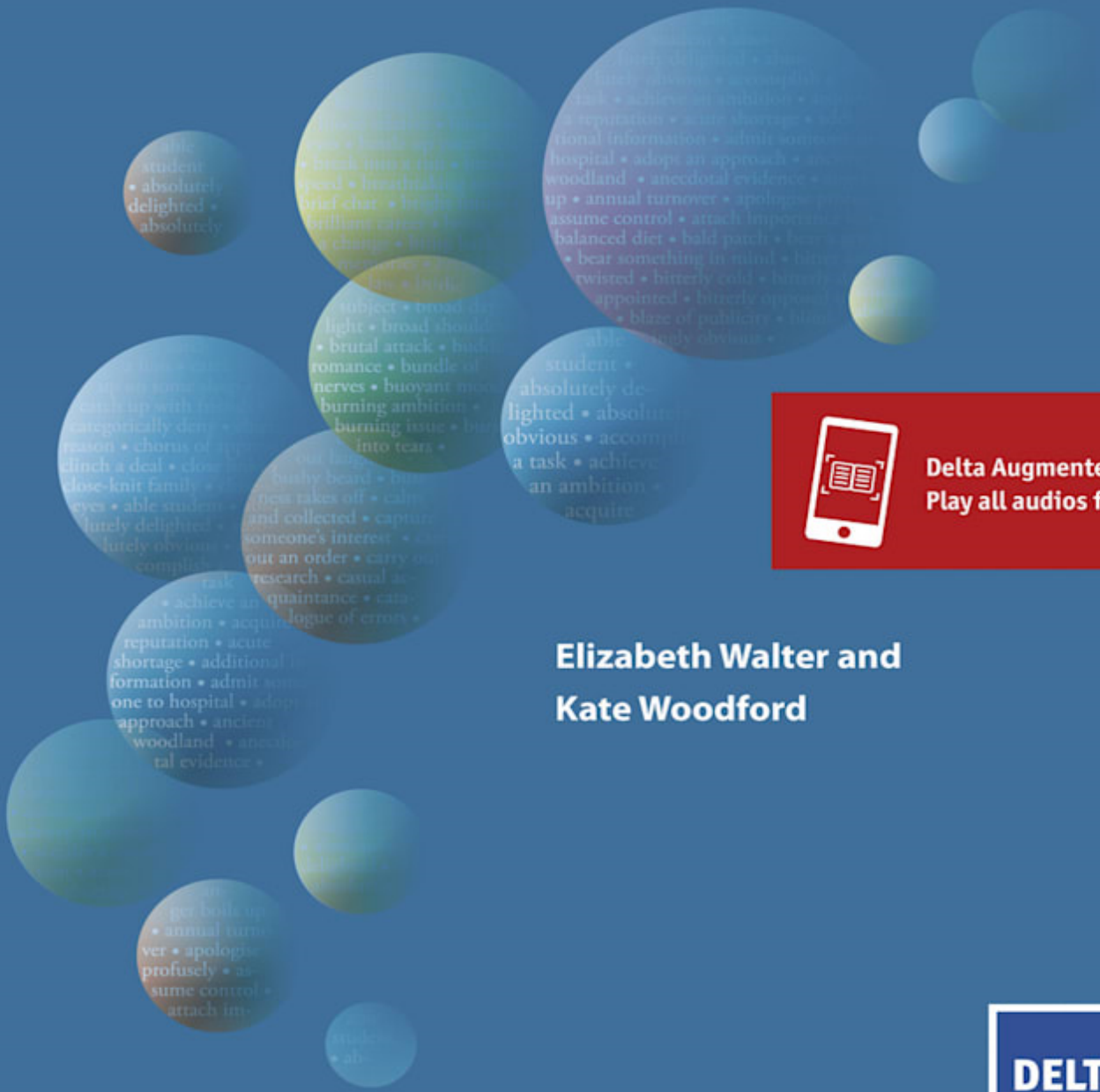
•DELTA•NATURAL•ENGLISH•

USING Collocations

FOR NATURAL ENGLISH



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INTRODUCTION

Using Collocations is a self-study book for intermediate to upper-intermediate students. Each unit presents between sixteen and twenty-four collocations and practises them in a wide variety of contexts, from tweets to e-mails, postcards to letters, adverts to newspaper articles.

Throughout the book, there is an emphasis on learning to use collocations *appropriately*, so they are always presented in typical contexts, and information on formality or informality is included.

As well as using a range of text types, examples of conversational English are included. Some texts are recorded so that students are able to notice particular features of stress and intonation.

Why learn collocations?

Collocations are the key to fluent, elegant English. Learning words on their own may enable us to communicate, but unless we learn the other words that go with them in a natural, typical way, our English will always be clumsy. The collocations in this book will help students improve the way they use the words they already know.

The structure of the book

This book is made up of twenty-four units, each consisting of two double-page sections. Every four units, there is a two-page review. The first four units serve as a useful introduction to collocations, but otherwise it is not necessary to work through the units in any particular sequence.

- **Units 1–4** explain what collocations are and show the most common ways of forming them.
- **Units 5–8** take very common concepts (e.g. good and bad, success) and present more interesting ways of expressing these ideas using collocations.
- **Units 9–13** cover aspects of collocation such as register (how formal or informal words are) and metaphor.
- **Units 14–20** show collocations presented in topic groups (e.g. relationships, work).
- **Units 21–24** cover functional English, such as how to use collocations for emphasis, and collocations connected with expressing your feelings.

How the units work

The units are divided into two sections, each of which presents between eight and twelve collocations. In each section, the first exercise introduces the collocations in a simple way, to ensure that their meanings are clear.

In the exercises that follow, the collocations are used in a variety of contexts, so that by the end of the section, students will not only understand them, but be able to use them with confidence.

There are many different types of exercise, ensuring there is an opportunity for thorough and varied practice. They might involve using collocations to answer questions on a text, rewriting texts in a better style, doing crosswords, gaps-fills, matching sentence halves or writing sentences with opposite meanings.

Answers are given in the key at the back of the book, and any exercises with the  symbol are also supplied as recordings.

Review sections

After every four units, there is a two-page review section. In each of these, there are sixty simple questions using collocations from the previous units. Students can test themselves and use the answer key to check their progress.

Index

An index is included at the back of the book, listing the first instance of all the collocations in alphabetical order.

To the student

As you use this book, you will probably become more sensitive to collocations. Try to make collocations part of your learning strategy at all times. Once you start noticing them, you will find they are everywhere in all kinds of formal and informal contexts: on TV, in the news, and in all forms of advertising, for example.

All good monolingual (English only) learners' dictionaries contain useful information about collocations, often shown in **bold type** in example sentences. If you look up a new word in your dictionary, remember to check whether it has any typical collocations that you should learn with it.

When you come across new words in writing or speech, try to notice what other words are used with them. If the word is a noun, for example, has the writer or speaker used an interesting verb or adjective with it? If so, make a note of that too.

Make use the index. You can refer to it to check the context for a collocation you have come across, or to help you test yourself or revise what you have learned.

To the teacher

This book is primarily intended for self-study, but the exercises can be used in class or for homework too. They can be used to supplement work in a course book. The contents map and index will help you to plan activities related to whatever other material you are using.

Each section contains a *Classroom extra* activity which is a suggestion for a more communicative use of the material in the classroom. For instance, some of these activities encourage students to use the collocations they have learned in speech or writing of their own, while others involve class discussion of a text they have worked on.

1 WHAT ARE COLLOCATIONS?

Collocations in the news

Collocations are words that go together, often in ways that we do not expect. Collocations go together more than they would by chance: they **belong** together. In the following exercises, we look at the way we choose word partners to help us make natural sounding sentences.

Study tip

The collocations in this part of the unit are often used in news reports. Try to look out for other collocations when you read the newspaper or watch the news on TV.

1 **Find two words in each box that form collocations with the words 1–10 in bold. Use a dictionary to help you if necessary.**

heavy • ~~sustain~~ • serious • obtain • establish • soft

1 sustain
2 _____ **injuries**

heavy • change • move • easy • level • divert

3 _____
4 _____ **traffic**

heavy • major • exist • pose • large • challenge

5 a _____
6 _____ a **threat**

heavy • strong • start • brutal • launch • operate

7 _____ **an**
8 a _____ **attack**

heed • see • find • listen • notify • ignore

9 _____
10 _____ **warnings**

2 **Match the collocations in Exercise 1 to the definitions 1–10.**

1 to be something that may cause danger or difficulty pose a threat
2 to start to criticise or harm someone
3 bad damage to someone's body
4 to listen when someone tells you that something bad might happen
5 to make cars, lorries, etc., take a different route
6 a very serious danger or difficulty
7 a very violent act which hurts someone
8 to be physically harmed
9 a lot of cars, lorries, etc.
10 not to listen when someone tells you something bad might happen

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Divide your students into groups and ask them to come up with collocations they already know. If necessary, prompt them with simple collocations e.g. *drive a car, clean your teeth, a sunny day*. You could turn this into a competition by giving the class a set time to do this. The group with the most collocations wins.

3 **Find the collocations you have learned above in newspaper articles 1–4 and <u>underline</u> them.**

1

Girl attacked

Police are hunting for two youths they believe may be responsible for a brutal attack on a teenage girl last week. Amy Whitehead was repeatedly punched in the face and sustained injuries that needed hospital treatment. A police spokesperson said, 'It is astonishing that an attack like this can happen in daylight, in a busy street. These people pose a threat to the public and must be caught.'

2

GREEN CAMPAIGNERS SAY NO TO CHEAP FLIGHTS

Environmental campaigners yesterday launched an attack on airline companies for offering cut-price flights to popular holiday destinations. One of them told us, 'We have seen how fast the ice caps are melting. If we ignore these warnings for the sake of a cheap holiday, our children and grandchildren will suffer.' Holiday makers disagreed. 'The weather here is so miserable, we need to get away!' said one.

3

Flood drama in local village

Residents in the village of Little Brook who failed to heed warnings of flooding found themselves trapped yesterday when more than six inches of rain fell in just three hours. Police had to divert traffic after roads were closed by the floods, and many home owners battled to keep the water out of their houses. A woman was taken to hospital with serious injuries when a tree fell on the car she was driving.

4

TRAFFIC THREAT TO SHOPPING STREET

Shopkeepers say that heavy traffic is putting off visitors to the picturesque village of East Chipping. Three hundred people have signed a petition asking for a bypass. 'We want people to enjoy shopping in a pleasant and peaceful environment,' said Glyn Evans, owner of a shop selling fishing equipment. 'The current levels of traffic are a major threat to our businesses.'

4 **Complete the sentences using the collocations you have learned above. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

1 Two youths carried out a _____ on Amy Whitehouse.

2 She had to go to hospital because of the _____ she _____ .

3 While the youths who attacked Amy are free, they _____ a _____ to all of us.

4 Green campaigners have _____ an _____ on companies who encourage people to fly more.

5 There may be terrible consequences if we _____ about global warming.

6 Some people in Little Brook were trapped in their homes because they did not _____ about the floods.

7 Police _____ around Little Brook because some of the roads were flooded.

8 When a tree fell on a car in Little Brook, the driver sustained _____ .

9 People do not want to shop in streets where there is _____ .

10 Heavy traffic is a _____ to shops in East Chipping.

Make it more interesting

Sound natural

Next time you want to use a word such as *very*, *really*, *big*, etc., think about the collocations you know. Can you express it differently?

Collocations can often be used as more interesting alternatives for very common words. Using simple single words may sometimes sound rather unsophisticated, whereas choosing collocations will show that you have a good knowledge of English.

