pub, but only because there is nothing better to do. This meaning of **May as well**, therefore, has a negative feel about it.

ii. (There is no harm in/it's worthwhile doing something)

Examples:

- A: *Do you think I should take a pullover with me to Greece?*
B: *Well you probably won't need it but you **might as well** take it just in case.*
- *Even though I've got quite a number of dictionaries at home, I **might as well** buy this one as it's so cheap.*

i.e. *You will lose nothing so therefore it's worth doing.*

iii. (It would be the same/it wouldn't make any difference, so therefore one should do the easier or cheaper thing)

Examples:

- *As the weather is so hot and sunny this year, I've gone off the idea of going abroad; I **may as well** stay in England.*
- *The office party was so boring, I **might as well** have remained* at home.*

This form of **Might as well** is generally used where one has a choice of two or more things which are of similar quality and, because of this, one should choose the most convenient one.

* Note that the past of I **might/may as well** is I **may/might as well have** [+ past participle].

To do up

i. (To tie up, button up, fasten, e.g. zip)

Examples:

- *I don't want to make a fuss, but you'd better **do** your shirt **up** before meeting the boss.*
- A: *Do you want me to give you a hand in **doing up** your dress?*
B: *Yes, you may as well.*

The opposite of **To do up** is **To undo**,

- e.g.
1. *Would you mind if I **undid** my jacket?*
 2. *Your shoelaces are **undone**!*

ii. (To decorate, renovate)

Examples:

- *If we don't go away this summer, we might as well **do** the house **up**.*
- *It's been ages since we last had our house **done up**.*



*"I don't want to make a fuss, but you'd better **do** your shirt **up** before meeting the boss."*
(see Page 6)

Lesson Two

To take after (To be similar to an elder member of the same family – usually in character rather than in appearance)

Examples:

- *My daughter likes to be made a fuss of; she **takes after** me in that respect.*
- *You **take after** your grandfather; he also used to go off people quickly.*

To bet (to be almost certain something will or will not happen) **Colloquial**

Examples:

- *I **bet** you won't be able to do up the bathroom yourself.*
- **A:** *He says that he'll be better off than all of us in a few years.*
B: *I wouldn't **bet on it!***

The literal meaning of the verb **To bet** is to put money on something happening; e.g. the winner of a race, competition or a match,

e.g. *I **bet** £10 on Liverpool winning the cup this year.*

Also note the informal expression *Do you want a bet?* which means that the speaker is challenging something someone else has just said,

e.g. **A:** *I'll get my own back on you one day*
B: *Do you want a bet?*

What's the point? (What's the use/purpose, what for?)

Examples:

- ***What's the point in/of** coming to England, if you don't want to meet English people? You may as well stay in your own country.*
- **A:** *Shall we employ another Accounts Clerk?*
B: ***What's the point?** We've already got quite a few.*

We can also use **Point** in a negative form with **There is** i.e. "It's useless, a waste of time",

e.g. ***There's no point (in)** speaking to him; he takes after his father, in that he never listens to anything anyone says.*

Also be careful not to confuse this expression with *What's the point you are trying to make?* which means, *What are you trying to say?*

To tread (To step on something)

Examples:

- *When I was in the army, I had to be careful not **to tread** on unexploded bombs in case they went off.*
- *You've just **trodden on** my clean floor with your dirty shoes. I'll get you back for this!*

The paradigm of **To tread** is "tread, trod, trodden" and is always followed by the preposition **on** unless it is a liquid or something like a liquid, in which case **in** must be used,

e.g. *Some children enjoy **treading in** puddles after it has been raining.*

Also note that **To tread** can be used in a figurative sense with people, meaning to treat people as though they do not matter,

e.g. *Just because she is well-off, she thinks she can **tread on** everyone.*

This meaning of **To tread** is only used to describe a person's general attitude or character towards others and not for an action against one person. For example, one would **not** say *She trod on me yesterday.*

Overdraft, To be/go overdrawn (An agreement with a bank to be able to withdraw money in excess of one's account, to withdraw more money from the bank than one has in one's account)

Examples:

- *Instead of relying on your **overdraft** facility, you'd be better off **taking out** a loan.*
- *I bet she won't be able to clear her **overdraft** by the end of the year.**
- Letter from a bank:
*Dear Mr Smith,
It has come to our attention that your account is **overdrawn**^o in the sum of £200[†].*

* i.e. *I'm sure she won't be able to pay back the money she owes the bank.*

^o Note that in conversation, it is more common to say *I'm overdrawn* than *My account is overdrawn*.

[†] The phrase *In the sum of* is very often used in formal letters concerning money. In spoken English, one would normally use **by**.

To look forward to (To wait with pleasure)

Examples:

- *I was really **looking forward to** seeing* Alice; I hadn't heard from her in ages.*
- *A: We're going to start doing up our new house next week.
B: Are you **looking forward to** it?**
- *I'm not **looking forward to**^o receiving my bank statement; I must be overdrawn by at least £500.*

* This expression is extremely common in written and spoken English. In the final paragraph of a letter, either formal or informal, we often write, *I look forward to hearing from you soon.* It is important to note the irregular construction, i.e. "Look forward to + gerund" (not infinitive) or we can simply use a noun or it,

e.g. *I am looking forward to Christmas/it.*

One should also be careful not to make the common mistake of confusing *To look forward to* with *To look for* which means to search for,

e.g. *I'm looking for my glasses. I hope no one has trodden on them.*

° Note that when *Look Forward To* is used in the negative, it still means the event **is** going to happen (i.e. the bank statement is definitely going to arrive) but the speaker is **not** happy about it.

e.g. *I'm not looking forward to going out tonight.*

This means the person **is** going out, but would rather not.

Day off (A day's holiday)

Examples:

- *Can we get back to you tomorrow? The person dealing with this matter has got the **day off** today.*
- *I have two extra **days off** next month. I'm really looking forward to them!*

Do not confuse **Day off** with *Off-day* which means a bad day or a day in which one does not perform as well as one usually does,

e.g. 1. *I would have bet a million pounds on her passing her exams but she failed.*

*She must have had an **off-day**.*

2. *The captain of the football team is having an **off-day**; he might as well not have played!*

One should also note that **Off-day** can only be used with the auxiliary verb **To have**, i.e. one cannot say *It's an off-day*.

Finally, one should note that although people often use a *week off*, a *month off* or a *year off*, etc. *Off-week* and *Off-month* are not so common.

To show off (To show that one is very proud of one's abilities, achievements or possessions, to boast)

Examples:

- *I don't want to **show off** but I must tell you that I came first in all my exams when I was at university.*
- *One tennis player to another:
Just because I'm having an off-day today, (it) doesn't mean you have to **show off** in front of everyone watching.*
- *It's surprising his friends haven't gone off him, after the way* he keeps **showing off** his new car.*

Show-off can also be used as a noun, i.e. a person who shows off,

e.g. *I am looking forward to getting my own back on that **show-off**.*

We can also say that someone is a *big-head* (noun) or that he or she is *big-headed* (adjective).

* Note that *After the way* means considering, as a consequence of. It very often follows *It is (not) surprising*.

Posh (Upper class, sophisticated) Colloquial

Examples:

- *There's no point (in) speaking with a **posh** accent; they can tell where you really come from.*
- *You can undo your jacket. This restaurant isn't that* **posh**.*

* If **that** is stressed, it means the restaurant is **posh**, but not as much as the person thinks. If, on the other hand, **that** is not stressed, it means the restaurant is not **posh** at all.

Turnover

- i. (The total amount of money/income that a business receives during a certain period of time)

Examples:

- *A **turnover** of a million pounds should help to clear our overdraft.*
- *Have you heard them showing off about how much their **turnover** has increased this year?*

Note that the profit of a company is its turnover less its expenses.

- ii. (The speed, rate at which staff* join and leave a company/business etc.)

Examples:

- *The company has such a high **turnover** of staff^o that I hardly recognise anyone from week to week.*
- *I've gone off the idea of spending more money on advertising for new employees. What we really need to do is reduce our **turnover** of staff.*

* Note that one could have a high **turnover** of students at a school, meaning that there is a constant flow of students.

^o i.e. *There are so many people coming and going.*



*“There’s no point in speaking with a **posh** accent; they can tell where you really come from.”*

Lesson Three

To cope with (To be able to tolerate, manage, bear a situation or person)

Examples:

- *Sometimes I think I'd be better off without a job:
I can't **cope with** this one any longer.*
- *I'm really looking forward to my parents going away.
I can hardly **cope with** them at the moment.*

Note the verb **To handle** which has the same meaning as **To cope with** but is also used to express the idea of dealing with something or someone,

- e.g. 1. *I've got the day off tomorrow. Would you mind **handling** this matter?*
2. *It's OK, I'll **handle** Mr Jones – I'm dying to get my own back on him.*

To handle is probably more colloquial than **To cope with**. One should also note that **To handle** always requires an object. This is not necessarily the case with **To cope with**, although the preposition **with** is dropped.

- e.g. 1. *How is he **coping**?*
2. *I can't **cope**.*
3. *How is he **handling** it?*
4. *I can't **handle** it.*

To come/go over**i.** (To come/go to someone's house) **Colloquial**

Examples:

- *Would you like to **come over*** tomorrow, as you've got the day off?*
- *I'm **going over** to Peter's* tonight to help him do up his bathroom.*

* Note that it is not necessary to mention the word **house**.

ii. (To visit from abroad the country where the speaker is situated – **To come over**, to visit another country for a specific purpose – **To go over***)

Examples:

- *My wife's parents are **coming over** from France for a month.
I don't think I'll be able to cope!*
- *I'm really looking forward to you **coming over** and seeing me.*
- *We heard about your trip. Didn't you **go over** to see your son in Italy?*

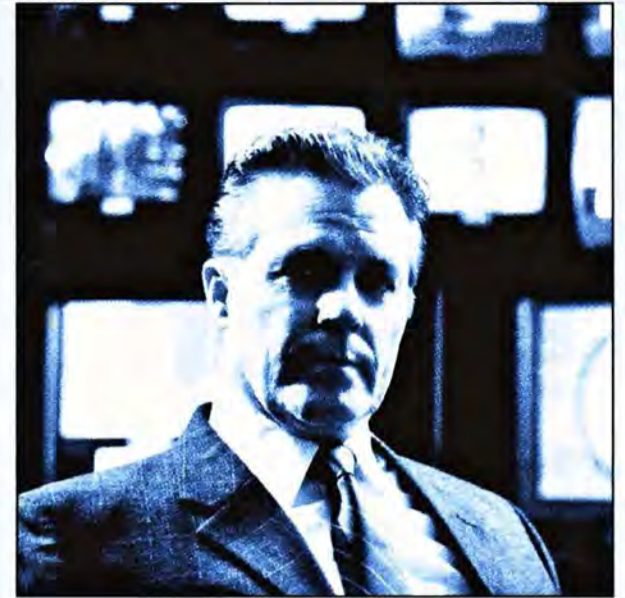
* Note that **To go over** (not **To come over**) also means to revise, check, explain/discuss,

- e.g. 1. *I'm not looking forward to **going over** that subject again with them.
We always end up arguing.*
2. *I'll get back to you tomorrow and we can **go over** it together.*

A Scandal

BBC under pressure to sack presenter

Politicians **are putting pressure on** the BBC **to** remove chat-show host Bob Aldred, after a story **leaked out** that he uttered racist remarks following his Saturday show. The comments were made **off the record**, and colleagues feel they have **been blown out of proportion**. However, Aldred is **a household name**, and any comments that could **stir up** controversy and **cast doubt on** the integrity of the BBC would be very damaging. Friends hope the incident will quickly **blow over**, but critics argue that the BBC has been left with no option. 'This story won't **go away**,' said one MP. 'The BBC must act now to **stamp out** any possible accusation of racism, and **the sooner the better**.'