5 **Read the e-mails and look at the collocations in bold. Match one of the words in each collocation to one of the common words 1–9.**

1 **bad:** nasty negative
2 **big:** _____
3 **get:** _____
4 **complete:** _____
5 **take:** _____
6 **very:** _____ _____
7 **new:** _____
8 **very well:** _____ _____
9 **improve:** _____

From: Camilla Deschamps
To: Brendan Flowerdew
Subject: Office space

Hi Brendan
I've just heard that there's some office space free near the Victoria Road roundabout. Do you know it? As far as I can see, it's **ideally suited** to our needs, and I know Steve's been **worried sick** about what we're going to do when the new development team starts. The person who told me about it says it's well furnished and **spotlessly clean**. Would you be free to come with me to take a look this afternoon?
Cheers
Camilla

From: Camilla Deschamps
To: Olga Strauss
Subject: Staff matters

Dear Olga
Could we meet some time tomorrow to discuss yesterday's incident with the customer support team? I must say that seeing it splashed all over the local paper was a very **nasty surprise**, as I would have expected you to have reported the matter to me immediately. As a company, we have worked hard to **earn a reputation** for professional service, and I'll be expecting a **full explanation** when we meet. Unless I hear from you, I'll see you at 11a.m. in my office.
Yours
Camilla

From: Camilla Deschamps
To: Dilip Patel
Subject: Training courses

Dear Dilip (if I may)
Thanks for your brochure which arrived last week. You certainly offer a **wide range** of training courses, and some of them look ideal for our needs. We always like to make sure that our staff are **highly trained**, and are constantly trying to find ways to **enhance the quality** of our work. Could you ring me to discuss dates and prices, please?
Best wishes
Camilla

From: Camilla Deschamps
To: Stephen Goss
Subject: Olga Strauss

Dear Stephen
Just a note to tell you that I'm seeing Olga tomorrow about the customer support issue. To be honest, I'm not sure she's really up to the job of managing such an important team. She has allowed some very **negative attitudes** to develop, and they don't seem to be able to **seize opportunities** for sales in the way they did when Kelly was in charge. I'm wondering if we should think about making a **fresh start** with a new manager.
Best
Camilla

6 **Are the statements true (T) or false (F)?**

1 Camilla doesn't think the offices near the Victoria Road bridge are suitable.
2 There is already plenty of office space for the new development team.
3 The local paper had an embarrassing article about Camilla's company.
4 Olga Strauss wrote a report on the incident in her department.
5 Camilla wants to book some training for her staff.
6 Camilla thinks it is important to train staff properly.
7 Camilla thinks that Olga is a good manager.
8 Camilla is thinking of removing Olga from her job.

7 **The sentences below are from three adverts, but they are mixed up. First, replace the underlined part of each sentence with the collocations you have learned above. Then put the sentences in the correct order to complete the adverts.**

MOLLY'S MECHANICS

1 That's understandable – there's nothing worse than the unpleasant shock of an enormous bill for repairs you don't understand.

2 That's why our all-female gang of mechanics has become well known for good work and honest prices.

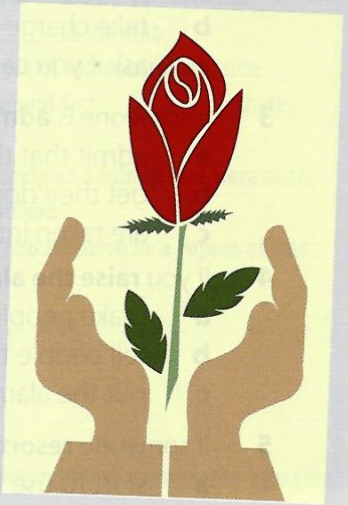
3 Does your car need servicing? Are you very anxious about the cost?

4 No need to worry any more: we will give you a complete explanation of what needs doing to your car and how much it will cost, **before** we do the work.



JOHN ORAM: LIFE COACH

❶ This can be done by learning to reject bad ideas about everything and concentrate on positive thoughts and actions.



❷ How? I can help you unlock your mind and take the chances that life offers.

❸ Spend an hour with me and improve your life.

❹ So, if you want to leave your problems behind and start again, call me today!

Celebration Dining Co.



1 Most importantly, all our chefs have had a lot of training, so whatever your event, the food will be delicious.

2 From dinner for two to a feast for two hundred, we are the best people to supply all your catering needs.

3 And finally, all the food is prepared in our extremely clean kitchens and brought direct to you – no fuss, no preparation, no mess.

4 In addition, there is a large selection of menus, so that everyone can find dishes they like.

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask students to write an advert of their own using some of the collocations they have learned or other collocations they know or can find in a dictionary.

2 VERB + NOUN AND VERB + ADVERB COLLOCATIONS

Verbs and nouns

There are many collocations formed with a verb and a noun. The verb is the word that 'operates' the noun. In other words, you need the verb to use the noun in a natural way. Although it is often possible to use a very simple verb which can go with many different nouns, your English will sound much better if you learn some specific verbs to use with particular nouns. Often these verb + noun combinations are impossible to guess. When you are adding a new noun to your vocabulary book, try to find out the verb or verbs that form a collocation with that noun and write these down too.

1 **Circle the correct answer. Use a dictionary to help you if necessary.**

1 If you **restore confidence** in something, you:
- **a** make people trust it again.
- **b** insist that it is worth a lot of money.
- **c** make people feel confident.

2 If you **assume control** of a situation, you:
- **a** think that you should be in charge.
- **b** take charge of it.
- **c** ask if you can be in charge of it.

3 If someone is **admitted to hospital**, they:
- **a** admit that they have been in hospital.
- **b** get their doctor to agree that they should go to hospital.
- **c** are taken into hospital for treatment.

4 If you **raise the alarm**, you:
- **a** make people more worried.
- **b** tell people that something is wrong.
- **c** put the alarm in a higher place.

5 If someone **resorts to violence**, they:
- **a** start to use violence.
- **b** use violence on holiday.
- **c** try to prevent violence.

6 If you **deny responsibility** for something, you:
- **a** say that you do not want to be responsible for it.
- **b** say it was not your fault.
- **c** say that people are lying about it.

Study tip

The words in a collocation do not always have to come right next to each other. With verb + noun collocations, the verb can sometimes be quite a long way from the noun it operates.

2 **Underline the verb that operates the noun in bold in the sentences.**

1 The managers issued a formal, written **warning** to all staff that strike action could result in dismissal.
2 At our school, we attach a great deal of **importance** to the creative arts.
3 In an attempt to cause trouble amongst other family members, she spread a lot of completely false **rumours** about their private lives.
4 Her main criticism of the school was that **discipline** was not enforced sufficiently.
5 Although she had always acted professionally in the past, it seems that on this occasion personal involvement clouded the nurse's **judgement**.
6 I think we're expending far too much of our **energy** worrying about things that don't really matter.

3 **Complete the sentences with collocations from Exercises 1 and 2. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

1 Two men were _____ to _____ suffering from the effects of the smoke.
2 I need to fix the problem. I've _____ far too much _____ on it already.
3 If you are a lawyer, you cannot allow your feelings to _____ your _____ .
4 Sometimes I feel that our society doesn't _____ much _____ to ideas like generosity and politeness.
5 It will take more than a few tax cuts to _____ in this government.
6 In the event of the death of the president, the vice president would _____ of the country immediately.

4 **There has been trouble at the kung fu club. Try to memorise the collocations you learned in Exercise 1 and 2. Use them to complete the letter from the chief instructor to the parents.**

King Street
KUNG FU CLUB 武

Dear Parents

Some of you will be aware that an incident at the club last week resulted in two boys being [1]_____ to _____ with minor injuries. This letter is to reassure you that the situation has been dealt with firmly, and – we hope – to [2]_____ in the club.

As you know, we [3]_____ great _____ to the concepts of self-control and non-violence. Sadly, it appears that these boys allowed a personal argument to [4]_____ their _____ on this occasion.

We can assure you that the instructors dealt with the incident quickly and calmly, and were soon able to [5]_____ of the situation. No other children were involved.

We have [6]_____ a _____ to the boys involved, and should there be a repeat of this kind of behaviour, they will be asked to leave the club.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

Doug Fairchild
Chief Instructor

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask your students to identify the differences in the instructor's version and the mother's version of events.

5 **Here is one of the mothers talking to her friend about the same incident. Replace the underlined phrases with the collocations you have learned above. Listen to the recording to check your answers.**

'Apparently, the instructors were just chatting in the corner when it happened, and it was my Edward who [1] told them something bad was happening. By that time, the two lads were rolling on the floor, kicking and biting each other, and the instructors had to [2] be quite violent with them to get them apart.

Apparently, one of the boys had been [3] telling everyone that the other one's dad was in prison. The instructors are [4] saying it wasn't their fault, but from what I've heard, they don't [5] make the children behave properly in the club. And isn't that what kung fu's supposed to be all about?

It seems to me that the kids [6] use up a lot more energy messing around than they do learning martial arts. I'm going to look for another club for Edward to join.'



Nouns and intransitive verbs, verbs and adverbs

If the collocation is formed from a subject and an intransitive verb (a verb which does not have an object after it), then the verb will come **after** the noun. Try to get into the habit of noticing the grammatical patterns of collocations you see, so that you are able to use them accurately yourself.

6 **Complete the sentences with verbs from the box. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs. Each verb makes a collocation with the noun in bold.**

pound • strike • buckle • break out

1 We were had just gone to bed when the **earthquake** _____ .
2 He joined the army as soon as **war** _____ .
3 Suddenly, I started to feel faint, and my **legs** _____ under me.
4 My **heart** starts to _____ every time I see him.

7 **Underline the correct adverb to form a collocation to complete each sentence. Use a dictionary to help you if necessary.**

1 I was trying to make a pink dinosaur cake, but I got into such a mess that I decided to throw it away and **start alternatively/cleanly/afresh**.
2 When I was younger, I **travelled broadly/extensively/greatly** in Asia.
3 I'm afraid his attempts to speak French made me **laugh widely/afresh/aloud**.
4 After all that exercise, we should **sleep soundly/profoundly/heavily** tonight.
5 He felt able to **talk clearly/openly/genuinely** about his feelings.
6 I don't know Alice, but George **speaks happily/largely/highly** of her work.

8 **Match what the speakers 1–6 say to the descriptions a–f on page 13.**

1 'She's an excellent colleague. She is very efficient, and meets all her deadlines. She has written an excellent report for me this quarter.'

2 'I was the sales rep for South America. I usually spent alternate months in the London office and in one of our offices over there – most often Brazil, but sometimes Argentina or Ecuador. From there, I'd go out to visit our main clients in all the major cities.'

3 'At the beginning of the war I found myself stuck in Switzerland, where I'd been studying, because there was no available transport home for several weeks.'

4 'When the floods came, we had to abandon all our belongings – there was no time to pack them up. Afterwards, it was too painful to go back to our village, so we decided to move to another island and set up a restaurant, which is something I'd always wanted to do.'

5 'In the morning, everyone was talking about the bomb. It went off right outside our apartment block, but I hadn't heard a thing. Nobody could believe that I hadn't been woken up by the noise, or by the ambulance sirens afterwards.'

6 'I've been in a relationship with a very nice man for over a year, and he wants to marry me. The trouble is, I like him a lot, but I'm not sure I love him enough. Recently, I've met someone at work who I'm really attracted to.'

Sound natural

Look (and listen) out for collocations you have learned. Noticing them on TV or in print helps you to use them naturally.

a He **spoke** very **highly** of her work.
b She **talked openly** about her feelings.
c She **slept soundly**, despite the noise outside.
d He was abroad when **war broke out**.
e He **travelled extensively** for his work.
f They left their old lives behind and **started afresh**.

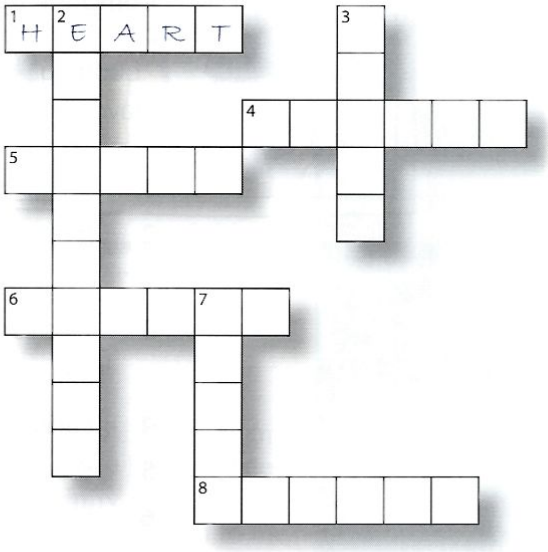
9 **Complete the sentences with the collocations you have learned above. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs. Then complete the crossword.**

Across

1 As I stood up to speak, my heart was pounding.
4 If war _____ out, you will have to return home.
5 We decided to leave our country and _____ afresh.
6 We saw the bullet hit him and his legs _____ .
8 He always speaks _____ of his colleagues.