Glossary

put pressure on sb (to do sth)

force or try to persuade sb to do sth; that person is then **under pressure**.

**leak out
off the record**

(of secret information) become known to the public.
used for saying that a remark is not official or intended to be made public. OPP **on the record**.

**blow sth (up) out of (all) proportion
a household name**

make sth seem much worse or more dangerous than it really is.
a name known to everyone; a famous person.

stir sth up

try to cause arguments or problems.

cast doubt(s) on sth

make people feel less certain about sth.

blow over

If a difficult situation **blows over**, people stop talking about it and soon forget about it.

go away

disappear.

stamp sth out

get rid of sth that is wrong or dangerous, often with force.

the sooner the better

as soon as possible.

1 Circle the correct answer.

- If you **cast doubt on something**, you make other people feel *more / less* certain about it.
- If a situation **blows over**, people *start / stop* worrying about it.
- If a comment is made **on the record**, it *is / isn't* intended to be made public.
- If information **leaks out**, it becomes *known / official*.
- If you **stamp something out**, you *put your foot on it / get rid of it*.
- If a problem **goes away**, it *disappears / moves somewhere else*.

2 Rewrite the sentences using the correct form of the word in capitals. Keep the same meaning.

- ▶ We need to get rid of prejudice. STAMP *we need to stamp out prejudice.*
- 1 He tried to make her change her mind. PRESSURE
- 2 His comments weren't intended to be made public. RECORD
- 3 We need to do this, and as soon as possible. SOONER
- 4 He's known to everyone. HOUSEHOLD
- 5 The secrets have become known recently. LEAK
- 6 People will soon forget about the incident. BLOW
- 7 She made it seem much worse than it was. PROPORTION
- 8 His comments have caused a lot of anger. STIR

B Opinions about the press

'Newspapers print all sorts of allegations, many of them untrue, but **mud sticks**, and the unfortunate victims **bear the brunt of** it.'

'Some newspaper stories may **not ring true**, but generally journalists **go to great lengths to** check their facts and ensure their stories are accurate.'

'**If it weren't for** the press, a lot of things would **be swept under the carpet** and might never **come out into the open**.'

'Newspapers sometimes **overstep the mark**, but they also **speak out against** social injustice, so I tend to **have mixed feelings** about them.'

Glossary

bear the brunt of sth

suffer the worst part of sth unpleasant.

not ring true

If sth **doesn't ring true**, you don't believe it, even though you cannot explain why.

go to great lengths (to do sth)

try in a determined way to achieve sth. (If you will **go to any lengths (to do sth)**, you are so determined to achieve sth that you would act in an extreme way if necessary.)

if it weren't/wasn't for sb/sth

used to say who or what is preventing sth from happening (*If it weren't for the press, ...* = Without the press, ...).

sweep sth under the carpet

try to keep sth a secret, especially sth you have done wrong.

come out in/into the open

(of sth that was previously secret) become known. SYN **come to light**.

overstep the mark

upset sb by doing or saying more than you should. SYN **go too far**.

speak out (against sth)

state your opinions in public, especially in order to protest against or defend sth.

have mixed feelings about sth/sb

feel both positive and negative about sth/sb.

spotlight Sayings about truth

Two contradictory sayings are often used when discussing the press:

Mud sticks. = People remember the bad things they hear about someone, even if they are later shown to be false.

There's no smoke without fire. = If something bad is said about something, it usually has some truth in it.

3 Same or different? Write S or D.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 They'll go to great lengths to find out. | They'll go to any lengths to find out. |
| 2 They've gone too far. | They've overstepped the mark. |
| 3 I have mixed feelings about it. | I have bad feelings about it. |
| 4 There's no smoke without fire. | Mud sticks. |
| 5 The facts will come out in the open. | The facts will come to light. |
| 6 We know it because of John. | If it weren't for John, we wouldn't know it. |

4 Complete the dialogues.

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 1 Is the information still secret? ~ No, it's all out in the | now. |
| 2 Are you sure it's the right thing to do? ~ No, I've got | feelings, actually. |
| 3 Will you support the protest? ~ Yes, we have to | out against the government. |
| 4 Do you believe the story? ~ You know what they say: there's no smoke | . |
| 5 Will the government tell us? ~ No, they'll sweep it | . |
| 6 Do you believe what they're saying? ~ No, it doesn't ring | . |
| 7 Who has suffered the most criticism? ~ Well, Amelia's borne the | of it. |
| 8 Did he try to find out? ~ Yes, he went to great | to discover the truth. |

A Robbery

Robbery in broad daylight leaves shop owner stunned

Police **are on the lookout for** two men who **held up** a shop in Weston yesterday and stole £2,000. The two **were lying in wait for** the owner, Rob Hadley, when he returned to the shop shortly after 2 p.m. Mr Hadley was held **at gunpoint** while the men took money from the till and the flat above the shop. They **made off with** the money along Ship Street and escaped across the common. Mr Hadley said he was stunned by the attack. A police spokesperson, Ann Tandy, said they **were stepping up** their campaign to get guns off the streets **in the wake of** the robbery. 'We **will crack down** hard **on** anyone caught **in possession of** firearms,' said Tandy. 'We need to **nip this in the bud**.'

Glossary

in broad daylight	at a time of day when it is not dark or beginning to get dark (often used when you are surprised to see sth at this time of day).
be on the lookout for sb/sth	INF be looking carefully for sb/sth in order to find them.
hold sth up	use violence to steal from a shop, bank, etc.
lie in wait (for sb)	hide while waiting to surprise, attack, or catch sb.
at gunpoint	while being threatened with a gun.
make off with sth	steal sth and hurry away with it in order to escape.
step sth up	increase the amount or speed of sth.
in the wake of sth	coming soon after or following sth.
crack down (on sth/sb)	INF try harder to prevent an illegal activity and deal severely with those caught doing the activity. crackdown N.
in possession of sth	FML having or owning sth, often sth that is illegal or important.
nip sth in the bud	INF stop a bad situation from becoming worse by taking action at an early stage of its development.

1 Circle the logical answer(s). Sometimes both answers may be logical.

- 1 The police were lying in wait for *the robbers* | *their colleagues*.
- 2 We want to nip *roller skating* | *under-age drinking* in the bud.
- 3 They made off with the *money* | *jewels*.
- 4 She was in possession of *her clothes* | *secret information*.
- 5 They're having a crackdown on *shopping* | *gambling*.
- 6 The company want to step up their *idea* | *production*.

2 Write in the missing prepositions.

- | | | | | | |
|-------|----------------|----------|---|---------------|-----------|
| 1 lie | wait | somebody | 5 | the wake | something |
| 2 be | the lookout | somebody | 6 | make off | something |
| 3 | broad daylight | | 7 | possession | something |
| 4 | gunpoint | | 8 | nip something | the bud |

3 Complete the text. Then circle the full idioms and phrasal verbs.

Early yesterday morning the police received a tip-off about a robbery at the post office in Denton. They were (1) _____ in wait for the robbers when they arrived on the scene, and caught them as they attempted to (2) _____ off with the money. Both men were charged with robbery and being in (3) _____ of an illegal firearm. One of the police officers said that in the (4) _____ of several robberies in the area, they had been on the (5) _____ for these two men, and their arrest was a further success in their campaign to (6) _____ down on armed robbery in the area.

B Crime stories in the news

Police **press charges against** MP

Duke vows to **clear** his **name**

GOVERNMENT TO TIGHTEN UP GAMBLING LAWS

Police go on the offensive

**YOUNGSTERS
BEING LED ASTRAY**

Reporter **goes under cover**

Plan to **phase out**
complicated police forms

**POLICE TIPPED OFF
BY GANG MEMBER**

Knife crime **on the up**

Accused athlete
in the clear

**POLITICIANS MUST CLEAN UP
THEIR ACT SAY PUBLIC**

Glossary

press charges (against sb)	officially accuse sb of committing a crime.
clear sb's name	prove that sb did not do sth that they were accused of.
tighten sth up	make a law, rule, or system more strict.
go on the offensive	begin to take action against sb who is attacking or criticizing you, or sth you think is undesirable.
lead sb astray	be a bad influence on sb and make them do sth silly or criminal.
go/be under cover	pretend to be sb else in order to find out secret information.
phase sth out	gradually stop using sth over time. OPP phase sth in .
tip sb off	give sb a warning or secret information. tip-off N.
on the up	increasing (as above), or improving, e.g. <i>Business is on the up</i> .
in the clear	no longer believed to be guilty of sth bad or illegal.
clean up your act	INF start behaving in a more moral and responsible way.

4 Match 1–6 with a–f.

- | | |
|---------|--------------------|
| 1 tip | a your name |
| 2 lead | b on the offensive |
| 3 press | c up your act |
| 4 clear | d somebody off |
| 5 go | e charges |
| 6 clean | f somebody astray |

5 Circle the correct answer.

- 1 If you **phase something in**, you introduce something *immediately* / *gradually*.
- 2 If somebody is **in the clear**, they are *found innocent* / *have escaped*.
- 3 If crime is **on the up**, it is *increasing* / *at its highest point*.
- 4 If you **tighten up** a law, you *change it* / *make it stricter*.
- 5 If you **tip somebody off**, you give them *money* / *a warning*.
- 6 If you **clean up your act**, you behave *more responsibly* / *in a more organized way*.

6 Rewrite the sentences using the word in capitals. Keep the meaning the same.

- 1 They're going to gradually discontinue the scheme. PHASE
- 2 The policeman pretended to be a criminal. COVER
- 3 He was a bad influence on the boy. ASTRAY
- 4 She wants to prove that she's innocent. CLEAR
- 5 The police have accused him of committing the crime. PRESS
- 6 They are beginning to take action against him. OFFENSIVE

29 I can describe a demonstration

A A news report

An estimated **turnout** of 50,000 demonstrators **from all walks of life** joined forces yesterday in the capital for an anti-government rally. The protesters **made their way** along the river to St John's Square, **calling on** the government **to bring an end to** poverty and injustice. Many local businesses **had boarded up** their premises amid fears of attack. Despite threats of violence beforehand, however, the march was allowed to **go ahead**. **In the event**, it **passed off** quite peacefully, although a smaller protest by about fifty demonstrators **was broken up** by the police, and a number of arrests were made.