Down

2 What should you do if an _____ strikes?
3 The fresh air will help you _____ soundly.
7 Her jokes made us _____ aloud.



10 **Chris is e-mailing Julie to tell her some exciting news. However, his adverbs are with the wrong verbs. Match the six verbs and adverbs correctly.**

From: Christopher Tucker
To: Julie Gibbs
Subject: Big news!

Hi Julie
I've got some exciting news to tell you – Rose and I are giving up our jobs and we're planning to open an art gallery in Brighton!
I know this is all a bit sudden, but we treated ourselves to a weekend in a luxury hotel recently, and when Rose made a joke over dinner, I suddenly realised that it was the first time that I'd laughed ~~afresh~~ aloud for weeks. Isn't that awful? So then we both started to talk soundly about how much we hated our jobs and our lives, and we quickly realised that we needed to start aloud before it's too late. After that conversation, I felt as if a weight had been lifted off me, and I slept openly for the first time in years.
I've always had a particular interest in Asian art, and I know that people speak extensively of many contemporary Asian artists. So our plan is to spend six months travelling highly in India and Pakistan, and then to come back and set up the shop.
Anyway, I know you'll be excited for us, and we'd love to see you before we set off on our travels.
All the best,
Chris

CLASSROOM EXTRA

In pairs, students choose three words from the collocations in this unit and make mini crosswords like the one in Exercise 9. They then write their own gap-fill clues and swap them with another pair.

3 ADJECTIVE + NOUN COLLOCATIONS

Man and nature

Adjective + noun collocations are among the very first collocations you learn, because they help you to form precise descriptions. As your English improves, they allow you to describe things in interesting and varied ways.

1 **Complete the sentences with adjectives from the box.**

budding • torrential • heavy • lasting • brisk • regular • complete • gentle • favourable • natural • enviable • close

1 _____ **snow** had fallen overnight and many of the roads were closed.
2 It is very dangerous to ski off-piste because avalanches are a _____ **occurrence** around here.
3 I did some French at school, but it was so long ago that I decided I should start again in a class for _____ **beginners**.
4 Luckily, the floods didn't do any _____ **damage** to the buildings.
5 We stayed inside all weekend because of the _____ **rain**.
6 He says he doesn't want to go to the party, but really he just needs a little _____ **persuasion**.
7 A _____ **walk** will help us get over that huge lunch.
8 The Barrier Reef is an area of great _____ **beauty**.
9 Our town has _____ **links** with a town in Germany.
10 From everything he told me in his letters, I formed a very _____ **impression** of his family.
11 I have to fit in my training around my job, but Joe is in the _____ **position** of not having to work because he inherited a lot of money from an uncle.
12 Friends have been watching the _____ **romance** between Zoe and Zac with interest.

2 **Match the collocations in Exercise 1 to the sentences below.**

1 If you get this, the snow will be deep.
2 If you are in one of these, people think you are lucky.
3 If you have these with an organisation, you are strongly connected with them.
4 If this happens, something cannot be repaired.
5 If someone tries this, they try gently to make you do what they want.
6 If you have one of these, you are starting to fall in love.
7 If you are one of these, you have never done something before.
8 If a place has this, it is beautiful in a way that has nothing to do with people.
9 If you get this, a lot of rain falls.
10 If you have this, you think that something seems good.
11 If something is one of these, it happens often.
12 If you go on one of these, you walk fast and with energy.

3 **Read these students' reports on school trips in the school magazine. Rewrite the reports using the collocations in the boxes.**

lasting damage • regular occurrence • complete beginner • heavy snow

SKIING IN THE ALPS, BY ARCHIE LEYS

We could hardly believe our luck! There had been ~~a lot of~~ heavy snow the previous week, and – even better – we found ourselves treated to a week of bright sunshine. Mid-morning hot chocolate in an outdoor café in just our T-shirts became a habit, and many of us came home with suntans. A few people had skied before, but most of us had never skied at all. Inevitably, there were a few bumps and bruises, but happily nobody had any long-term injuries, and a great time was had by all!



close links • enviable position • favourable impression • budding romance

EXCHANGE TRIP TO FRANCE, BY TOMAS TSE

Lower Heath school has been strongly connected with the lyceé in Paris for many years, and this July, forty of us set off on coaches to meet the students who have been our penfriends all year. I immediately decided that I liked my host family when I found a large box of chocolates on my bed! We went out a lot, to museums, shops and to the cinema. I must admit that my penfriend enjoyed the film more than I did, being in the lucky situation of speaking French much better than me! Everyone enjoyed a week of cultural exchange, language learning, and (in some cases) starting to fall in love a little!

natural beauty • gentle persuasion • brisk walk • torrential rain

GEOGRAPHY TRIP TO THE LAKE DISTRICT, BY AISHA MALIK

As I looked out of the hostel window at the rain lashing down outside, I wondered what on earth had made me decide to do geography. Still, after some encouraging words from the teachers, we put on our wet weather gear and headed off for a fast, energetic hike up Scafell Pike, the highest mountain in England. It was a lot further than it looked to the top, but when we got there we had our reward – the rain stopped, the clouds disappeared, and we could see why people say the Lake District is an area where nature's beauty is so great.



Study tip

Next time you do a piece of writing, look at it critically. Can you improve the style?

CLASSROOM EXTRA

In pairs, ask your students to write an answer to the following questions.

1 Describe a time when you have had to use gentle persuasion.
2 Describe someone who is in an enviable position and say why.
3 Describe someone who made a favourable impression on you and say why.

Ask some of them to read out their answers.

4 **Answer the questions about the school trips, using the collocations in brackets.**

1 Was there plenty of snow for the skiers? (heavy snow)
2 Had everyone been skiing before? (complete beginner)
3 Were the students eager to go outside into the rain? (gentle persuasion)
4 What impressed them about Scafell Pike? (natural beauty)
5 Had Lower Heath school had any connection with the lyceé before? (close links)
6 Why did Tomas's penfriend enjoy the film more than he did? (enviable position)

Two sides to the story

The adjective + noun collocations in these exercises are often found in news reports. The language is 'official' rather than informal or colloquial.



5 **George Petradis is a company director whose company premises were set on fire. Mark Lee is the main suspect. Read what they both say, paying particular attention to the collocations in bold. Match the collocations to definitions 1–10. Then listen to the recording.**

Study tip

The next time you read or listen to a news report, particularly about a crime, listen out for the collocations being used and make a note of them in your vocabulary book.

George Petradis

'I got a phone call on Sunday afternoon, telling me that there'd been a fire in my offices. I assumed a piece of equipment had been left on over the weekend and over-heated or that there had been an electrical fault. Apparently, when the fire crew arrived, they realised straight away that it was a **deliberate attempt** at arson, and they called the police.

It took nearly two hours to put the fire out, and when I saw the **full extent** of the damage, I was really shocked. It was obvious that whoever did it had some **prior knowledge** of the premises. They knew just where to pour their petrol, and had even had a key to one of the offices. I immediately had my suspicions – I'd had to sack one of my employees a while ago. He'd been very unhappy about it and made a big fuss.

A **major breakthrough** came when a woman contacted the police and gave a **detailed description** of a man she had seen near the premises on the afternoon of the fire. Her description matched my ex-employee. The police managed to get fingerprint evidence and even a baseball cap with the DNA of this guy on it, and he is due in court soon.'

Mark Lee

'Of course I didn't do it. After all, who in their right minds would go and set fire to an office in **broad daylight**? All they've really got is **anecdotal evidence** from my ex-boss about how we didn't get on. It's true that he was a nightmare to work for, but that doesn't mean I'd burn the place down, does it?

Anyway, they haven't got any **conclusive proof**. I mean, I worked there so it's not surprising they found my fingerprints. That baseball cap was probably there from when I worked there too. It's ridiculous. Now I have to put up with a load of **malicious gossip** from people, and my kids are getting teased at school. And worse, there's a **strong possibility** that I'll end up in prison for something I didn't do.'

1 a very important piece of progress
2 a statement describing all the small details of something
3 unpleasant talk about someone
4 the complete amount of something
5 when someone tries to do something on purpose
6 the time when it is light
7 proof which is only based on what people have said about someone or something
8 things that show for certain what is true
9 knowing about something before the present time
10 when something is very likely

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask your students to discuss whether they think Mark Lee is innocent or guilty. They should give reasons, using the collocations they have learned where possible.

6 **Rewrite the sentences using the collocations in brackets.**

1 After the fire was put out, Petradis saw how much damage there was. (full extent)
After the fire was put out, Petradis saw the full extent of the damage .

2 Lee says the police have no real evidence that he is guilty. (conclusive proof)
Lee says the police _____ .

3 It is quite likely that Lee will go to prison. (strong possibility)
There is _____ .

4 The office was set on fire in the daytime. (broad daylight)
The office was _____ .

5 Lee says that the case against him is based on stories. (anecdotal evidence)
Lee says that the case against him _____ .

6 Lee complains about the nasty things that people are saying about him in the village. (malicious gossip)
Lee complains about _____ .

7 The woman told the police exactly what the man looked like. (detailed description)
The woman gave the police _____ .

8 The woman's description was very useful for the police. (major breakthrough)
The woman's description was _____ .

9 Someone had tried to burn down the office on purpose. (deliberate attempt)
Someone had made _____ .

10 The police said he knew a lot about the premises already. (prior knowledge)
The police said he had _____ .

7 **Use the collocations you have learned above to complete the newspaper articles.**

NEW CANCER HOPE

Scientists are celebrating a [1]_____ _____ in the fight against cancer. A new treatment has shown extremely positive results in tests. The [2]_____ _____ of patients' improvement will not be known for six months, when all the data has been collected and analysed and a [3]_____ _____ of the drug's effects can be published. However, doctors say there is a [4]_____ _____ that this treatment will become standard within two years.

Singer's photo fury

Singer Jay Jordan has no love for journalists. Since being photographed kissing and cuddling a mystery blonde in Central Park in [5]_____ _____, the married father-of-three has hit back at the papers. 'There has been a lot of [6]_____ _____ about my private life. It's a [7]_____ _____ to blacken my name. My marriage is rock solid.'

MINISTER MAKES GOOD START

Although the minister arrived in her post with little or no [8]_____ _____ of the defence industry, insiders say she has made an impressive start. [9]_____ _____ suggests that she is well-liked in the department. She is known to be consulting widely, and more [10]_____ _____ of her ability will come next week, when she is due to give her first major speech as minister.

4 OTHER TYPES OF COLLOCATION

Adverb/Verb + adjective

It is common to find adjectives forming collocations with adverbs or verbs which come before them. These exercises show you some useful examples of this type of collocation.

1 **Complete the postcards with adjectives from the box.**

short • accustomed • awake • asleep • populated • baked • available • surprised • lit • empty

Hi Paul

Here we are in our little chalet in the Alps! We've been **pleasantly** [1] _____ by the standard of the accommodation, which is very comfortable. We start each morning with **freshly** [2] _____ bread and croissants from the café down the road, and we've even **grown** [3] _____ to driving on the narrow mountain roads – the scenery is absolutely amazing!

See you soon, Alex

Dear Mum

Can't wait to get out of this place. It's so humid that I **lie** [4] _____ most nights, and if it's not the heat that stops me **falling** [5] _____, it's feeling sick. All the restaurants are really **dimly** [6] _____ and I think it's so that we can't see what we're eating! The food here is really terrible – that's probably why there aren't many tourists. Lots of the hotels here are **standing** [7] _____ – I'm not surprised.

Hope to see you very soon!

Lots of love, Ryan

Hi Rick

Hong Kong is just brilliant – you must come here some time! It's really **densely** [8] _____, but it's a really fun place to be. There's fantastic food **freely** [9] _____ at any time of the day or night, and you never **run** [10] _____ of things to do here. We're due to fly home on Saturday, but I don't want to leave!

Cheers, Billy

Study tip

Look out for other collocations with words such as 'freshly'. Adverts are an interesting source of collocations. Notice how the language is designed to make things more appealing.