Glossary

turnout	the number of people who attend an event. turn out v.
from all walks of life	A crowd from all walks of life consists of many different types of people (your walk of life is your background, job, etc.).
join/combine forces	work together to achieve sth.
make your way	(with adverbial phrase) move or get to a particular place.
call on sb to do sth	officially ask sb or an organization to do sth.
bring/put an end to sth	stop sth happening.
board sth up	cover the windows or door of a building with wooden boards to protect it or stop sb entering.
go ahead	happen; take place. go-ahead N (<i>The march was given the go-ahead</i>).
in the event	as it actually happened (used especially when things did not happen as expected).
pass off	take place and be completed in a particular way (<i>The protest passed off peacefully / smoothly / without incident</i>). SYN go off .
break sth up	make a group of people leave a place or stop doing sth.

1 Complete the paraphrase on the right with one or two words.

1 How many were at the march?	What was the	?
2 Let's work together on this.	Let's	forces on this.
3 They moved towards the square.	They	their way towards the square.
4 The windows were covered in boards.	The windows were	.
5 Will the protest still take place?	Will the protest still	?
6 As it happened, we lost.	In the	, we lost.
7 The protest was stopped and we had to leave.	The police	up the protest.
8 They were from many different backgrounds.	They were from all	of

2 Complete the dialogues.

1 What do the protesters want? ~ They're	on the government to stop imports.
2 Were there any problems at the meeting? ~ No, it was fine; it	peacefully.
3 Will the march take place? ~ Oh, yes, they've been given the	from the police.
4 What are the people's demands? ~ They want the leaders to	an to the war.
5 Was the turnout as you expected? ~ No.	event, there were a lot more people.
6 Did you work in isolation? ~ No, we joined	with another team, which was great.
7 How did you get to the demonstration? ~ We made	on foot.
8 Did the weather affect the march? ~ Yes, fewer people	than we'd hoped.

B The protesters' views

People need to **stand up for** what they believe in – and today we did. We definitely **got our message across**; we can't **back down** now. We're **pressing ahead with** plans for further marches, which could **pave the way for** a coordinated international campaign.

We organized a **sit-in** in front of the embassy, but the police broke it up.

The police **cordoned off** part of the square and ordered us to stay there for reasons of safety. In fact, we were just **being fenced in** so that the press couldn't talk to us.

The authorities **shut down** our website, but we managed to **spread the word** by phone.



Glossary

stand up for sb/sth	support and defend sb/sth.
back down (on sth)	admit that you are wrong or have lost an argument.
press ahead (with sth)	continue doing sth in a determined way.
pave the way (for sth)	create a situation which makes it easier for sth to happen.
sit-in	a protest in which people sit down and refuse to leave a place until their demands are listened to. sit in v.
cordon sth off	stop people from getting into an area by surrounding it with the police or by putting a barrier round it.
fence sb in	(often passive) 1 surround sb with a fence. 2 restrict sb's freedom. SYN hem sb in .
shut sth down	stop a machine, business, etc. from operating. shutdown N.

spotlight Communicating information

If you **get your message across (to sb)**, you succeed in communicating with other people. You may need to **spread the word**, i.e. tell a lot of people about something, or **put the word out about sth** INF. The opposite is to **keep sth to yourself**, i.e. keep it secret.

3 Circle the correct answer. Both answers may be possible, but have a different meaning.

- 1 The demonstrators organized *a sit-in* | *a fence-in* to protest about students' fees.
- 2 The government is trying to *spread* | *put* the word about climate change.
- 3 This is secret information: please keep it *for* | *to* yourself for the time being.
- 4 I don't know why the police *cordoned off* | *fenced in* that particular area.
- 5 I don't think the protesters can *back down on* | *press ahead with* this issue.
- 6 The company was trading illegally, so the police shut it *off* | *down*.

4 Rewrite the sentences using the word in capitals. Keep the meaning the same.

- 1 They will never admit they were wrong. BACK
- 2 Don't tell anyone about it. KEEP
- 3 We will certainly proceed with our plans. PRESS
- 4 He always defended his beliefs. STAND
- 5 Why did they put a barrier round the café? CORDON
- 6 How will we tell everyone? SPREAD
- 7 The talks made the reforms possible. PAVE
- 8 It's very hard to explain what we mean. MESSAGE

A Forthcoming election

PM under fire

The prime minister **has come under fire** during this election campaign for being slow to respond to events, but he was **quick off the mark** this morning. In a speech in Dover, he claimed that the Opposition's tax policies didn't **add up**, and that they **were plucking** numbers **out of the air**. Meanwhile, the Opposition were trying to **capitalize on** the latest bad unemployment figures, which clearly illustrated, in their view, that the only thing which could **stop the rot** was a change of government. They also **talked up** the latest opinion-poll figures, which now put them **neck and neck** with the government. **In the final analysis** it **will** just **boil down to** who the voters choose to believe.



Glossary

<p>come/be under fire quick/slow off the mark add up</p>	<p>be criticized severely for sth you have done. fast/slow in reacting to a situation. (👁️ See page 162.) INF seem reasonable or logical (used mainly in a negative sense, e.g. <i>His story doesn't add up</i>).</p>
<p>pluck sth out of the air capitalize on sth stop the rot talk sth up neck and neck in the final analysis boil down to sth</p>	<p>say a name, number, etc. without giving it any thought. gain a further advantage for yourself from a situation. stop a bad situation from getting worse. describe or discuss sth in a way that makes it sound better than it is. (of two people or groups) level with each other in a race or competition. used to state a basic truth after everything has been discussed and considered. If a situation or problem boils down to one thing, that thing is the main point in the situation, or the main cause of the problem.</p>

1 Cover the glossary, then complete the definitions.

- 1 If you are *neck and neck* with somebody, you are _____ with them.
- 2 If you *capitalize on* something, you gain an _____ for yourself.
- 3 If someone's ideas don't *add up*, they don't seem _____.
- 4 If you *stop the rot*, you stop a _____ situation from continuing.
- 5 If you are *slow off the mark*, you are slow in _____ to something.
- 6 If you *come under fire*, you are being _____ for something you've done.
- 7 If you *pluck* a figure *out of the air*, you say a figure without _____.
- 8 If you *talk something up*, you make it sound _____ than it is.

2 Write one word in each space.

The government came under (1) _____ once again this morning, this time from doctors who feel it has been (2) _____ off the mark in reacting to the recent outbreak of swine flu. One doctor summed up the feelings of many when he said that the government was good at talking (3) _____ its response and making it sound fine, but the truth was somewhat different. 'The solution for this problem requires time, effort, and money. But in the (4) _____ analysis, it all (5) _____ down to money. The figures given by the government are just (6) _____ out of the air, and it isn't ready to spend the necessary amount.'

B Political scandal

WAR OF WORDS CONTINUES

Last night, politicians from all sides were still engaging in a **war of words** over the scandal surrounding MPs' expenses. Some were claiming the newspaper revelations had been a long overdue **wake-up call**, and several MPs were quoted as saying it was an opportunity for parliament to **put its house in order**. However, one senior government figure **was not giving an inch**. He said journalists had been too quick to **jump on the bandwagon**, and that MPs who had not broken any rules deserved to **be given the benefit of the doubt**. But with the press **having a field day**, this story is likely to **run and run**, and it doesn't **bode well** for parliament's languishing reputation.

Glossary

a war of words	a bitter argument between groups over a period of time.
put your house in order	make necessary changes or improvements in your business, way of life, etc.
not give/budge/move an inch	INF refuse to change an opinion, decision, etc.
jump/climb on the bandwagon	INF, DISAPPROVING join others in doing or saying sth that is popular and fashionable in order to make yourself popular.
give sb the benefit of the doubt	treat sb as if their behaviour is honest or correct, even though you are not certain that it is.
have a field day	(often used of the media) be given the opportunity to do sth you enjoy, especially when it causes trouble for sb else.
run and run	If sth is likely to run and run , it is likely to continue for a long time. (We often say sth <i>looks set to run and run</i> = looks likely to.)
bode well/ill for sb/sth	FML be a good/bad sign for sb/sth.

spotlight *wake-up call*

The literal meaning of a **wake-up call** is an arranged telephone call to wake you up at a particular time. Metaphorically, it is an event that makes you realize there is a problem that must be tackled (as above).

3 Circle the correct answer(s). Both answers may be correct.

- 1 We need to *put* | *settle* our own house in order first.
- 2 Too many people are waiting to *climb* | *jump* on the bandwagon.
- 3 The journalists are *making* | *having* a field day with this.
- 4 I think we should *leave* | *give* her the benefit of the doubt.
- 5 They want him to change his mind but he won't *move* | *give* an inch.
- 6 The newspapers are still having a war of *ideas* | *words* over this issue.
- 7 After the latest problems, this should be a *wake-up call* | *ring* for parliament.
- 8 This new scandal looks set to *run and run* | *race and race*.

4 Complete the sentences. You will find one of the words for each idiom or phrasal verb in the box.

field benefit jump bode set ✓ wake-up inch war house

- The row about pensions *looks set* to run and run.
- 1 We should put our own _____ in _____ before we criticize others.
 - 2 I don't know if it's true, but we'll give him the _____ of the _____ for now.
 - 3 You're just like a politician: you'll _____ on the _____ at the first opportunity.
 - 4 Journalists will _____ a _____ day when they get hold of this story.
 - 5 The attack was a _____ for us to take the terrorists seriously.
 - 6 There's been criticism of the policy, but the prime minister won't _____ an _____.
 - 7 We had the usual _____ of _____ in parliament today, mostly about nothing.
 - 8 The opinion poll is disastrous for the government, and doesn't _____ for their future.

31 I can talk about conflict

A A community in conflict

Fate of Charmy Wood hangs in the balance

Environmental groups **are locked in battle** with the council over the proposed new bypass through parts of Charmy Wood. Opponents of the scheme believe the town **can ill afford to** lose an area of natural beauty, and a bypass will just **open the floodgates to** further development. The council remain adamant that there is **a crying need for** the bypass to keep traffic out of the town centre, and they say they cannot **free up** any other land. Council leader Val Moran believes the protesters are **out of step with** the majority, and says the council **will stand firm** and **press on with** the new road. It seems that both sides **are poles apart**, and it is highly unlikely that the council can **meet** the protesters **halfway**.



Glossary

hang in the balance

be locked in battle/
dispute, etc.

can ill afford (to do) sth

open the floodgates (to sth)

a crying need for sth

free (sb/sth) up

out of step (with sb)

stand firm

press on (with sth)

be poles apart

meet sb halfway

If sth **hangs in the balance**, its future is uncertain.

(of two people or groups) be involved in a dispute or argument to which there is no obvious solution. SYN **be at loggerheads**.

used to say that sb should not do sth because it will cause problems.

If an action or decision **opens the floodgates**, it allows a lot of things to happen that weren't previously possible.

a great and urgent need for sth.

make sb/sth available for a particular purpose.

having ideas that are different from other people's.

refuse to change your opinion.

continue doing sth in a determined way. SYN **press ahead (with sth)**.

(of two people or groups) be widely separated in interests and ideas.

reach partial agreement with sb, or give sb part of what they want.

1 Cover the glossary and complete the definitions.

- 1 If you are *out of step* with others, you have _____ ideas from them.
- 2 If you are *at loggerheads* with someone, you are involved in a _____ with them.
- 3 A *crying need* for something is an _____ need for something.
- 4 If you *open the floodgates* to something, you make it _____ for it to happen.
- 5 If you *press ahead* with something, you _____ with it.
- 6 If you *meet someone halfway*, you give them _____.

2 Replace the underlined parts of the text in a way that keeps a similar meaning.

Residents of Denway Lane ▶ are currently involved in a battle with Paul Hobbs, head teacher of Denway School. Mr Locke wants to (1) make available a large part of the playing fields for development in order to fund a new laboratory. Residents say schools (2) cannot afford to give up valuable green space in a built-up area, and (3) are refusing to change their opinions, despite pressure from Mr Locke, who has vowed to (4) continue with his plans. With the two sides (5) having such different views, it is hard to see how they can (6) find a compromise. The future of the playing fields may (7) be uncertain for some time.

▶ *are locked in*

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 4 | 7 |
| 2 | 5 | |
| 3 | 6 | |

B War metaphors

Some phrases with military origins are used figuratively to talk about conflict situations.

The government has been engaged in **a running battle** over the introduction of identity cards, and now ministers are threatening to **break ranks** and **side with** the Opposition.

Council leader Bryn Jones **will be** directly **in the firing line** now the council has finally decided to **bite the bullet** and raise car parking charges in the town by as much as 15 per cent.

The Union **is sticking to its guns** in demanding a 7 per cent pay rise, but in the current economic climate it could **be fighting a losing battle**.

Having a foot in both camps has not helped my supervisor: he has recently been attacked by both shop-floor workers and senior management.

Glossary

a running battle	an argument that continues over a long period of time.
break ranks	(of a member or members of a group) stop supporting the group of which you are a member. (If you close ranks , you join together closely to defend yourselves, especially when being criticized by others.)
side with sb	agree with sb and support them in an argument.
be in the firing line	be in a position where people can criticize or blame you.
bite the bullet	INF force yourself to do sth difficult or unpleasant that you have been avoiding.
stick to your guns	INF continue to have a particular opinion about sth even though others are saying that you are wrong.
fight a losing battle	try to do sth that will probably fail.
have/keep a foot in both camps	be involved with two different or opposing groups.

spotlight Literal meanings

In the past, soldiers were given a bullet to bite on during a medical operation without an anaesthetic; from this we get **bite the bullet**. When soldiers **close ranks**, they move closer together to defend themselves. A soldier or gunner is required to keep in position – **stick to his guns** – and not surrender.

3 Cover the glossary. Then complete the idioms with words associated with war.

- 1 a running
- 2 bite the
- 3 stick to your
- 4 have a foot
- 5 fight a losing
- 6 be in the firing

4 Rewrite the sentences using a suitable idiom or phrasal verb, without changing the meaning.

- 1 One councillor won't support his own party. One councillor has
- 2 He's involved with both parties. He's got a
- 3 They've had an argument over this for ages. They've had a
- 4 He'll make the tough decision and raise taxes. He'll
- 5 The minister is supporting the Opposition. The minister is
- 6 She's not going to change her mind on this. She's
- 7 He's trying but it won't be successful. He's fighting
- 8 The minister is likely to be criticized. The minister is in

32 I can talk about celebrity

A Instant fame

Britain's got talent – but should it remain hidden?

Large TV audiences prove that talent shows are compulsive viewing. Who will **rise to the occasion**? Who will **go to pieces**? But whilst these shows are an opportunity for instant fame, it can **come at a price**. When people are plucked from obscurity and acquire fame **beyond their wildest dreams**, it can **go to their head**. Many of these 'instant stars' quickly **fall by the wayside**, and the public can be very fickle: **building somebody up** one minute, then **knocking them down** the next. Perhaps we should **tread** more **carefully** rather than allow a single audience reaction to **make or break** a young performer.

Glossary

rise to the occasion	do well in a difficult situation.
go to pieces	become so upset or nervous that you cannot do sth as well as you should.
at a price	involving an unpleasant consequence (come at a price).
beyond your wildest dreams	better than anything you could have imagined.
go to sb's head	If success or praise goes to sb's head , it makes them feel more important than they really are, and they usually suffer as a result.
fall by the wayside	not be successful or effective any longer.
tread carefully	be very careful about what you do or say.
make or break sb/sth	be the thing which makes sb/sth either a great success or a complete failure. (Also as ADJ a make-or-break situation .)

spotlight *build up*

If you **build sb up**, you talk about them in a positive way so that people are impressed by them. If you then **knock sb down**, you are negative about them. If you **build up sb's hopes**, you make them think something good is going to happen when in fact it is very unlikely.

1 Is the speaker sounding positive or negative about Mel? Write P or N.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1 Success went to Mel's head. | 4 Mel rose to the occasion. |
| 2 Mel went to pieces. | 5 Mel's fallen by the wayside. |
| 3 This is beyond Mel's wildest dreams. | 6 They built up Mel's hopes. |

2 Complete the sentences.

- This could be a make-or-_____ performance for Jessica.
- Winning the competition was beyond my _____ dreams.
- It's a big challenge for Connie, but I'm sure she'll _____ to the occasion.
- Ravi was too young to cope with fame, and the money went to his _____.
- As soon as I got up on stage I just went to _____ and couldn't sing. It was horrible.
- The press built him up, and then _____ him down; that happens so often.

3 Rewrite the sentences using the word in capitals. Keep the meaning the same.

- A lot of actors fail and give up. WAYSIDE
- We must be very careful what we say. TREAD
- He was successful but it wasn't all pleasant. PRICE
- It was better than anything I could've imagined. DREAMS
- Holly was too nervous and she performed badly. PIECES
- I'm sure Jason will perform very well on the night. RISE

B In the public eye

Jodie separation shock

Jodie Webb faced the press last night after news **got out** that her four-year marriage to actor Des Miles **had reached the end of the line**. In an emotional statement, Jodie said they **had done their utmost** to keep the marriage alive, but being **in the public eye coupled with** long periods of separation **had taken its toll**. Despite the news, her agent predicted that Jodie would **bounce back from** this current **setback**, and was determined it shouldn't **cast a shadow over** the release of her latest film. Jodie made a plea for fans to leave her in peace, before **fighting her way through** the crowd and into the back of a waiting car.



Glossary

get out (reach) the end of the line/road do/try your utmost in the public eye couple sth with sth take its toll (on sb/sth) / take a heavy toll (on sb/sth) bounce back (from sth) setback	(of secrets or information) become known to the public. SYN leak out . (reach) the point at which sth can no longer continue in the same way. try as hard as you possibly can. well known to many people through the media. (usually passive) combine sth with sth (coupled with sth = combined with sth). have a bad effect on sb/sth; cause damage, suffering, etc.
cast a shadow (over sth) fight your way (through/ past sb/sth)	become confident, healthy, or successful again after having problems. a difficulty or disappointment that prevents progress or makes a situation worse. set sb back v. make sb feel less happy or hopeful about sth. move with difficulty through a crowd of people or through/past an obstacle.

4 Tick the correct answer(s). One, two, or three may be correct.

- 1 He always _____ his utmost to help.
tries makes does
- 2 The injury has cast a _____ over her future.
shadow shade spell
- 3 She fought her way _____ the crowd.
along past through
- 4 The accident has taken _____ on him.
its toll a heavy toll a long toll
- 5 This disappointment has really _____ her back.
settled driven set
- 6 I think they've reached the end of the _____.
line road path

5 One word is missing in each line of the text. Where does it go? Write it at the end.

- Although actress Corinne Black had tried her **▲** to keep it secret, the news out last night that she was being treated for a form of skin cancer. **▶ utmost**
- As she struggled to fight her through the crowds at a charity gala, _____ 1
- she admitted to waiting reporters that being in the public had _____ 2
- made life difficult for her recently, and coupled the birth of her second _____ 3
- child only eleven months ago, the illness had her back quite _____ 4
- considerably, and taken a heavy on her. Despite this, she said _____ 5
- she was determined to back as soon as possible, and her condition _____ 6
- would certainly not a shadow over her son's first birthday next month. _____ 7
- _____ 8

33 I can describe extreme weather

A Disaster headlines

HURRICANE RIPS THROUGH WESTERN FLORIDA

Thousands evacuated as fire **takes hold** in Alicante province

HOUSES SWEEP AWAY BY FLOOD WATERS

Climate change **wreaks havoc** on coral reefs worldwide

Survivors **caught up in** north Indian floods **come to terms with** loss of homes

ETHIOPIA IN THE GRIP OF SEVERE DROUGHT

Coal mine **caves in** following flood, but no **lives lost**

BUSH FIRES IN SOUTHERN AUSTRALIA **WIPE OUT** WHOLE TOWNS

Glossary

rip through sth	move forcefully and rapidly through sth.
take (a) hold	become very strong and difficult to remove or stop.
sweep sth away	(often passive) (of floods, a tornado, etc.) completely destroy sth.
wreak havoc (on sth)	cause a lot of damage, destruction, or confusion.
be/get caught up in sth	become involved in sth undesirable.
come to terms with sth	gradually accept a difficult or unpleasant situation.
in the grip of sth	experiencing sth unpleasant that cannot be stopped.
cave in (on sb/sth)	(of a roof, wall, etc.) collapse and fall.
lose your life	be killed. loss of life N.
wipe sth/sb out	(often passive) destroy or get rid of sth/sb completely.

1 One word is wrong in each sentence. Cross it out and write the correct word at the end.

- ▶ My grandfather lost ~~the~~ life during the great storm of 1987. *his*
- 1 It's hard to get to terms with the loss of whole communities.
- 2 A South American civilization was wiped off by earthquakes 3,800 years ago.
- 3 The tornado is wreaking damage on all parts of the region.
- 4 The roof caved down, and the people below were lucky to survive.
- 5 Many tourists have been caught up on the forest fires in California.
- 6 As the fire started to make hold, people ran to escape the flames.

2 Complete the text with an idiom or phrasal verb from the box in the correct form.

caught up come to terms ✓ sweep sth away wreak havoc
rip through cave in loss of life in the grip

Texans are counting the cost and beginning to ▶ *come to terms* with the devastation caused by bad weather: the state of Texas is (1) of the worst winter for twenty years. Fierce winds have (2) central Texas this week, and several tornadoes have (3) on a line of small towns in their path. Local resident Clint Vaughn saw his home (4) by rising floodwater. 'It came so fast, we barely had time to get out; we almost got (5) in the destruction; I stood with my mouth open as the roof of the house just (6) . It was terrifying,' Vaughn said. 'Astonishingly, there has been no (7) , but many have been injured and the hospitals are full to overflowing.'