2 **Answer the questions, using the collocations in brackets. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

1 Is Alex pleased with his accommodation? (pleasantly surprised)
2 What does Alex have for breakfast? (freshly baked)
3 Is driving in the mountains difficult for Alex? (grow accustomed)
4 Does Ryan sleep well at night? (lie awake)
5 Why can't Ryan see his food very well? (dimly lit)
6 What is Ryan having problems doing? (fall asleep)
7 Are all the hotels in the area full? (stand empty)
8 Does Hong Kong have a lot of buildings? (densely populated)
9 Is it easy to get food in Hong Kong? (freely available)
10 Are you likely to be bored in Hong Kong? (run short)

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask your students to write a postcard to a friend, describing somewhere they have been, and using some of the collocations they have learned.

3 **Complete the sentences using the collocations you have learned above. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

1 We enjoyed working on the farm, and we soon _____ _____ to the long hours.
2 Developers bought up all the land, but then the economy collapsed, and all their luxury flats are _____ _____ .
3 If you _____ _____ of bread, get some more out of the freezer.
4 Most of my meat-eating friends are _____ _____ when I cook them a vegetarian meal.
5 I spent the whole night _____ _____ worrying that I hadn't prepared well enough for my exam.
6 The virus is likely to spread more rapidly in _____ _____ urban areas such as this.
7 Everyone loves to wake up to the smell of _____ _____ bread.
8 The optician told him he had damaged his eyes by working in a _____ _____ room.
9 Information about health matters is _____ _____ on the internet.
10 The talk was so boring that half the audience _____ _____ .

4 **The friends who wrote these e-mails made eight mistakes with their collocations. Find the mistakes and correct them.**

From: Kitty
To: Patsy
Subject: Restaurant

Hi Patsy!
Well, I've survived my first term at uni! I must admit that I spent the first week staying awake at night, worrying about everything, but once I'd turned accustomed to the amount of work, I really started enjoying it, and I've found that there is plenty of help and advice cheaply available if you need it. I'm coming home next weekend because I'm coming short of clean clothes and I never seem to have time to do any washing! Hope to see you then, and find out how you're getting on at the restaurant.
Love, Kitty, x

From: Patsy
To: Kitty
Subject: Restaurant

Hi Kitty
Great to hear from you. Sounds like you're having a great time, and I'm really jealous! The restaurant has been a disaster – nobody can afford to eat out these days. You should see how many shops are staying empty around here! You'd think that an area as thickly populated as this would be able to support a bistro, but we're really struggling. Things are so slow that I spend half my time sitting behind the bar, and I have to struggle not to drop asleep. Still, we were happily surprised to get a booking for 35 people next week, so perhaps things will start to look up soon. It would be lovely to see you next weekend – give me a ring when you get home.
Love, Patsy, x

Noun *of* noun, adjective *and* adjective

These exercises focus on two-noun and two-adjective collocations (for example, *hive of activity* and *safe and sound*). Notice also the use of conjunctions.

Study tip

Notice the rhythm of these collocations. Say them aloud to yourself to help memorise them.

5 **Complete the explanations of the collocations with one noun from box A and one noun from box B.**

A blaze • catalogue • torrent • ~~hive~~ • bundle • chorus

B abuse • publicity • errors • approval • ~~activity~~ • nerves

1 If a place is extremely busy, it is a *hive* **of** *activity* .
2 A _____ **of** _____ is when many people say they like something.
3 Someone who is very anxious is a _____ **of** _____ .
4 If someone makes a _____ **of** _____ , they make lots of mistakes.
5 If you do something in a _____ **of** _____ , it is widely reported in the media.
6 If someone shouts a _____ **of** _____ , they say many nasty things.

6 **Solve the anagram in brackets to complete the collocations in the sentences.**

1 Thankfully, the children were found **safe and** *sound* . (dsoun)
2 She appeared **calm and** _____ , despite the shock. (llocceedt)
3 It is important that our staff are **neat and** _____ at all times. (dyit)
4 He was **sick and** _____ of other people telling him what to do. (rtied)
5 The tragedies in her life had made her very **bitter and** _____ . (wtsidet)
6 Flora is too **prim and** _____ to dance on the table. (roppre)

7 **Look at descriptions 1–8 of people at work. Work out who is being talked about by reading sentences a–h on page 21.**

1 There had been a problem with staff arriving late, owing to heavy traffic and family commitments. When he suggested more flexible hours, the staff were delighted, and the managers agreed that this could benefit the company. *h*
2 Her boss had already asked her to work late twice that week, and she'd had to work through her lunch breaks. On Friday evening, he told her she had to finish a long report over the weekend. She was so angry, she told him to find another assistant.
3 In one corner, people were bent over large sheets of paper making sketches, and in another, rolls of material were being inspected. Phones rang constantly, and people came in and out with documents, fabric samples and trays of coffee.
4 She paced up and down, checking her notes, smoothing down the front of her jacket, trying to take deep breaths and sipping water to wet her dry mouth.
5 He had been in the same job for ten years without being promoted. He was negative about everything, and very unpleasant to work with.
6 He obviously chose the date of his resignation to cause the maximum damage to the government. Photographers camped outside his house all night when they heard he would make a statement in the morning.
7 Speaking slowly and clearly, he confirmed that the skeleton was that of an ancient dinosaur, and was more complete than any other of the same type. Then he politely answered a few questions, and said he had to get back to work.
8 She wouldn't dream of leaving the office without putting her papers away. She keeps all her pens in a special pot, and her books neatly stacked by her computer.

a Eva's office was a hive of activity.
b Rose always keeps her desk very neat and tidy.
c Kazuo announced the discovery in a calm and collected manner.
d Hector quit his job in a blaze of publicity.
e Jeanne was sick and tired of her boss's demands.
f Sonja was a bundle of nerves before her speech.
g Constant disappointment had make Andrew bitter and twisted.
h ~~Adam's suggestions were greeted with a chorus of approval.~~

CLASSROOM EXTRA

In pairs, ask your students to choose one of the collocations they have learned and to make up a situation that describes it, as in descriptions 1–8 in Exercise 7. Students take it in turns to read out their situations, and the rest of the class has to guess their collocation.

8 **Complete the sentences using the collocations you have learned above.**



1 We're off to visit my aunt this afternoon. She's rather _____ , so we'll have to be careful what we say!
2 At last the hospital has admitted to a _____ , so Susan will be getting some compensation.
3 We're putting together a new exhibition, so the museum is a _____ at the moment.
4 I've just tried to tell some boys to put their litter in a bin instead of dropping it on the pavement, but all I got for my trouble was a _____ .
5 We all went out to search for the children, but it turned out they were _____ at Laura's house all the time.
6 My suggestion that we go skiing at Easter certainly met with a _____ from the rest of the family.
7 I told my daughter that if she doesn't keep her room _____ , she won't get any pocket money.
8 The family seem to expect me to do all the cooking and all the housework and I'm _____ of it!
9 I'm a _____ at the moment because I'm expecting my exam results tomorrow.
10 It's very difficult to remain _____ when people are shouting at you from all directions.

9 **Put the phrases in the correct order to make sentences. Add punctuation where necessary.**

1 the wedding/the house was/the morning before/a hive of activity
2 before speaking/a bundle of nerves/I'm always/in public
3 sick and tired/I'm absolutely/after everyone/of cleaning up
4 is always/in her office/neat and tidy/everything
5 I'll be happier/back safe and sound/everyone is/when I know
6 and out came/he opened/a torrent of abuse/his mouth

REVIEW

Units 1–4

These exercises use collocations from units 1-4, and will help you see how many you have remembered. After each exercise, add up your score to see how well you have done.

1 **Complete the sentences.**

1 I went to bed, but it took me a long time to fall _____ .
2 I was late because of the _____ traffic.
3 She sustained serious _____ in the accident.
4 I was late home and my mum was _____ sick.
5 Our whole family moved to Australia to make a fresh _____ .
6 It's not often I read a book that's funny enough to make me _____ aloud.
7 When they hadn't come down from the mountain by 6p.m., I decided to _____ the alarm.
8 Before then, I hadn't realised the _____ extent of the problem.
9 Scientists have made a _____ breakthrough in the battle to defeat the disease.
10 She was able to give the police a detailed _____ of her attacker.

Score: ☐ / 10

2 **Underline the correct word to complete the collocations.**

1 The police describe it as a **rough/brutal/strong attack** on an innocent woman.
2 The **injuries** that he **obtained/retrieved/sustained** were not life-threatening.
3 Weather experts have **issued/spread/proclaimed** a **warning** of possible flooding in the area.
4 As I stepped out onto the stage, my **heart** was **knocking/pounding/crashing**.
5 I **slept** really **profoundly/soundly/strongly** on holiday because I was so relaxed.
6 I wanted to make a **favourable/important/delighted impression** on my new boss.
7 They had no **whole/considerable/conclusive proof** of his guilt.
8 All the former shops and restaurants are **standing/remaining/leaning empty** now.
9 I took a **smart/bright/brisk walk** around the park.
10 I can't imagine Sam flying into a rage – she's always so **peaceful/even/calm and collected**.

Score: ☐ / 10

3 **Match the collocations 1–10 to the definitions a–j.**

1	to make cars use a different route	**a**	freshly baked
2	to be a danger to something or someone	**b**	safe and sound
3	someone who has never done an activity before	**c**	nasty surprise
4	cooked very recently	**d**	spread rumours
5	an unpleasant shock	**e**	catalogue of errors
6	not harmed or damaged	**f**	grow accustomed to
7	get used to	**g**	pose a threat
8	with very little light	**h**	complete beginner
9	a large number of mistakes	**i**	dimly lit
10	to tell other people personal things about someone	**j**	divert traffic

Score: ☐ / 10

4 **Match the two halves of the sentences.**

1	She was admitted to hospital	**a**	as a brilliant public speaker.
2	The holiday company	**b**	an area of great natural beauty.
3	She felt faint and	**c**	is freely available from libraries.
4	He has travelled extensively	**d**	denied responsibility for the boating accident.
5	Information of this sort	**e**	her legs buckled under her.
6	After twelve hours of torrential rain,	**f**	throughout Asia and Africa.
7	She's in the enviable position	**g**	the centre of the town was flooded.
8	He opened his mouth and	**h**	out came a torrent of abuse.
9	He quickly earned a reputation	**i**	suffering from breathing difficulties.
10	The have a home in the Pyrenees –	**j**	of not having to work.

Score: ☐ / 10

5 **Correct the word in *italics* to make a collocation with the word in bold in each sentence.**

1 We live in a *thickly* **populated** area.
2 The attack happened in *full* **daylight**.
3 The film was launched in a *blast* of **publicity**.
4 I'm *ill* and **tired** of your excuses!
5 There is a *flowering* **romance** between Joe and Linda.
6 I was a *bunch* of **nerves** before the exam.
7 They keep their house *tirelessly* **clean**.
8 My suggestion met with a *burst* of **approval**.
9 It was a *decisive* **attempt** to humiliate me.
10 I didn't expect to like the food. I was *nicely* **surprised**.

Score: ☐ / 10

6 **Complete the sentences with collocations from the box. Use the correct form of the verbs.**

war breaks out • attach importance • talk openly • assume control • seize an opportunity • ignore warning • launch an attack • restore confidence • earthquakes strike • start afresh

1 He joined the army shortly after _____ .
2 If we continue to _____ about climate change, it will soon be too late.
3 He _____ great _____ to good manners.
4 These measures are an attempt by the government to _____ in the economy.
5 The _____ in the middle of the night, devastating the city centre.
6 I had to go to Sydney on business, so while I was there, I _____ to visit my sister.
7 Many children find it difficult to _____ with their parents about relationships.
8 She used the article to _____ on the government's defence policy.
9 He had so many bad memories, he decided to move away and _____ .
10 Since the latest coup, the military has _____ of the country.

Score: ☐ / 10

Total score: ☐ / 60

5 COLLOCATIONS FOR GOOD AND BAD

The good side ...

These exercises focus on adjective + noun collocations to do with positive things. Note that it is important to learn the correct adjectives, because it is often the case that other adjectives – even ones with similar meanings – would not sound right to a native speaker of English.

Sound natural

When you are learning new collocations, try to use your own examples to make them more memorable.