B Heavy snow

The heavy and unexpected snowfall in recent days has had serious consequences.

Motorists **heading for** the city centre on the A36 **were caught unawares** as traffic **came to a standstill**. Trapped in their cars for hours, they were finally rescued and **towed away**.

Supplies of salt and grit for the roads **are running low**, which may **put lives at risk**.

Some rural areas **have been** completely **snowed in** and villages temporarily **cut off**.

Children **have been turned away** from schools due to teacher shortages, and workplaces have been closed **for the foreseeable future**.

Snow is still falling **thick and fast**, so the Met Office is advising people to stay at home.



Glossary

head for sth

move towards a place. SYN **make for sth**.

catch sb unawares

happen in a way that sb was not expecting and was not prepared for.

come to a standstill/halt

slowly stop completely. SYN **grind to a standstill/halt**.

tow sb/sth away

(of a driver or car) pull another car using a rope or chain.

run low

If your supply of sth **is running low** or you **are running low on** sth, you only have a little left.

at risk (of/from sth)

in danger of sth unpleasant or harmful happening (**put lives at risk**).

be snowed in

be unable to leave a place because of heavy snow.

be cut off

be unable to leave a place or receive visitors or services from outside.

turn sb away

refuse to allow sb to enter a place.

for the foreseeable future

for the period of time when you can predict what is going to happen, based on present circumstances.

thick and fast

happening very quickly and in large amounts or numbers.

3 Write in the missing preposition or adverb.

- 1 We were turned _____ from the factory.
- 2 They were snowed _____ for days.
- 3 The cottage was cut _____.
- 4 Make _____ the nearest exit quickly.
- 5 Luckily, no lives were put _____ risk.
- 6 Traffic ground _____ a standstill.
- 7 The cars were towed _____.
- 8 It will last _____ the foreseeable future.

4 Rewrite the sentences using the word in capitals. Keep the meaning the same.

- The snow is falling heavily. FAST *The snow is falling thick and fast.*
- 1 The train gradually stopped. STANDSTILL
 - 2 We couldn't contact anyone. CUT
 - 3 They removed the car and took it to the police station. TOW
 - 4 I went towards the hospital. HEAD
 - 5 They refused to let us in the building. TURN
 - 6 There is hardly any food left. LOW
 - 7 We'll be cut off for some time. FORESEEABLE
 - 8 I didn't expect so much snow. UNAWARES

Review: What's in the news?

Unit 27

1 Put the dominoes in the correct order to make a joined sequence of idioms. Write the correct order of dominoes below.

ring true A household name. Under pressure. Off the

1	the mark	Go to great
2	ring true	A household
3	pressure.	Off the
4	the better	Bear
5	all proportion	Cast
6	under the carpet	Come
7	record	Blow sth up out of
8	doubt on sth	The sooner
9	lengths	Sweep sth
10	to light	It doesn't
11	the brunt of sth	Overstep
12	name.	Under

2, 12, 3, , , , , , , , , ,

2 Complete these opinions about stories in the press.

- 1 'I think the protesters are just _____ up trouble; things are perfectly all right as they are.'
- 2 'This is a huge scandal for the government, and it won't just blow _____ if the Prime Minister takes no action. He's hoping it will all _____ away, but it won't.'
- 3 'Every day new information leaks _____, and if it _____ for the press, we wouldn't know any of it. It's a disgrace.'
- 4 'We've known for years that things were bad, but now everything is out in the _____, it's even more shocking than expected. The politicians have really _____ the mark.'
- 5 'It's time we put _____ on our leaders to reform the laws on privacy, and the _____ the better as far as I'm concerned.'
- 6 'I used to have mixed _____ about the government, but now I'm sure they've been covering things up. I voted for them because I thought they would _____ out corruption, but we now see that quite the reverse has happened. I'm very shocked.'

Unit 28

1 A word is missing in each sentence. Where does it go? Write it at the end.

- ▶ Police are up the search for the missing teenager. *stepping*
- 1 The thief was arrested in _____ of a considerable amount of jewellery.
- 2 Certain companies need to clean up _____ act with regard to tax evasion.
- 3 When journalists go cover, they can put themselves in considerable danger _____.
- 4 The gang were just in wait for Richards; he didn't stand a chance _____.
- 5 The opposition party is going _____ the offensive over European legislation.
- 6 Police in Leeds are the lookout for a gang of bicycle thieves _____.
- 7 The manager was held up _____ gunpoint and forced to hand over the cash.
- 8 An enquiry has been ordered in the _____ of the explosion at the power plant.

2 Complete the dialogues. You will find one of the words for each idiom or phrasal verb in the box.

crack up name ✓ tip clear astray bud daylight

- ▶ Did he prove he was innocent? ~ Yes, he was able to *clear his name*.
- 1 Who gave the police the information? ~ They were _____ by a shopkeeper.
- 2 The older boys are a bad influence on Sam. ~ Yes, they're _____ him.
- 3 Was the burglary at night? ~ No, it was in _____, but no one saw anything.
- 4 The police won't press charges. ~ That's right. He's completely _____.
- 5 Is the crime rate rising? ~ Yes, it's _____.
- 6 They should stop it before it gets worse. ~ Yes, they should _____ it.
- 7 We need to deal with burglary more severely. ~ Yes, we need to _____ on it.

Unit 29

1 Using the verbs in the box in the correct form, complete the texts about an anti-war demonstration seen from different perspectives.

turn out pave stand up bring pass off spread cordon off call on
board up make break up

DEMONSTRATOR The demonstration was an opportunity for us to (1) _____ for what we believe in and (2) _____ the word to as many people as possible. We hope this will (3) _____ the way for further demonstrations in the future.

POLICE The protesters (4) _____ their way along Prince Street, but we (5) _____ part of Parliament Square for security reasons.

ANTI-WAR POLITICIAN The protesters were exercising their democratic right to protest by (6) _____ the government to (7) _____ an end to this pointless war.

PRO-WAR POLITICIAN The protesters claimed there would be massive support for this demonstration, but fewer than 5,000 (8) _____, so it was both a failure and a huge waste of police resources.

ONLOOKER The police had to (9) _____ one or two fights between pro- and anti-war demonstrators, but in general it seemed to (10) _____ quite peacefully.

SHOPKEEPER If they want to demonstrate, why don't they go to a public park? I lost money because I had to close my shop and (11) _____ the windows.

Unit 30

1 One word is missing in each sentence. Where does it go? Write it at the end.

- ▶ They're talking *✓* the latest opinion-poll results, but in fact they're terrible. *up*
- 1 The truth about politics is that it all boils to a matter of trust.
- 2 I'm prepared to give them the of the doubt – but it's the last time.
- 3 I thought they would compromise, but they wouldn't an inch.
- 4 In the analysis, we have no choice but to vote against the government.
- 5 It's high time the party put its own in order.
- 6 The minister just the figures out of the air; it was obviously nonsense.
- 7 I wanted to believe her, but her story just didn't up.
- 8 We definitely need to capitalize this success while we can.

2 Complete the sentences, using idioms from the table in the correct form. You can move horizontally or vertically, backwards or forwards.

COME	UNDER	QUICK	MARK	HAVE
A	FIRE	OFF	THE	A
WAR	OF	WORDS	DAY	FIELD
NECK	AND	CLIMB	ON	THE
STOP	NECK	WELL	BODE	BANDWAGON
THE	ROT	A	WAKE-UP	CALL

- ▶ The results of the opinion polls don't *bode well* for the government.
- The press have heard rumours about illegal activities in the Independent Party; they will _____ with that.
 - The results of these local elections should act as _____ for the government.
 - The results were incredibly close: the two candidates are running _____.
 - Car manufacturers will _____ in the press today for continuing to ignore government calls for better safety.
 - Tensions have been heightened between the two countries because of _____ over territorial disputes.
 - To regain its global status, the city must try to _____ which has set in over the last few years.
 - The candidate saw that voters were increasingly interested in green issues, and as a result, we saw him _____. It's deeply cynical of him.
 - The government has been surprisingly _____ in introducing new climate change legislation.

Unit 31

1 Is the meaning the same or different? Write S or D.

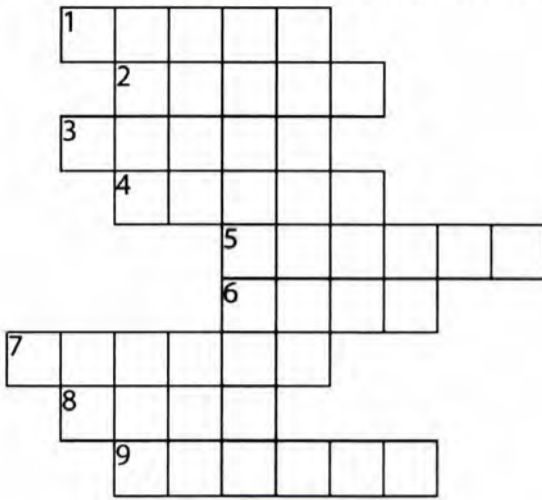
- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 We can ill afford to do nothing. | Our best solution would be to do nothing. |
| 2 Shall we meet them halfway? | Shall we accept some of their demands? |
| 3 I'm sure they'll close ranks on this. | I'm sure they won't support their party on this. |
| 4 I think they'll bite the bullet. | I think they'll break ranks. |
| 5 We need to stand firm on this. | We need to stick to our guns on this. |
| 6 Our future hangs in the balance. | Our future is looking more secure. |
| 7 They're at loggerheads over this. | They're locked in dispute over this. |
| 8 We're in the firing line. | We're fighting a losing battle. |

2 Circle the correct word.

- If the law is passed, it will *release* | *open* the floodgates for thousands of people to request compensation.
- They've been locked in battle for months, and they're still poles *apart* | *away*.
- On this issue, the government is out of *pass* | *step* with the voters.
- There is a *running* | *crying* need for improvement in train services.
- If we can get extra staff, it will free us *up* | *out* to concentrate on the key problems.
- I didn't expect him to *side* | *keep* with the director. I feel very let down.
- We have no choice but to press *ahead* | *over* with the scheme, despite the protests.
- He's trying to keep a foot in both *camps* | *sides*, but it won't work.

Unit 32

1 Complete the crossword. The letters in the grey squares spell out a word. What is it?



- 1 Most people don't realize that fame comes at a _____ : a complete lack of privacy.
- 2 One TV appearance alone has the power to make or _____ a new performer.
- 3 The press is happy to _____ young people up, but just as happy to knock them down.
- 4 When people are fragile, we need to _____ carefully and handle them sensitively.
- 5 The group are remarkably resilient, and after this setback I'm sure they will _____ back.
- 6 Let's hope that she overcomes her nerves and can _____ to the occasion on Saturday.

- 7 Anyone who is in the _____ eye will tell you that it's not all fun and games.
 - 8 The scandal described in the magazine will _____ a shadow over his career.
 - 9 Winning the competition would be _____ my wildest dreams.
- The word in the grey squares is _____ .

2 There is one word too many in each line. Cross it out.

- ▶ As the money disappeared, all their promises fell ~~down~~ by the wayside.
- 1 Having so many children has taken its heavy toll on her health. She's exhausted.
 - 2 Smoking is coupled with obesity greatly increases heart problems.
 - 3 Winning the competition has clearly gone up to her head. She's unbearable.
 - 4 We had to fight for our way past the hundreds of people outside the theatre.
 - 5 I can't promise anything, but I will certainly try to my utmost to do it by tonight.
 - 6 My sister went to the pieces when I told her the cat had died. She really loved it.

Unit 33

1 Complete the idiom or phrasal verb in each sentence.

- 1 The train slowed down and eventually ground to a _____ .
- 2 Another earthquake will put more lives at _____ .
- 3 The road will remain closed for the foreseeable _____ .
- 4 The hurricane will wreak _____ when it hits the coast.
- 5 Once the forest fires take a _____ , they are almost impossible to stop.
- 6 The people are still coming to _____ with the loss of their homes.

2 Read the text, then replace the underlined phrases with idioms and phrasal verbs.

- ▶ *coming to terms with* _____ 4
- 1 _____ 5
- 2 _____ 6
- 3 _____ 7

People are still ▶ accepting the idea of the heaviest snowfall in the United Kingdom for many years. Thousands of motorists driving home yesterday afternoon were (1) very surprised to find themselves in difficulty as the snow fell (2) quickly and heavily, and traffic on several motorways (3) stopped completely. Many cars had to be (4) pulled away by trucks, and the emergency services have warned that conditions could get worse. In the countryside, many people were (5) unable to leave their homes because of the snow this morning and couldn't get to work, and in parts of Wales, whole villages are (6) isolated by the snow. The meteorological office say we are now (7) experiencing the coldest winter on record.

34 I can talk about communicators

A Good communicators

Good communicators are people who:

- are first of all good listeners, and really **take in** what others have to say.
- make sure their body language **isn't at odds with** what they are saying.
- **pick up on** little things that are important to people, such as important names or dates.
- **keep** people **in the picture** about things.
- know when to distribute information **on a need-to-know basis**.
- don't **get** people's **backs up** by being rude, aggressive, dismissive, etc.
- **win** people **over** rather than make demands.
- are prepared to **open up to** people, so that others will open up to them.

Glossary

take sth in	understand, absorb, and remember new facts and information.
be at odds with sth	be in conflict with sth; contradict sth.
pick up on sth	notice sth and perhaps react to it.
on a need-to-know basis	so that sb is told only what they need to know and only when they need to know it.
get sb's back up	INF annoy sb.
win sb over/round (to sth)	get sb's support or approval by persuading them you are right or sth is right.
open up (to sb)	talk about what you really feel and think.

spotlight Giving people information

If you **put sb in the picture**, you give them the information they need to understand a situation. If you **keep sb in the picture**, you continue to give them the necessary information. SYN **keep sb posted (about/on sth)**. If you **get the picture**, you understand a situation that somebody is describing to you.

1 Cover the glossary, then answer the questions.

- 1 If someone puts you in the picture, what do they do?
- 2 Are you pleased if someone keeps you posted?
- 3 If someone gets your back up, how do you feel?
- 4 If you win someone over, what does that involve?
- 5 If you say to someone that you get the picture, what does it tell them?
- 6 If you've picked up on something, what have you done?
- 7 If you open up to someone, what do you do?
- 8 If what someone says is at odds with what they do, are you pleased?

2 Complete the final word in each dialogue.

- 1 Did you understand everything? ~ No, I couldn't take it all
- 2 Do you want to know what's happening? ~ Yes, could you keep me _____ ?
- 3 Do you find him annoying as well? ~ Yes, he really gets my back _____
- 4 Do you have all the details? ~ No, but Jane will put me in the _____
- 5 Do you give them much information? ~ Only on a need-to-know _____
- 6 They will need persuading. ~ Don't worry. Pete will soon win them _____

3 ABOUT YOU What are the three most important points at the top of the page? Which are you good at or bad at? Write your answers in your notebook, or talk to another student.

B A poor communicator

HOLLY Do you think Jonathan will use our ideas in the advertising campaign?

JAKE I think he's **mulling** them **over**, but **reading between the lines** I'd say 'maybe'.

HOLLY He doesn't **give** much **away**, does he?

JAKE No. He doesn't **let** anyone **in on** what he's thinking. He prefers to **keep things to himself**, which is probably why we end up **getting the wrong end of the stick** so often.

HOLLY Doesn't it **occur to** him that it's very frustrating to **be kept in the dark** like this?

JAKE No. **It makes no odds** to him what people think. Or if he does care, he doesn't **let on**.



Glossary

mull sth over	spend time thinking carefully about a plan or proposal.
read between the lines	look for or discover a meaning that is suggested rather than actually stated.
give sth/sb away	make known sth that sb wants to keep secret.
let sb in on sth	INF allow sb to share a secret, or know what only a few people know.
get (hold of) the wrong end of the stick	INF understand sth in the wrong way.
occur to sb	(of an idea or a thought) come into sb's mind.
it makes no odds	INF used to say that sth makes no difference or is not important.
let on (to sb about sth)	INF tell sb sth, especially sth you have been keeping secret.

spotlight Keeping information back

If you **keep sth to yourself**, you don't tell others about it. If you **play/hold/keep your cards close to your chest**, you keep your plans or ideas secret. If you **keep sb in the dark**, you don't tell them something because you want to keep it secret from them.

4 Do you know? Write 'yes', or 'perhaps', or 'no'.

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1 He plays his cards close to his chest. | 5 It didn't occur to him to tell me. |
| 2 He gave it away. | 6 He let me in on it. |
| 3 I'm reading between the lines. | 7 He kept me in the dark. |
| 4 He let on. | 8 I got the wrong end of the stick. |

5 Rewrite the sentences starting with the words given.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ▶ I haven't told people about the project. | I've <i>kept the project to myself</i> . |
| 1 I don't tell other people my ideas. | I keep my cards |
| 2 I completely misunderstood what he meant. | I got |
| 3 It should've stayed a secret but I told someone. | I gave |
| 4 I wanted to think about it. | I wanted to mull |
| 5 I didn't tell her because I didn't want her to know. | I kept |
| 6 He didn't tell me exactly but I knew what he meant. | I read |
| 7 I don't realize that I'm being secretive. | It doesn't |
| 8 I don't care what people think. | It makes |


35 I can use the language of discussion

A Winning the argument

In a heated discussion, how annoyed are you by people who: very/quite/not at all

- want to win the argument **at all costs**?
- **play devil's advocate** all the time?
- constantly **butt in** when you're trying to speak?
- **beat about the bush** all the time instead of **getting to the point**?
- always seem to **miss the point** of what people are saying?
- always want to **have the last word**?
- just want to argue **for the sake of it**?
- refuse to **back down** and admit they are wrong?

Glossary

at all costs	used to say that something must be done, however difficult it is. SYN at any cost/price .
play devil's advocate	pretend to disagree with sb in order to start an argument or discussion.
butt in	interrupt sb.
beat about the bush	discuss sth in an indirect way, without saying what you really want to say.  See page 162.)
get to the point	stop talking about unimportant details and say what is most important.
miss the point	not understand the main thing that sb is trying to say.
have the last/final word (on sth)	win an argument by making the last statement or final decision on sth.
for the sake of it	If you do sth for the sake of it , you do it because you enjoy it, not because you want to achieve anything else.
back down (on sth)	admit that you are wrong or have lost an argument.

1 Is the meaning similar or different? Write S or D.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 She always has the final word. | She always butts in. |
| 2 He wants to win at all costs. | He wants to win at any price. |
| 3 She never gets to the point. | She always misses the point. |
| 4 He keeps butting in when I'm talking. | He keeps interrupting when I'm talking. |
| 5 He loves to play devil's advocate. | He often argues for the sake of it. |
| 6 She doesn't beat about the bush. | She never backs down. |

2 Complete the sentences.

- 1 I never get a chance to finish what I'm saying, because he keeps _____ in.
- 2 Mr Ellis explained it carefully, but Anya still completely _____ the point.
- 3 Stop _____ about the bush and get to the _____ of what you're trying to say.
- 4 However much you argue with her, she always has to have the final _____.
- 5 Even if you prove he's wrong, he still won't _____ down.
- 6 I don't think she disagreed with you. She was just playing _____ advocate because she enjoys arguing for the _____ of it.

3 ABOUT YOU Write your answers in the questionnaire at the top of the page, or talk to another student. Do you do any of these things?

Complete the text with ONE word that fits into each gap.

When flicking **(1)** _____ the job pages of a newspaper you tend to find the same adjectives in any advertisement : ambitious, hard-working , motivated, dynamic , cooperative . Even if these are traits you are bound to find in every job **(2)** _____ are a few jobs where they might not apply. Sometimes you can even be lazy to do them.

Furniture companies, for example, often hire people **(3)** _____ job it is to test new sofas, armchairs, beds and other products. It's their job to sit in chairs or lie in beds for hours and just try to

(4) _____ comfortable. Sometimes, it's even acceptable to fall asleep while **(5)** _____ "work".

Another job you might try **(6)** _____ if you're not that ambitious and hard-working is a house-sitter. These people **(7)** _____ paid just to look after someone else's house and make sure everything is OK while the owners are on holiday or on a business **(8)** _____. It's rarely the case that you have to deal **(9)** _____ problems that come up, **(10)** _____ a leak in a water pipe.

If you like **(11)** _____ TV all day, consider being a binge watcher. Watch your favourite series on a streaming service of your choice and write a report **(12)** _____ it. You don't even have to get out of bed for this job.

KEY

When flicking **(1) through** the job pages of a newspaper you tend to find the same adjectives in any advertisement : ambitious, hard-working , motivated, dynamic , cooperative . Even if these are traits you are bound to find in every job **(2) there** are a few jobs where they might not apply. Sometimes you can even be lazy to do them.

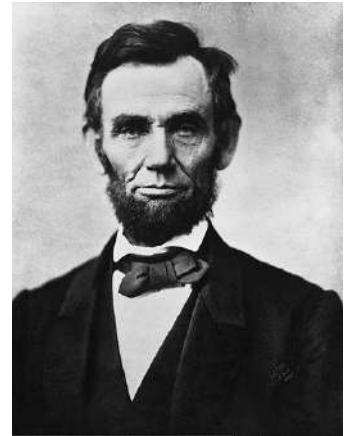
Furniture companies, for example, often hire people **(3) whose** job it is to test new sofas, armchairs, beds and other products. It's their job to sit in chairs or lie in beds for hours and just try to **(4) feel / be / stay** comfortable. Sometimes, it's even acceptable to fall asleep while **(5) at** "work".