1 **Circle the correct adjective to complete the collocation in each sentence.**

1 Four members of staff interviewed her and she made a very _____ **impression** on all of them.
a favourable **b** encouraging **c** supportive

2 He got a _____ **reference** from his previous employer.
a gleaming **b** glittering **c** glowing

3 Yes, he's good at his job and he's very good-looking but he has a rather _____ **opinion** of himself.
a tall **b** high **c** big

4 Germany's top tennis player gave another _____ **performance**.
a solid **b** secure **c** firm

5 Spain got off to a _____ **start**, scoring twice in the first ten minutes.
a optimistic **b** happy **c** promising

6 He won the award at the age of twenty-two which is a _____ **achievement**.
a remarkable **b** prominent **c** marked

7 With his qualifications and determination, this young man should have a very _____ **future** in front of him.
a light **b** bright **c** shiny

8 She was a very _____ **student** – in the top five percent in her year.
a able **b** powerful **c** worthy

9 His first novel sold over six million copies. It was a _____ **success**.
a vast **b** giant **c** huge

10 This is a _____ **example** of the architecture of the period.
a prime **b** premium **c** premier

2 **Replace the underlined phrases with collocations from Exercise 1.**

1 It is a very successful beginning to the game for France's top tennis player.
2 Running two marathons in two days is a very impressive thing to have done at any age.
3 She was twenty-two, with fantastic qualifications and a successful life to come ahead of her.
4 His teachers all described him as a very clever pupil.
5 I have a very good judgement of all the teachers at the school.
6 She worked for us for six years and I gave her an excellent description of her abilities and work when she left.
7 This is a perfect type of sixteenth century Italian sculpture.
8 Her latest film has been extremely popular.
9 The young Spanish actress gives another very good piece of acting.
10 From what John said, Nina had clearly made him admire her.

CLASSROOM EXTRA

In pairs, students answer the questions.
1 Name a film, book, etc., that has been a huge success in recent years.
2 Give an example of a remarkable sporting achievement.
3 Name someone who you think has a bright future.
4 Name a celebrity or politician that you have a high opinion of and give your reasons.

3 **Complete the sentences 1–10 with the collocations you have learned above. Then match them with the people a–j.**

1. He has another two years at university, but he did extremely well in his first year exams, so he has made a _____ _____.
2. I'm not happy with Anna's work even though she got a _____ _____ from her last employer.
3. Bret is a very _____ _____. I'm confident he'll pass his end-of-term exams.
4. This young tennis player has put in a _____ _____ in his first Grand Slam tournament.
5. Our son had such a _____ _____ ahead of him. We can't imagine why he would throw it all away.
6. The first candidate was knowledgeable and pleasant. She made a very _____ _____ on me.
7. I've worked with Julia for over twenty years now and I have a very _____ _____ of her.
8. The product has been a _____ _____ in our European markets, outselling all its competitors.
9. To have played as well as you have done for all these years is a _____ _____. I am delighted to present you with this award!
10. This is a _____ _____ of this style of painting.

a someone's boss
b sports commentator
c university tutor
d parents
e teacher
f presenter at an awards ceremony
g colleague
h art specialist
i company director
j interviewer for a job

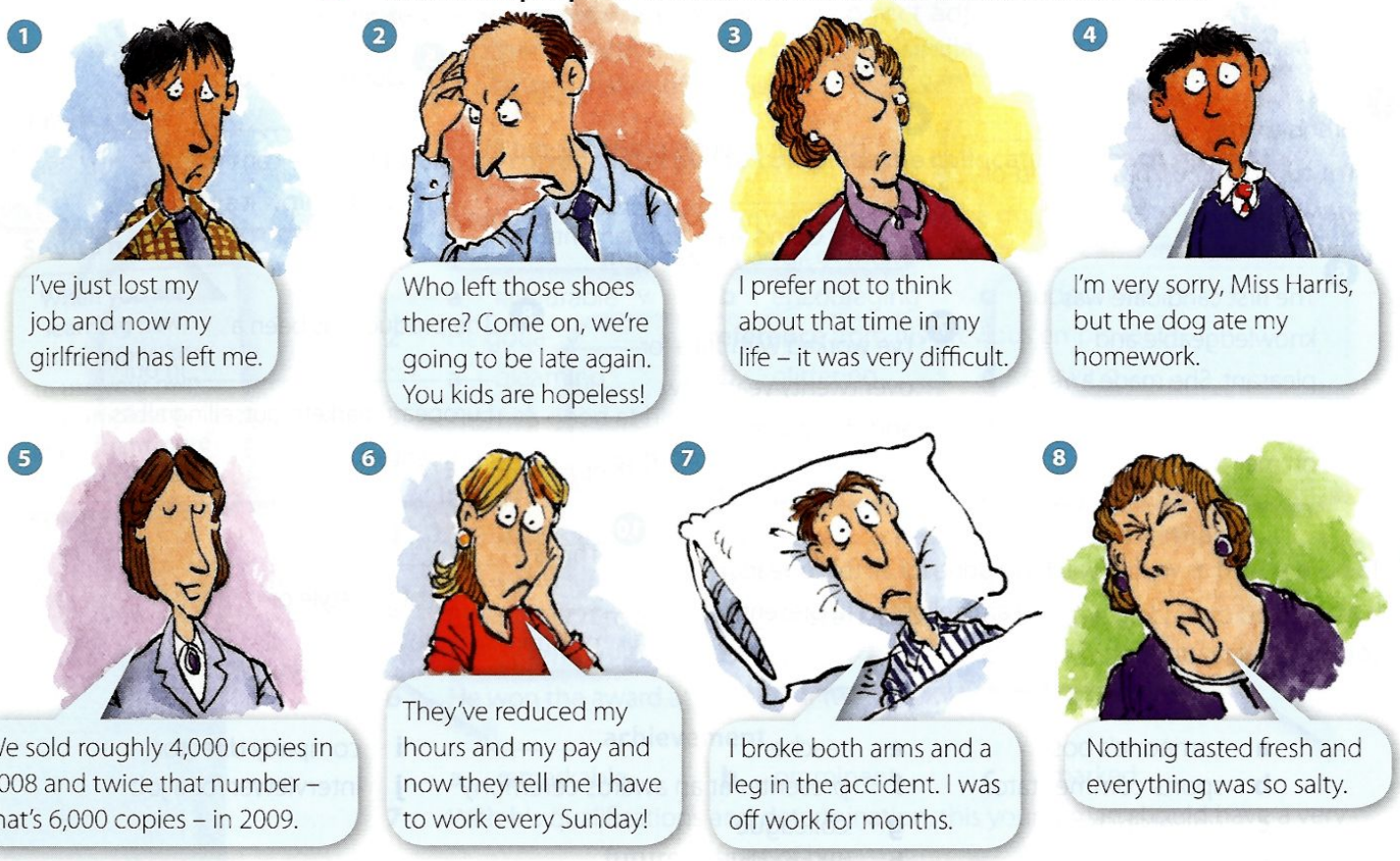
4 **Rewrite the sentences so that they mean the opposite, using the collocations in brackets.**

1. This is a very poor beginning to the season for Arsenal. (promising start)
   This is a very promising start to the season for Arsenal.
2. The film was a complete failure in every country. (huge success)
   The film was a _____.
3. She didn't do well at school. (able student)
   She was an _____.
4. These companies have a very difficult time ahead of them. (bright future)
   These companies _____.
5. His last employers gave a bad account of his time with them. (glowing reference)
   _____ *gave him* _____.
6. When I first met her, I wasn't at all impressed by her. (favourable impression)
   When I first met her, she made _____.
7. United played fairly badly this afternoon. (solid performance)
   United gave _____.
8. Getting a degree at his age is nothing special. (remarkable achievement)
   Getting a degree at his age _____.
9. He doesn't think his boss is very good. (high opinion)
   He has a _____.
10. This is not a typical painting from this period. (prime example)
    This is a _____.

The bad side ...

These exercises focus on adjective + noun collocations for negative things. Make sure you learn the correct adjectives to use in order to sound fluent and natural.

5 **Match the people 1–8 with the sentences a–h that describe them.**



a Maria made a **glaring error**.
b Carla has very **painful memories** of that period.
c William made a very **lame excuse**.
d Carole remarked on the **poor quality** of the food.
e Paolo suffered **horrific injuries** in the crash.
f Philip has had a **rough time** recently.
g Dad was in a **foul mood**.
h Dominique has had very **shoddy treatment** from her employers.

6 **Cover Exercise 5 and complete the sentences using the collocations you have learned.**

1 The real story here is the government's _____ **treatment** of soldiers who have spent their lives fighting for this country.
2 A headache always puts Tom in a _____ **mood**.
3 I corrected a few details in the text, but I didn't spot any _____ **errors**.
4 I was increasingly concerned at the _____ **quality** of his work.
5 It sounded like a _____ **excuse** but I really *did* feel too ill to go out.
6 Going back to the hospital where her mother died brought back some _____ **memories**.
7 He's having a _____ **time** at work and doesn't feel supported by his boss.
8 Many people suffered _____ **injuries** in the bomb blast.

Study tip

Notice that all the adjectives in these collocations could be replaced with *bad*. This shows how learning collocations can develop your vocabulary.

7 **Complete the letters asking for advice with the collocations you have learned above.**

Dear Guy,

Three years ago my husband suffered [1] _____ _____ in a car crash. He broke both legs and his pelvis we didn't know if he would walk again. He had very [2] _____ _____ in the hospital – he was left waiting for hours before a doctor saw him. In fact, overall we were shocked at the [3] _____ _____ of his care. Thankfully, he did make a full recovery but it took a long time and lot of patience and we have very [4] _____ _____ of the whole period. How do we stop feeling so bitter about the experience and move on with our lives?

S Bastion, Hull

Dear Guy,

I've been having a [5] _____ _____ at work recently. Basically, my boss is really lazy and bad-tempered and we haven't been getting on well. It all started two weeks ago when I discovered a [6] _____ _____ in the figures of a report that he'd written. I pointed it out to him and he immediately made a [7] _____ _____, saying the sales figures were different on different databases. He claimed it was the fault of the sales managers. He's been in a [8] _____ _____ ever since and some days he barely even speaks to me. What can I do to improve relations between us?

Katie, Marlow

8 **Rewrite the sentences so that they mean the opposite, using collocations from the box. Note the verbs and prepositions that go with each collocation – you will need to learn these too in order to use the collocations.**

suffer **horrific injuries** • have **painful memories** • lots of **glaring errors** • of **poor quality** • make a **lame excuse** • in a **foul mood** • have a **rough time** • receive **shoddy treatment**

1 She was barely hurt at all in the accident.
She suffered horrific injuries in the accident.
2 There were one or two little mistakes in the report.
3 The clothes were very well made.
4 Juan gave a very valid reason for not helping out.
5 She's been treated very well by the company she works for.
6 I remember my school days with great affection.
7 His life is going well at the moment.
8 She seemed very happy and pleased to see everyone this morning.

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Read the following questions and give yourself a moment to think about them. Then, in pairs, ask each other the questions and give your answers.

1 Has anyone ever given you a **lame excuse**?
2 What puts you in a **foul mood**?
3 Have you ever had **shoddy treatment** from an employer?
4 When did you last buy something that was of **poor quality**?

6 COLLOCATIONS FOR SUCCESS

Keep trying

The collocations in these exercises show a variety of ways to express the idea of succeeding in doing or getting something. They are used in contexts such as work and careers, sports or achieving personal goals.

1 **Match the two halves of the sentences.**

1	After three days of negotiations, he	**a**	in a law company.
2	He's just **landed** a top **job**	**b**	working hard and effectively.
3	She finally **achieved** her **ambition** to	**c**	the talks fail to **produce results**.
4	We will have to explore other options if	**d**	become a doctor.
5	She quickly **acquired** a **reputation** as	**e**	finally **clinched** the **deal**.
6	He **earned** his boss's **respect** by	**f**	a very good businesswoman.
7	We have to **meet** this **deadline** or	**g**	**accomplish** a **task**.
8	I get a sense of satisfaction when I	**h**	the whole project will fail.

2 **Look at the magazine article. Put the sentences in the correct order so that the paragraphs make sense.**



THIS MONTH'S **CARLA MAGAZINE** HAS A FEATURE ON STARTING OUT IN THE WORLD OF WORK. THREE WOMEN HAVE WRITTEN ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCES OF STARTING A CAREER.