Another job you might try **(6) out** if you're not that ambitious and hard-working is a house-sitter. These people **(7) get / are** paid just to look after someone else's house and make sure everything is OK while the owners are on holiday or on a business **(8) trip / journey**. It's rarely the case that you have to deal **(9) with** problems that come up, **(10) like** a leak in a water pipe.

If you like **(11) watching** TV all day, consider being a binge watcher. Watch your favourite series on a streaming service of your choice and write a report **(12) about** it. You don't even have to get out of bed for this job.

Use the word in brackets to form a new word that fits into each blank.

There are about 40 million African Americans in the USA, roughly 13 per cent of the population. The majority are _____ **(DESCEND)** of slaves "imported" from Africa to work on the plantations in the south of the USA. President Lincoln abolished _____ **(SLAVE)** in 1865 after the Civil War. Many former slaves moved north, east and west to the big cities in search of work, becoming the first blacks to live in urban ghettos.



Abraham Lincoln - 16th
President of the United
States of America

Although government efforts to fight _____ **(SEGREGATE)** and prevent _____ **(DISCRIMINATE)** against blacks were at a standstill for decades, some progress was made in certain areas. It was not until the 1950s and 1960s however, that black leaders like Martin Luther King were able to mobilise large sections of both the black and white population and launch the Civil Rights _____ **(MOVE)**. Thanks to public sympathy for blacks and to non-violent marches and _____ **(DEMONSTRATE)**, laws became necessary. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was passed, which aimed at _____ **(RACE)** desegregation by granting blacks _____ **(EQUAL)** in all political and social fields.

Positive changes of the past decades:

- Race is no longer the issue it was before and during the 1950s and 60s.
- Interracial _____ **(MARRY)** has gained widespread _____ **(ACCEPT)**.
- A black middle class has emerged, and black millionaires or politicians are no longer _____ **(COMMON)**. In 2008 Barack Obama became the first African American president in America's 200-year history.
- Racism is on the decline. The racial strife of the 60s on one hand and white supremacist groups like the Ku Klux Klan on the other are elements of the past.
- Besides continuing to play a major role in the _____ **(ENTERTAIN)** sector, African Americans have also come to dominate certain areas of sport, e.g. boxing, basketball, track and field etc...
- As a result of the integration of an _____ **(INCREASE)** number of middle-class blacks into formerly white _____ **(RESIDE)** areas, there are now many racially mixed suburban communities.

- Segregation no longer exists in public schools and has also _____ **(APPEAR)** from playgrounds, restaurants and hotels. Blacks enjoy greater racial equality and are confronted with fewer racial barriers than in the past.

Problems still facing African Americans:

- _____ **(HIDE)** discrimination of blacks still exists in some fields like housing or law.
- Black and white colleagues who treat each other in a friendly way at work sometimes lead separate social lives at home.
- Despite _____ **(IMPROVE)** in politics, blacks still remain underrepresented in Congress.
- The most urgent problem is the black underclass. There is now a great _____ **(PARITY)** in income and social standing between successful middle-class blacks and the underclass. Most of them live in inner-city ghettos, the centres of drug-trafficking and the scene of gang-warfare between rival black or Hispanic groups. Nearly half of these people live below the _____ **(POOR)** line and are _____ **(DEPEND)** on welfare, food stamps and Medicaid benefits.
- The _____ **(EMPLOY)** rate of blacks is above average. About one third of black teenagers drop out of high school. The infant _____ **(MORTAL)** rate among blacks is double that of whites. Remedies are needed if the underclass is not to become alienated from the rest of American society.

KEY

There are about 40 million African Americans in the USA, roughly 13 per cent of the population. The majority are **descendants (DESCEND)** of slaves "imported" from Africa to work on the plantations in the south of the USA. President Lincoln abolished **slavery (SLAVE)** in 1865 after the Civil War. Many former slaves moved north, east and west to the big cities in search of work, becoming the first blacks to live in urban ghettos.

Although government efforts to fight **segregation (SEGREGATE)** and prevent **discrimination (DISCRIMINATION)** against blacks were at a standstill for decades, some progress was made in certain areas. It was not until the 1950s and 1960s however, that black leaders like Martin Luther King were able to mobilise large sections of both the black and white population and launch the Civil Rights **Movement (MOVE)**. Thanks to public sympathy for blacks and to non-violent marches and **demonstrations (DEMONSTRATE)**, laws became necessary. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was passed, which aimed at **racial (RACE)** desegregation by granting blacks **equality (EQUAL)** in all political and social fields.

Positive changes of the past decades:

- Race is no longer the issue it was before and during the 1950s and 60s.
- Interracial **marriage (MARRY)** has gained widespread **acceptance (ACCEPT)** .
- A black middle class has emerged, and black millionaires or politicians are no longer **uncommon (COMMON)**. In 2008 Barack Obama became the first African American president in America's 200-year history.
- Racism is on the decline. The racial strife of the 60s on one hand and white supremacist groups like the Ku Klux Klan on the other are elements of the past.
- Besides continuing to play a major role in the **entertainment (ENTERTAIN)** sector, African Americans have also come to dominate certain areas of sport, e.g. boxing, basketball, track and field etc...
- As a result of the integration of an **increasing (INCREASE)** number of middle-class blacks into formerly white **residential (RESIDE)** areas, there are now many racially mixed suburban communities.
- Segregation no longer exists in public schools and has also **disappeared (APPEAR)** from playgrounds, restaurants and hotels. Blacks enjoy greater racial equality and are confronted with fewer racial barriers than in the past.

Problems still facing African Americans:

- **Hidden (HIDE)** discrimination of blacks still exists in some fields like housing or law.
- Black and white colleagues who treat each other in a friendly way at work sometimes lead separate social lives at home.
- Despite **improvements (IMPROVE)** in politics, blacks still remain underrepresented in Congress.
- The most urgent problem is the black underclass. There is now a great **disparity (PARITY)** in income and social standing between successful middle-class blacks and the underclass. Most of them live in inner-city ghettos, the centres of drug-trafficking and the scene of gang-warfare between rival black or Hispanic groups. Nearly half of these people live below the **poverty (POOR)** line and are **dependent (DEPEND)** on welfare, food stamps and Medicaid benefits.
- The **unemployment (EMPLOY)** rate of blacks is above average. About one third of black teenagers drop out of high school. The infant **mortality (MORTAL)** rate among blacks is double that of whites. Remedies are needed if the underclass is not to become alienated from the rest of American society.

Use the words in brackets to form a new word that fits into each blank.

Mahatma Gandhi was known to the whole world as the leader of the Indian nationalist (1) _____ (MOVE) against British (2) _____ (DOMINATE) of India. During his lifetime he was much praised for his doctrine of nonviolent (3) _____ (RESIST) and civil (4) _____ (OBEY). Even though he was one of the greatest human rights (5) _____ (ACTIVE) he always appeared as a simple man who fought against (6) _____ (POOR) and the (7) _____ (HOMELESS) of India's working population.

Gandhi was born into a (8) _____ (WEALTH) family. His mother was a (9) _____ (DEEP) religious woman. In his (10) _____ (CHILD) years Mahatma was a small and quiet boy who (11) _____ (LIKE) sports and was only an average student. At 13 his parents arranged a (12) _____ (MARRY) with a girl the same age. Gandhi's father persuaded him to study law in London but (13) _____ (ADJUST) to the British way of life proved to be difficult.

After a short interval back home in India he left again for South Africa, where he accepted a job as a (14) _____ (LAW). At first, he only planned to stay a year but after observing nationwide (15) _____ (DISCRIMINATE) against non-whites he found a new cause. He fought for the (16) _____ (PROTECT) of Indian South Africans and stayed until 1913. In 1907 Gandhi urged all Indians to defy a law requiring (17) _____ (REGISTER) and fingerprinting. For this (18) _____ (ACTIVE) he was (19) _____ (PRISON) for two months.

After returning to India he became an (20) _____ (INFLUENCE) figure within a short time. He urged the boycott of British goods and a (21) _____ (POLITICS) of non-cooperation with the British (22) _____ (RULE). Gandhi told Indians to make their own clothes rather than buy British goods. This, he argued, would create (23) _____ (EMPLOY) for millions of Indians.

In 1930 Gandhi organized a protest march in (24) _____ (RESPOND) to British (25) _____ (TAX) of all salt used by Indians. Thousands walked over 250 miles to protest against the (26) _____ (FAIR) law. In 1934 Gandhi stepped down as

leader of the Congress Party and turned power over to his **(27)** _____
(SUCCEED) Jawaharlal Nehru.

Britain's entrance into World War II brought India in without its **(28)** _____
(APPROVE). When Gandhi and other leaders refused to take part in the British war effort,
the **(29)** _____ **(POLITICS)** of the Congress Party were thrown into prison
once again. After the war the British started **(30)** _____ **(NEGOTIATE)** with
Indian leaders which led to the **(31)** _____ **(PART)** of the sub-continent. Riots
and **(32)** _____ **(VIOLENT)** broke out between Hindus and Muslims in many
parts of the country.

In March 1947 the last viceroy, Lord Mountbatten, arrived in India to prepare
(33) _____ **(INDEPENDENT)** and the **(34)** _____ **(SEPARATE)** of the
two new countries. In August, Gandhi refused to take part in the **(35)** _____
(CELEBRATE) because his nation had rejected his plea for peace and
(36) _____ **(BROTHER)**. On 30 January 1948, a Hindu **(37)** _____
(EXTREME) shot Gandhi while he was attending **(38)** _____ **(PRAY)**. The
(39) _____ **(ASSASSINATE)** of the "*Great Soul*" of India sent shockwaves
around the world.

KEY

Mahatma Gandhi was known to the whole world as the leader of the Indian nationalist **movement (MOVE)** against British **domination (DOMINATE)** of India. During his lifetime he was much praised for his doctrine of nonviolent **resistance (RESIST)** and civil **disobedience (OBEY)**. Even though he was one of the greatest human rights **activists (ACTIVE)** he always appeared as a simple man who fought against **poverty (POOR)** and the **homelessness (HOMELESS)** of India's working population.

Gandhi was born into a **wealthy (WEALTH)** family. His mother was a **deeply (DEEP)** religious woman. In his **childhood (CHILD)** years Mahatma was a small and quiet boy who **liked/disliked (LIKE)** sports and was only an average student. At 13 his parents arranged a **marriage (MARRY)** with a girl the same age. Gandhi's father persuaded him to study law in London but **adjusting (ADJUST)** to the British way of life proved to be difficult.