1 GINNIE

a I didn't mind the hard work because at last I had **achieved** my **ambition**.

b Finally, in 2004, I **landed** a **job** as a fashion editor for a national newspaper.

c It was the job of my dreams and I worked hard, sometimes staying in the office till midnight to write a piece if I had to **meet** a **deadline**.

d I'd been trying to get into fashion journalism for a while, sending off articles to magazines and newspapers and applying for permanent positions.

2 RIFAT

a Today, thirteen years later, I have my own dental practice and I employ eight people.

b This willingness to work long hours soon **earned** me the **respect** of my colleagues and I was quickly promoted.

c I got my first job in a dental practice when I was twenty-six.

d I was the youngest person there but I quickly **acquired** a **reputation** for being hard-working, putting in a ten- or eleven-hour day if that was what was needed to **accomplish** a **task**.

3 KATE

a I would shout and bully people to get what I wanted.

b When I got my first job in a bank, it was a very male-dominated profession.

c I decided that I would be as competitive and as aggressive as my male colleagues, so I went into every meeting determined to **clinch** the **deal**.

d This sort of aggressive, typically male behaviour **produced results** and today I earn a six-figure salary.

3 **How motivated are you? Answer these questions by choosing *a*, *b* or *c*, and our life coach Guy Grounded will tell you.**

How motivated are you?

1 Do you always accomplish a task once you have started it?
- **a** Yes, of course!
- **b** I usually try to finish what I've started.
- **c** To be honest, I'm not great at finishing off things.

2 How important is it for you to meet deadlines?
- **a** Absolutely essential.
- **b** It's important but you have to recognise that sometimes it just isn't possible.
- **c** I don't think I've met a deadline in my life.

3 To land your dream job, what would you do?
- **a** Anything. My career is everything to me.
- **b** Send my CV to the relevant company, speak to the right people – you know, the usual things.
- **c** Dream job – what are you talking about?

4 Do you have any ambitions that you want to achieve?
- **a** Too many to list!
- **b** Yes, like most people I have career ambitions.
- **c** I've got one – to work as little as possible.

5 If something that you are trying to achieve does not immediately produce results, how do you react?
- **a** I work at it until I get the results I want.
- **b** I'm a bit discouraged but I keep trying.
- **c** Oh forget it – life's too short!

6 If by the end of a meeting, you had failed to clinch a deal, how would you feel?
- **a** Me, fail to clinch a deal? The word 'fail' isn't in my vocabulary!
- **b** Pretty disappointed – I'd ask myself where I'd gone wrong.
- **c** Whatever! That's life, isn't it? You win some, you lose some.

7 Have you acquired a reputation for being a hard-worker?
- **a** Yes, certainly.
- **b** Well, I hope so.
- **c** Me, a hard-worker? Are you joking?

8 How do you, personally, earn the respect of your colleagues/classmates?
- **a** By working hard and producing results. It's the only way.
- **b** By doing my best and treating other people with respect.
- **c** Don't ask me!

Guy Grounded says:

MOSTLY A'S
Wow! Your feet don't touch the ground, do they? You're always out there, chasing your dreams and achieving your ambitions and I admire that. People like you make the world keep turning. Just make sure you stop to smell the flowers once in a while!

MOSTLY B'S
Congratulations! You have achieved the all-important work-life balance. Yes, you have ambitions and goals and you work hard to achieve them, but you have a personal life too and that is important. Keep it up and you will enjoy a satisfying career and good relationships with the people you care about. And remember, your great strength is that you are not afraid to fail.

MOSTLY C'S
You slacker*! You can scarcely force yourself to get out of bed in the morning, can you? But I suspect that you are not being entirely truthful with me. Yes, you value your free time, but is there really nothing in life that you would like to achieve? Some small goal – short-term or long-term – that would give your life meaning and interest? Focus your thoughts on this for a little while and you might just find there is.

* slacker: (informal) a lazy person

CLASSROOM EXTRA

If this is being done in class, ask students to interview one another, rather than doing the questionnaire individually.

You can do it

Study tip

Look at these collocations and think about where you would be likely to find them and when you might need to use them.

4 **Solve the anagram in brackets to complete the collocations in the sentences.**

1 Eventually she **fulfilled** her _____ and went to live in Australia. (radem)
2 The party failed to **win** the _____ of the voters. (urppost)
3 Manchester United **secured** a _____ last night in the third round of the tournament. (yrivtco)
4 As a teacher you have to work hard to **capture** your students' _____ . (ternites)
5 How do you suppose criminals **gain** _____ to records such as these? (cescas)
6 Do you have to **obtain** _____ to see these documents or can anyone see them? (pnrisseoim)
7 They've **scored** a great _____ with their latest product – it's outselling all its competitors. (escuscs)
8 Work hard now and you will **reap** the _____ later. (tenebfis)

5 **Match the sentences 1–8 to the speakers a–h.**

1 We've scored a great success with our latest advertising campaign.

2 Somehow, criminals have succeeded in gaining access to these records.

3 I managed to obtain permission from the library to see the original documents.

4 Tim and I put a lot of effort into training our kids to sleep when they were babies but we're really reaping the benefits now because they both sleep through the night.

5 If we can secure a victory in the game tonight, we'll be four points ahead at the top of the table.

6 I always try to capture my readers' interest in the first few lines of a novel.

7 That was the year I fulfilled a dream by completing the New York marathon.

8 I am confident that we will win the support of the people at the next election.

a a parent
b a politician
c a jogger
d a student
e a supporter of a football team
f an author
g a police officer
h the chief executive officer of a company

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Write the following people on the board: *film director, businessperson, researcher, footballer, politician, ballet dancer.* In pairs, students should choose two people and write sentences about them, using the collocations they have learned, as in Exercise 5. They then swap with another pair and guess which people the sentences describe.



6 **Read the introduction to a radio programme, *Speaking Personally*. Complete the introduction with the collocations you have learned. Listen to the recording to check your answers.**

My first guest, Emma Plant, has been writing all her life. By the time she was thirty, she'd had three novels published, none of which sold in great numbers. With her fourth novel, *Lizzie's Shoes*, however, she **scored** a great [1]_____. The book has been in the top fifty best-seller list ever since its publication in 2008. *Lizzie's Shoes* tells the story of the real-life feminist and polar explorer, Elizabeth De Freville. To research the book, Plant managed to **gain** [2]_____ to De Freville's private letters. It took all her powers of persuasion to **obtain** [3]_____ from De Freville's family to do so. The secret to story-telling, says Plant, is to **capture** the reader's [4]_____ from the first page.

My second guest, Daniella Sparkes, is just back from Australia, having **secured** her first grand-slam [5]_____. She has **won** the [6]_____ of fans the world over with her combination of brilliance and charm. Daniella is quite open about the fact that she is obsessive about her training, getting up at 5a.m. most days to swim and jog. Well, she's certainly **reaping** the [7]_____ of all that training. Aged just twenty-three, she is among the top five women tennis players in the land. Whether she will this year **fulfil** her [8]_____ by winning Wimbledon remains to be seen.

7 **Complete the sentences using the collocations from Exercise 4.**

1 They certainly _____ a _____ with their next album which rapidly became the best-selling album of all time.
2 These are top-secret documents – it's almost impossible to _____ _____ to them.
3 Her suggestions for radical changes in working practices failed to _____ the _____ of her colleagues.
4 When you're giving a talk, you have to start with something that will really _____ your audience's _____.
5 She eventually managed to _____ _____ to visit her brother in prison.
6 Both teams, of course, hope to _____ a _____ that will take them through to the next round of the competition.
7 One day he hoped to _____ his _____ of becoming an actor.
8 They worked long hours to establish the company but they're certainly _____ the _____ now with fantastic sales.

8 **Put the phrases in the correct order to make sentences. Add punctuation where necessary.**

1 to gain/highly confidential information/she had managed/somehow/access to
2 of new/reap/medical advances/we all/the benefits
3 captured/the film/certainly/my interest
4 I fulfilled/later that year/of dancing/my dream/for the Royal Ballet
5 in winning/of 40 percent of the voters/they succeeded/the support
6 the first victory/United/of the season today/secured
7 with her second film/but she scored/a box-office failure/her first film was/a success
8 the records/to see/we obtained/eventually/permission

7 COLLOCATIONS FOR IMPORTANCE

Get your priorities right

The collocations in these exercises express the idea of importance. Notice that many of them are very emphatic – people use them when they feel strongly about something.

1 **Read the newspaper article. Check that you understand all the words, using a dictionary to help you if necessary. Then read the article again, and find two-word collocations to match meanings 1–10.**

IT'S 'BIN' A FAILURE

Recent research in Newtown shows that many people are not recycling as much as the council would like. Mike Evans, a key figure in the council's 'Green Team', says, 'The chief reason why people aren't recycling seems to be that our system is too complicated. There is a pressing need for a simple system that everyone can use. All our customer surveys show that recycling has to be our top priority in waste services.'

Local resident and mum-of-three, Katie Morris, agrees. 'For me, the major problem is remembering what goes in each box, and which day it gets collected. It's a prime example of a well-intentioned scheme that has been badly thought through. I've heard that some areas have a system where everything is collected together and then sorted out later. I think the council should give serious consideration to that idea.'

Dr Ali Mirza, of Beech Road, has other concerns. 'It is of vital importance that we do everything we can to combat global warming. Nobody can doubt that it is the burning issue of our time. But we need to target our resources carefully – money is limited, so we need to use it in the most effective way possible. Even leading experts are divided on whether it is worthwhile to recycle plastic, for instance.'

1 important person key figure
2 most important goal _____
3 very urgent requirement _____
4 important difficulty _____
5 great importance _____
6 careful thought _____
7 perfect case _____
8 very important subject _____
9 people who know most about a subject _____
10 main explanation _____

2 **Look at the newspaper article again and answer the questions. Each answer should contain the collocation in brackets.**

1 Why did the journalist interview Mike Evans? (key figure)
2 Why aren't people recycling enough? (chief reason)
3 Does Mike Evans think a simpler system should be introduced? (pressing need)
4 What do customer surveys say about recycling? (top priority)
5 Why is it difficult for Katie Morris to recycle her waste? (major problem)
6 Has the present system been well-planned? (prime example)
7 What does Katie Morris think the council should do? (serious consideration)
8 Does Ali Mirza think we can ignore global warming? (vital importance)
9 How important does Ali Mirza think the issue of global warming is? (burning issue)
10 Why is Ali Mirza doubtful about recycling plastic? (leading experts)

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask your students to pick three collocations from those they have learned and write three sentences expressing their own views on environmental issues. Then ask them either to discuss them with their neighbours or have a class discussion.

3 **Read e-mails from two senior department managers at Sedgwick Medical Equipment which suggest the best way to save their failing company. Use the collocations you have learned above to complete their e-mails.**

From: Rick Prentice
To: Helen Green
Subject: Marketing Team

At this stage, more consultancy is a complete waste of money. In fact, in my opinion, it's a [1] _____ _____ of the lack of confidence and inability to take decisions that has got us into this mess in the first place. What we need is a much bigger marketing spend, targeted at [2] _____ _____ in the industry. The [3] _____ _____ we are failing is that important potential customers simply don't know about our products. It is of [4] _____ _____ for us to target these people with visits from reps and really glossy promotional materials. In my opinion, we should give really [5] _____ _____ to increasing the marketing team, at least temporarily.

From: Kirsty Graves
To: Helen Green
Subject: Expert advice

Marketing alone will never convince professionals like these to buy our products. In my opinion, our most [6] _____ _____ is for more advice and support that will give our products real credibility. At the moment, we have a [7] _____ _____ convincing customers that our development team is strong enough. Professor Levy is a [8] _____ _____ in the field of anaesthesia, and to have him associated with us would be a major step forward. Improved anaesthesia is one of the [9] _____ _____ in medicine today, and with him on board we would have no problem generating publicity. I strongly believe that our [10] _____ _____ should be to hire him as a consultant, whatever the cost.

4 **Pupils attending a school reunion were asked to write something about their schooldays and their lives since then. Eight of this writer's adjectives have got muddled up. Put them in the correct order to see what she said.**

My English teacher, Mrs Evans, was a ~~prime~~ key figure in my education, and the vital reason why I went on to study English at university. She made me realise that getting a good education is of top importance, and because of her, I made it my serious priority to do well in my exams. In her classes, we were encouraged to express ourselves freely, and we discussed all the leading issues of the day. She really opened our minds.

At university, I was lucky enough to have Professor Roach, a chief expert in Shakespeare studies, as my tutor. I have now almost completed my degree, and am giving key consideration to a career as a school teacher myself. Mrs Evans is a burning example of the sort of teacher who has an enormous influence on pupils' lives.

Working towards your goals



5 **Suzie is young, full of energy and doesn't think much of rules and regulations. Match the sentence halves to discover her views.**

1 Plenty of money and the use of a car are
2 Once you're a teenager, you don't care about your family so much –
3 Basically, for most people, physical attractiveness is the
4 If I had to say what my most **notable achievement** has been,
5 Deciding to have a baby is
6 My parents say their **overriding concern** is for my safety, but
7 The way you look definitely plays a **prominent role** in
8 When I decide on my career, a good salary

a how successful you are in life.
b the most **momentous decision** anyone has to make in their lives.
c **decisive factor** when people are looking for a girlfriend or boyfriend.
d it's your friends who have a **central role** in your life.
e will be **of paramount importance**.
f I'd say it was getting my dad to buy me a horse!
g the **essential ingredients** of a good weekend.
h I think they just want to spoil my fun.

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask your students to discuss whether or not they agree with Suzie's views. Ask them to write some sentences expressing their own views, using the collocations they have learned. Ask them to read them out, and the class should vote on whether they agree or disagree.

6 **Complete the sentences using the collocations you have learned above.**

1 Last year, we sold our house, packed up all our possessions and moved to this farm in France. It was a _____ _____ for us, but we were tired of working in an office.
2 Nobody wants to send their children to a school where the exam results are so poor. High grades are a _____ _____ in most parents' choice.
3 The government has allocated a multi-million pound grant in an effort to improve life in this area. We want local people to play a _____ _____ in deciding exactly how the money is to be spent.
4 We have always said that we will not deal with terrorists. We stress, however, that our _____ _____ is for the safe return of all the hostages.
5 When we take people rock climbing, it is a real thrill to see them overcome their fear. Of course, safety is of _____ _____, and all our instructors are fully trained.
6 Our hotel is booked up months in advance. We believe that a warm welcome and attention to detail are _____ _____ for a pleasant holiday.
7 I don't believe that politicians should involve their families in their work. I certainly never expected my husband to play a _____ _____ in my election campaign.
8 He rose from being a cook in a pizza restaurant to the head of an international law firm. It really is a _____ _____, especially considering his violent home background.

7 **Complete the sentences so that they express the opposite view, using the collocations in brackets.**

1 Timo was not involved in setting up the drama group. (central role)
Timo played a central role in setting up _____ the drama group.

2 I don't really care if we don't have much sunshine on holiday. (essential ingredient)
For me, _____ *of a good holiday.*

3 Changing career wasn't that important for me. (momentous decision)
Changing career was _____ .

4 Making profits was the least important factor for us. (overriding concern)
Making profits was _____ .

5 The weather was not important for the army's victory. (decisive factor)
_____ *in the army's victory.*

6 If I were buying a house, the location wouldn't be particularly important. (of paramount importance)
If I were buying a house, _____ .

7 She wasn't very impressed by his history of World War II. (notable achievement)
She thought his _____ .

8 She is not really involved in national politics. (prominent role)
She plays a _____ .

8 **Complete the sentences using the collocations you have learned above.**

1 The sunny weather was a _____ _____ in our decision to live here.
2 Good food hygiene is of _____ _____ when you are running a restaurant.
3 After years of working in a job she hated, she took the _____ _____ to sell her house and travel round the world.
4 An interesting main character is an _____ _____ in any good novel.
5 For someone of his background, becoming a barrister was a _____ _____ .
6 My _____ _____ is for the children's safety.

Sound natural

It is useful to learn collocations relating to the idea of importance because we use them so often, for example when we are giving reasons or opinions.

8 COLLOCATIONS FOR BEGINNINGS

How it all began

The collocations in these exercises show you a variety of ways to express the idea of starting something or of something starting.

Study tip

When you learn new collocations, try to notice the context you see them in. This will help you to be able to use them in an appropriate way.

1 **Match the magazine extracts 1–8 with the titles a–d. There are two extracts for each title.**

1 The troubled singer has recently **launched a** second **career** as a fashion designer.
2 Rising food prices have **triggered** angry **protests** in various parts of the country.
3 Traders have urged the government to **bring in** new **laws** to regulate the import of cheap goods from abroad.
4 After a run of defeats, the England coach has decided to **adopt** a new **approach** to training, including bringing in specialists from the world of dance and yoga.
5 The actor (59) was spotted at the Oscars **striking up** a **conversation** with an attractive young blonde at the next table.
6 The government has recently **embarked on** a **project** to care for young, single mothers in communal homes.
7 New **companies** are **springing up** at the rate of fifty a day, signalling the end of the recession.
8 Although the police did their best to keep rival fans apart, **violence erupted** twenty minutes into the game.

a Goal Kick! (sports magazine)
b Stars in your Eyes (celebrity magazine)
c The Professional (business magazine)
d The World Today (news magazine)

2 **Complete the answers to the questions using the collocations from Exercise 1. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

1 Yan asked the young woman a question, she replied, and they started talking.
What did Yan do with the young woman? He struck up a conversation.
2 In any town centre now you can see new shops and cafés opening every day.
What can you now see in any town centre?
3 People in the crowd started fighting when the police tried to make an arrest.
What happened in the crowd when the police tried to arrest someone?
4 The government have recently made it illegal to use a mobile phone while driving.
What have the government recently done?
5 She left drama school in 1965, hoping to start working as an actress.
What did she hope to do after leaving drama school?
6 The head teacher has tried a new way of dealing with the problem.
What has the head teacher done?
7 The announcement caused people to take action in public because they disagreed so strongly with it.
What did the announcement do?
8 The government have recently started a very ambitious piece of work to modernise the road network.
What have the government recently done?

5 **3** **Look at the short newspaper articles. Put the sentences in the correct order so that the paragraphs makes sense. Then listen to the recording to check your answers.**

1

SMOKING BAN

a It is thought that they will attempt to ban smoking in all public places, including open-air spaces, such as parks.
b It is likely that this wider ban will encounter fierce opposition.
c Today it is said they may be about to **adopt** a more radical **approach** to the problem.
d It is now three years since the government attempted to tackle the problem of smoke-related illnesses by **bringing in** a **law** banning smoking in all work places.

3

SUCCESS STORY!

a A year ago today, the local council **embarked on** a **project** to address this problem.
b The result was that within six months of the project, small **companies** were **springing up** on every street and the city centre had been transformed into a vibrant and successful shopping centre.
c Two years ago, this paper reported that one in three companies in the city centre had failed and that no one was shopping there any more.
d They gave grants to anyone starting up a company in the area.

2

VIOLENT PROTESTS IN SOUTH OF COUNTRY

a The arrest **triggered protests** especially in the south of the country.
b One person was killed in the demonstration and three were seriously injured.
c At the largest demonstration, in the capital city, **violence erupted** after police clashed with demonstrators.
d Following last week's election, the opposition leader was arrested and is now in prison.

4

AL GRANGER, POLITICIAN?

a Granger himself hasn't confirmed or denied that this is the case.
b This has started rumours that he intends to stand for parliament.
c There have recently been suggestions that the 48-year-old actor and former singer, Al Granger, is about to **launch** a **career** as a politician.
d He has mentioned his political aspirations in interviews, has a number of friends in the cabinet and was recently seen at a high-profile social event, **striking up** a **conversation** with the Prime Minister himself.

CLASSROOM EXTRA

In pairs, students use two or three of the collocations in Exercise 2 to tell each other about an event or issue that has recently been in the media in their country.

4 **Complete the sentences using the collocations you have learned above.**

1 She studied art at Goldsmiths College, London, before **launching** a _____ as a jewellery designer.
2 The shooting of the young student **triggered** furious _____ in the capital of the city.
3 So many new _____ have **sprung up** in this region in the last two years.
4 He's very sociable – he'll **strike up** a _____ with a complete stranger at a bus stop.
5 We will be needing a lot of extra funding if we are to **embark** on this _____ .
6 Earlier in the day, _____ had **erupted** when police attempted to stop the protesters.
7 They've **brought in** a new _____ banning the use of all such substances.
8 Clearly our strategy for dealing with the problem hasn't worked. I think it's time we **adopted** a new _____ .

Making a start

Sound natural

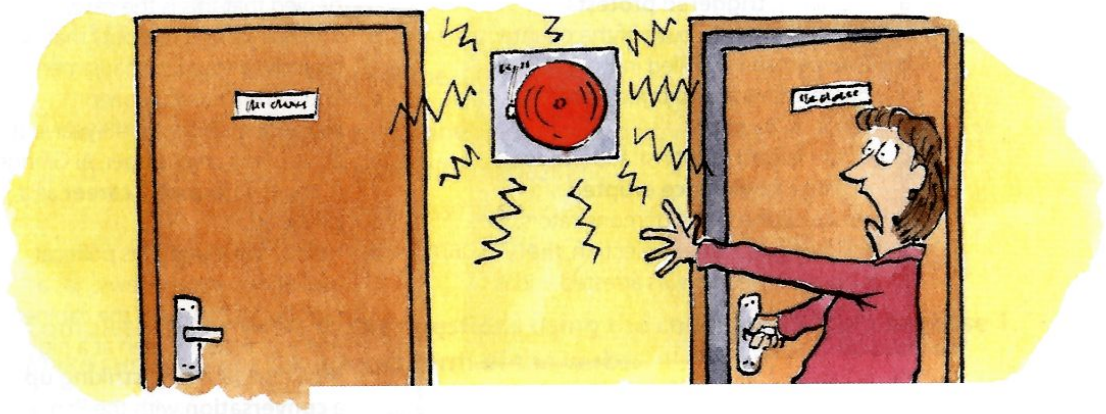
Your English will sound more impressive if you are able to avoid the over-use of simple words such as *start* and *begin*.

5 **Match the two halves of these sentences.**

1 He burnt the toast,
2 A newspaper recently reported that the actress had put on weight,
3 Today, aged 82, she still remembers the day that
4 We set off on our journey just
5 Their advertising campaign
6 As soon as they have approval,
7 My brother plans to
8 They want the government to

a **set up** his own **company** once he has left college.
b **introduce legislation** to restrict the sale of guns.
c as **dawn** was **breaking**.
d they can start to **implement** the **plan**.
e which **set off** the smoke **alarm**.
f **prompting speculation** that she is pregnant.
g **generated** a lot of **interest** in the product.
h **war broke out**.

6 **Match the sentences 1–8 to the descriptions a–h.**



1 She pushed open the wrong door and a loud noise suddenly started.
2 Anna has been putting leaflets advertising her eco-friendly cleaning products through people's doors in the attempt to get some business.
3 She went early in the morning, just as it was starting to get light.
4 Ms Hooper said in an interview that the prince 'had a special place in her heart', and the newspapers have since suggested that she is the prince's new girlfriend.
5 Fighting had already started and she decided to take the first flight out of the country.
6 Sophie intends to start her own IT business after leaving college.
7 Walker has asked the government to create a set of laws to prevent this from happening.
8 My manager decided on a series of actions to solve the problem but in the end, she never actually did anything.

a She left the country just as **war** was **breaking out**.
b Her comments **prompted speculation** that they are having a relationship.
c She left as **dawn** was **breaking**.
d She has been trying to **generate interest** in her product.
e She accidentally **set off** an **alarm**.
f She wants them to **introduce legislation** to stop the practice.
g Her plan is to **set up** her own **company**.
h She failed to **implement** the **plan**.

7 **Complete the sentences using collocations from Exercise 6. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

1 We got up as dawn was _____ and prepared to leave.
2 So when does the government intend to start _____ the plan?
3 Smoke from a candle _____ the alarm.
4 The minister has recently complained about her role in government, _____ speculation that she is about to resign.
5 The film seemed to _____ a lot of interest in the subject.
6 I left the firm and _____ my own company.
7 The government needs to _____ tougher legislation to control the sale of handguns.
8 My grandparents left the country just before war _____ .