After a short interval back home in India he left again for South Africa, where he accepted a job as a **lawyer (LAW)**. At first, he only planned to stay a year but after observing nationwide **discrimination (DISCRIMINATE)** against non-whites he found a new cause. He fought for the **protection (PROTECT)** of Indian South Africans and stayed until 1913. In 1907 Gandhi urged all Indians to defy a law requiring **registration (REGISTER)** and fingerprinting. For this **activity (ACTIVE)** he was **imprisoned (PRISON)** for two months.

After returning to India he became an **influential (INFLUENCE)** figure within a short time. He urged the boycott of British goods and a **policy (POLITICS)** of non-cooperation with the British **rulers (RULE)**. Gandhi told Indians to make their own clothes rather than buy British goods. This, he argued, would create **employment (EMPLOY)** for millions of Indians.

In 1930 Gandhi organized a protest march in **response (RESPOND)** to British **taxation (TAX)** of all salt used by Indians. Thousands walked over 250 miles to protest against the **unfair (FAIR)** law. In 1934 Gandhi stepped down as leader of the Congress Party and turned power over to his **successor (SUCCEED)** Jawaharlal Nehru.

Britain's entrance into World War II brought India in without its **approval (APPROVE)**. When Gandhi and other leaders refused to take part in the British war effort, the **politicians (POLITICS)** of the Congress Party were thrown into prison once again. After the war the British started **negotiations (NEGOTIATE)** with Indian leaders which led to the **partition (PART)** of the sub-continent. Riots and **violence (VIOLENT)** broke out between Hindus and Muslims in many parts of the country.

In March 1947 the last viceroy, Lord Mountbatten, arrived in India to prepare **independence** (**INDEPENDENT**) and the **separation** (**SEPARATE**) of the two new countries. In August, Gandhi refused to take part in the **celebrations** (**CELEBTATE**) because his nation had rejected his plea for peace and **brotherhood** (**BROTHER**). On 30 January 1948, a Hindu **extremist** (**EXTREME**) shot Gandhi while he was attending **prayer** (**PRAY**) . The **assassination** (**ASSASSINATE**) of the "*Great Soul*" of India sent shockwaves around the world.

Use the words in brackets to form a new word that fits into each blank.

Malcolm X was one of the most (1) _____ (INFLUENCE) African American leaders of the civil rights era. He transformed himself from a minor (2) _____ (CRIME) into a powerful defender of the rights of blacks.

Malcolm X was born as Malcolm Little in Omaha, Nebraska. His father was the follower of a black leader who had political and (3) _____ (ECONOMY) ties to Africa. In 1931, Malcolm's father was found dead after being run over by a streetcar. Malcolm believed white (4) _____ (RACE) were responsible for his father's death. At the age of 12 his mother was transferred to a mental hospital and Malcolm had to spend the rest of his (5) _____ (CHILD) in foster homes. During this period of his youth he became discouraged by racial prejudice (6) _____ (SURROUND) him.

In 1941, Malcolm moved to Boston where he became involved in criminal (7) _____ (ACT). In 1946, he was arrested for (8) _____ (BURGLAR) and sent to prison. There he joined the *Nation of Islam*, or *Black Muslims*, an organisation that regarded white people as devils. After being released from prison in 1952, Malcolm adopted X as his last name. The letter stood for the (9) _____ (KNOW) African name of slave ancestors.

Malcolm X quickly became the Nation of Islam's most (10) _____ (EFFECT) speaker. He urged blacks to live separately from whites and to win their (11) _____ (FREE) "by any means necessary." However, as time went on, he became (12) _____ (SATISFY) with the *Nation of Islam*, in part because the group avoided political activity.

In 1964, Malcolm X broke with the organisation. A short time later, he travelled to the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia, where he met Muslims of (13) _____ (VARY) ethnic backgrounds. He changed his name once again and came back to the United States to found a new group, the *Organization of Afro-American Unity*.

In the final years of his life Malcolm X took a more moderate view of civil rights issues. He sought (14) _____ (COOPERATE) with Martin Luther King, Jr., and other civil rights activists who favoured non-violent protests. But by this time, some *Black Muslims* had condemned Malcolm X as a hypocrite and traitor because of his (15) _____ (CRITICIZE) of the group's leader, Elijah Muhammad.

On February 21, 1965, Malcolm X was (16) _____ (FATAL) shot while giving a speech in New York City. Three members of the *Nation of Islam* were convicted of the crime. Malcolm's views reached many people after his death through the (17) _____ (PUBLISH) of his autobiography.

KEY

Malcolm X was one of the most **(1) influential (INFLUENCE)** African American leaders of the civil rights era. He transformed himself from a minor **(2) criminal (CRIME)** into a powerful defender of the rights of blacks.

Malcolm X was born as Malcolm Little in Omaha, Nebraska. His father was the follower of a black leader who had political and **(3) economic (ECONOMY)** ties to Africa. In 1931, Malcolm's father was found dead after being run over by a streetcar. Malcolm believed white **(4) racists (RACE)** were responsible for his father's death. At the age of 12 his mother was transferred to a mental hospital and Malcolm had to spend the rest of his **(5) childhood (CHILD)** in foster homes. During this period of his youth he became discouraged by racial prejudice **(6) surrounding (SURROUND)** him.

In 1941, Malcolm moved to Boston where he became involved in criminal **(7) activities (ACT)**. In 1946, he was arrested for **(8) burglary (BURGLAR)** and sent to prison. There he joined the *Nation of Islam*, or *Black Muslims*, an organisation that regarded white people as devils. After being released from prison in 1952, Malcolm adopted X as his last name. The letter stood for the **(9) unknown (KNOW)** African name of slave ancestors.

Malcolm X quickly became the Nation of Islam's most **(10) effective (EFFECT)** speaker. He urged blacks to live separately from whites and to win their **(11) freedom (FREE)** "by any means necessary." However, as time went on, he became **(12) dissatisfied (SATISFY)** with the *Nation of Islam*, in part because the group avoided political activity.

In 1964, Malcolm X broke with the organisation. A short time later, he travelled to the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia, where he met Muslims of **(13) various (VARY)** ethnic backgrounds. He changed his name once again and came back to the United States to found a new group, the *Organization of Afro-American Unity*.

In the final years of his life Malcolm X took a more moderate view of civil rights issues. He sought **(14) cooperation (COOPERATE)** with Martin Luther King, Jr., and other civil rights activists who favoured non-violent protests. But by this time, some *Black Muslims* had condemned Malcolm X as a hypocrite and traitor because of his **(15) criticism (CRITICIZE)** of the group's leader, Elijah Muhammad.

On February 21, 1965, Malcolm X was **(16) fatally (FATAL)** shot while giving a speech in New York City. Three members of the *Nation of Islam* were convicted of the crime. Malcolm's views reached many people after his death through the **(17) publication (PUBLISH)** of his autobiography.

Read the text about how to choose the right sport. Some of the lines are correct. Some have a word that shouldn't be there. Write this word in the box next to the line. If the line is correct put a tick (✓) in the box. The first two lines have been done for you.

1	We all know how good exercise and physical fitness is for	✓
2	our body and mind. While most of us want to keep fit and	while
3	look good, however many people take them up the wrong	
4	activity and lose interest quickly. Fitness coaches do advise	
5	people to do things that match to their character.	
6	Many people choose a team sport, like basketball, football	
7	or volleyball because they like to be together with such	
8	other people. Others are more happier when they can go	
9	swimming or hiking on their own.	
10	When people who like to compete individually against others	
11	may take up a racket sport, like tennis, which where they	
12	do not have to often depend on others to perform well.	
13	If, on the other hand, competition is not even important	
14	to you, try enjoyable activities like dancing.	
15	Think about how easy it is to make yourself the exercise.	
16	Some activities, like running across long distances, require	
17	a considerable amount of much endurance. If you don't	
18	want to endure the physical pains of such a heavy sport,	
19	choose something that makes you less tired, but which	
20	you enjoy. In any other case, at the end of every activity	
21	it is important to feel that you have done something for	
22	your body.	

KEY

1	We all know how good exercise and physical fitness is for	✓
2	our body and mind. While most of us want to keep fit and	while
3	look good, however many people take them up the wrong	them
4	activity and lose interest quickly. Fitness coaches do advise	do
5	people to do things that match to their character.	to
6	Many people choose a team sport, like basketball, football	✓
7	or volleyball because they like to be together with such	such
8	other people. Others are more happier when they can go	more
9	swimming or hiking on their own.	✓
10	When people who like to compete individually against others	when
11	may take up a racket sport, like tennis, which where they	which
12	do not have to often depend on others to perform well.	often
13	If, on the other hand, competition is not even important	even
14	to you, try enjoyable activities like dancing.	✓
15	Think about how easy it is to make yourself the exercise.	the
16	Some activities, like running across long distances, require	across
17	a considerable amount of much endurance. If you don't	much
18	want to endure the physical pains of such a heavy sport,	heavy
19	choose something that makes you less tired, but which	✓
20	you enjoy. In any other case, at the end of every activity	other
21	it is important to feel that you have done something for	✓
22	your body.	✓

Read the text on job interviews. Use the word in brackets to form a new word that fits into each blank.

Most people feel rather (1) _____ (**NERVE**) when they go for an interview for a new job. This is not surprising because it is important to get a job you really want. People being interviewed expect the interviewers to be (2) _____ (**OBJECT**), matching an applicant against a job (3) _____ (**DESCRIBE**). However, what often happens in reality is that the interviewers make (4) _____ (**DECIDE**) that are not much more than reactions to the (5) _____ (**PERSON**) of the applicant.

Even skilled interviewers may, without realising it, (6) _____ (**CONSCIOUS**) favour people who make them feel at (7) _____ (**EASY**). Thus, if you go for an interview you should try to make a good (8) _____ (**IMPRESS**) from the start by presenting the interviewers with the very best version of yourself, emphasizing the (9) _____ (**VARY**) of skills you have. You must appear very positive and as (10) _____ (**ENTHUSIASM**) as possible. It is for you to convince the interviewers that you are (11) _____ (**DEFINITE**) the most (12) _____ (**SUIT**) person for the job.

KEY

Most people feel rather **(1) nervous (NERVE)** when they go for an interview for a new job. This is not surprising because it is important to get a job you really want. People being interviewed expect the interviewers to be **(2) objective (OBJECT)**, matching an applicant against a job **(3) description (DESCRIBE)**. However, what often happens in reality is that the interviewers make **(4) decisions (DECIDE)** that are not much more than reactions to the **(5) personality (PERSON)** of the applicant.

Even skilled interviewers may, without realising it, **(6) consciously/unconsciously (CONSCIOUS)** favour people who make them feel at **(7) ease (EASY)**. Thus, if you go for an interview you should try to make a good **(8) impression (IMPRESS)** from the start by presenting the interviewers with the very best version of yourself, emphasizing the **(9) variety (VARY)** of skills you have. You must appear very positive and as **(10) enthusiastic (ENTHUSIASM)** as possible. It is for you to convince the interviewers that you are **(11) definitely (DEFINITE)** the most **(12) suitable (SUIT)** person for the job.