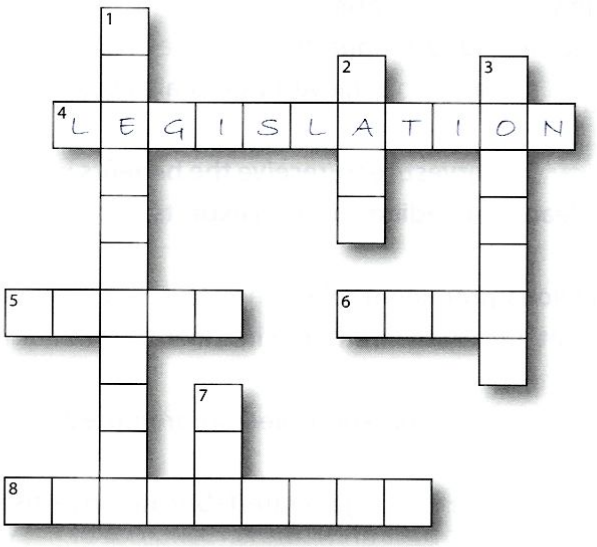
8 **Complete the sentences using the collocations you have learned above. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs. Then complete the crossword.**

Across

4 There are plans to introduce _legislation_ banning the practice.
5 Ian accidentally leant against a button which set off the _____ .
6 The _____ was never implemented.
8 With a single advert they _____ a tremendous amount of interest in the product.

Down

1 The actor's comments about his wife have prompted _____ that the couple are about to split.
2 We stayed up all night talking, finally going to bed as _____ was breaking.
3 She has set up a catering _____ with a friend of hers.
7 They married shortly before _____ broke out.



CLASSROOM EXTRA

In pairs, students choose three words from the collocations in this unit and make mini crosswords like the one in Exercise 8. They then write their own gap-fill clues and swap them with another pair.

REVIEW

Units 5–8

These exercises use collocations from units 5–8, and will help you see how many you have remembered. After each exercise, add up your score to see how well you have done.

1 **Complete the sentences.**

1 I know it sounds like a **lame** _____ but I never seem to find the time to call her.
2 She's just **landed** a fantastic _____ in a city bank.
3 The children's safety is of **paramount** _____.
4 She'd **struck up** a _____ with a man in the café.
5 With those qualifications I'm sure she has a very **bright** _____ ahead of her.
6 Her report was full of mistakes. I spotted a **glaring** _____ in the first paragraph.
7 I accidentally **set off** an _____ by leaning on a door.
8 He came out of the meeting disappointed that he had failed to **clinch** the _____.
9 The report identified a **pressing** _____ for better training in the industry.
10 It was the second album that really **launched** his _____ as an international recording artist.

Score: ☐ / 10

2 **Underline the correct word to complete the collocations.**

1 To win three championships in a row is a **questionable/remarkable/doubtless achievement**.
2 I have very **aching/stabbing/painful memories** of that time.
3 He **acquired/accomplished/managed a reputation** for honesty and efficiency.
4 When I wrote the biography, I managed to **achieve/target/gain access** to all her private letters.
5 If you try to keep fit now, you will **harvest/reap/receive the benefits** in later life.
6 She is one of the country's **leading/heading/fronting experts** on the treatment of brain injury.
7 He played a **managing/obvious/prominent role** in the peace negotiations.
8 The government has **brought in/carried in/entered in a law** to ban smoking in public places.
9 His absence from the football pitch has **sparked/called up/prompted speculation** about his health.
10 We are hoping that this media campaign will **generate/fabricate/advertise interest** in our products.

Score: ☐ / 10

3 **Match the collocations 1–10 to the definitions a–j.**

1	promising start	**a**	the most important thing you need to do
2	burning issue	**b**	to make someone love you
3	adopt an approach	**c**	to make people admire you
4	win someone's heart	**d**	to cause people to complain
5	fulfil a dream	**e**	a good beginning to something
6	meet a deadline	**f**	a very important matter
7	trigger protests	**g**	a very bad temper
8	foul mood	**h**	to do something in a particular way
9	earn respect	**i**	to do something within the time allowed
10	top priority	**j**	to do something you have always wanted to do

Score: ☐ / 10

4 **Match the two halves of the sentences.**

1	He didn't win the race, but	**a**	with teenage boys.
2	The show was a huge success	**b**	in my decision to move to Spain.
3	She promised to give my idea	**c**	to ban people from keeping dangerous dogs.
4	They had to build a shelter from wood	**d**	captured the interest of people all over the world.
5	Liverpool have secured a victory that	**e**	and they accomplished the task within two hours.
6	His life story has	**f**	some serious consideration.
7	The government may introduce legislation	**g**	to try to get more homeless people into work.
8	For me, sun and sand are	**h**	he put in a solid performance.
9	We are about to embark on a project	**i**	takes them through to the final.
10	The weather was a decisive factor	**j**	essential ingredients in a good holiday.

Score: ☐ / 10

5 **Correct the word in *italics* to make a collocation with the word in **bold** in each sentence.**

1 As **dawn** *crashed*, we set off home.
2 I have a *top* **opinion** of her skills.
3 This is a **prime** *instance* of neo-Gothic architecture.
4 Our **overriding** *worry* is for their safety.
5 It was a **momentous** *choice* that changed his life.
6 She created a **favourable** *opinion* on all of us.
7 I was still at school when **war broke** *in*.
8 She sustained **horrific** *illnesses* in the fall.
9 She's received very **shoddy** *reactions* from them.
10 She's had a bit of a **rough** *period* recently.

Score: ☐ / 10

6 **Complete the sentences with collocations from the box. Use the correct form of the verbs.**

obtain permission • set up a company • notable achievement • poor quality • key figure • able students • achieve an ambition • glowing references • vital importance • violence erupts

1 She received _____ from her previous employer.
2 I think these clothes are very _____ considering how much they cost.
3 The money will help her to _____ of sailing round the world.
4 I managed to _____ to visit his former home.
5 She is a _____ in the animal rights movement.
6 It is of _____ that food and shelter is supplied to the area immediately.
7 To complete her studies in such difficult circumstances was a _____ .
8 _____ when rival marchers arrived in the same area.
9 After leaving her first job, she decided to _____ of her own.
10 We run extra classes for our more _____ .

Score: ☐ / 10

Total score: ☐ / 60

9

METAPHOR IN COLLOCATIONS

Describing your mood

Metaphor is the use of a word or phrase to represent something else with similar qualities. For example, if we describe two people as being 'at war', we mean that they are arguing, not that they are literally fighting. There are many metaphors to describe different moods.

1 **Complete the newspaper report about a tennis match with words from the box.**

despair • keep • mood • morale • feeling • low • buoyant • mind

Fresh from his Paris triumph, Richardson started the match in a [1]_____ **mood**, leaping around the court and joking with the crowd. Alsopp, on the other hand, seemed in [2]_____ **spirits**. With three consecutive defeats **weighing on his** [3]_____, his play lacked confidence, and he lost the first set 6-1. At this point, he might easily have **sunk into** [4]_____, but his many loyal fans did their best to **raise his** [5]_____ with their noisy chanting and wild applause at every winning shot. You could see his [6]_____ **lifting**, and Richardson must have had a **sinking** [7]_____ as Alsopp's game regained its confidence and flair. Although Richardson's own fans did their best to [8]_____ **his spirits up**, he ended up losing the match 1-6, 7-5, 6-3.

2 **Match the people 1–8 to the descriptions of what they are feeling or doing a–h.**

1 **Football manager:** 'Come on lads, we may be one-nil down, but we're the better side. You just need to believe in yourselves.'
2 **Schoolgirl:** 'I haven't done my homework. I know I'm going to be in trouble.'
3 **Businesswoman:** 'So, as you can see, we've had another year of solid growth.'
4 **Unemployed father:** 'The children need new shoes, the rent's due and I can't find a job anywhere.'
5 **Actress:** 'The reviews were terrible – I burst into tears when I opened the paper. But then I went outside in the sunshine, and gradually I started to feel better.'
6 **Mountaineer:** 'We were completely lost and surrounded by fog, but we sang songs and told each other that someone would rescue us soon.'
7 **Homeless man:** 'After I lost my job, my marriage broke up and I gradually became more and more unhappy. I couldn't find a reason to get up in the morning.'
8 **Athlete:** 'I haven't been able to train for over a month because of this leg injury. If I can't start soon, I'll miss the Olympic trials and years of hard work will be lost.'

a She is in a **buoyant mood**.
b Her **mood** began to **lift**.
c She's in really **low spirits** because she can't train.
d He **sank into despair**.
e She has a **sinking feeling** as she goes into school.
f He is trying to **raise the morale** of his team.
g His problems are **weighing on his mind**.
h They sang songs to **keep their spirits up**.

Study tip

Metaphors help give colour and vitality to descriptions. Look out for other metaphors in collocations to do with moods.

CLASSROOM EXTRA

In pairs, ask students to tell their partners about times they have felt happy or sad, using the collocations they have learned, e.g. *I had a sinking feeling before I went into my exam.*

3 **How cheerful are you? Answer these questions by choosing *a*, *b* or *c*, and Aunt Agnes will tell you!**

How cheerful are you?

1 Yesterday morning you spoke rudely to your mother on the phone. Did you:
- **a** forget about it as soon as you put the phone down?
- **b** feel guilty for an hour or so?
- **c** find that it weighed on your mind all day?

2 How would you describe your mood today?
- **a** I'm in a really buoyant mood.
- **b** I'm OK – same as usual.
- **c** I can't seem to take an interest in anything around me.

3 You have just failed an important exam. Would you:
- **a** shrug it off? You can always take it again.
- **b** be fed up for a few days, but then get over it?
- **c** sink into despair? Your whole life is a failure.

4 How would feel if your best friend asked you to make a speech at his wedding?
- **a** I'd be honoured and delighted.
- **b** I'd be flattered, but very nervous.
- **c** I'd get that sinking feeling I always have when people try to make me do things I don't want to.

5 If you are feeling sad, what do you do to lift your mood?
- **a** Eat some chocolate and talk to my friends.
- **b** Think about my next holiday.
- **c** Nothing. We can all be grumpy if we want to.

6 You are stuck in a lift with four other people. One of them suggests you sing to keep your spirits up. How would you react?
- **a** I'd join in enthusiastically.
- **b** I'd feel a bit embarrassed, but I'd sing a verse or two.
- **c** Sing? Are they mad?

7 If you were offered a promotion at work, would it:
- **a** really raise your morale?
- **b** not make much difference?
- **c** make you angry? It should have happened long ago.

8 How would you feel if your friends forgot your birthday?
- **a** A bit annoyed, but I'd soon get over it.
- **b** In really low spirits – I'd think they didn't care about me.
- **c** I haven't got any friends.

Aunt Agnes says:

MOSTLY A'S
You always see the positive in a situation, and you never let your problems get you down. Some people might say your constant cheerfulness is slightly annoying, but I think you'd make a great friend or colleague.

MOSTLY B'S
Like most people, you have good days and bad days, but you try to deal with your bad days calmly and rationally. Some people might say you don't express your emotions enough, but I think you are practical and sensible.

MOSTLY C'S
It takes a brave person to upset you! When you are angry or disappointed, you certainly don't hide it. Some people might say you are a complete misery, but I think you are refreshingly honest about your feelings.

4 **Put the phrases in the correct order to make sentences. Add punctuation where necessary.**

1 about his boss's criticism/he was upset/when he was out with friends/but later that evening/his mood lifted
2 a buoyant mood/unexpectedly good exam results/combined with the gift of/have put him in/a new laptop from his dad
3 when I was told/I shut myself away/that I might/and sank into despair/lose my sight
4 problems/ at work because/I can't concentrate/weighing on my mind/I have so many
5 we knew/to keep our spirits up/we would be rescued/so we all told jokes/ eventually
6 her low spirits/she still hadn't been able/were due to/to find a job/the fact that
7 for the company/managers need to/come up with a plan/after so much bad publicity/to raise the morale of staff
8 the sinking feeling I had/can you imagine/had lost /when I realised I/ my passport

CLASSROOM EXTRA

If Exercise 3 is being done in class, ask students to interview one another, rather than doing the questionnaire individually.

Hot and cold

The collocations in these exercises use the metaphor of temperature being connected to emotion. Words meaning *heat* are often connected to positive or strong emotions, including anger, while words meaning *cold* are often connected to negative emotions.

5 **Paolo and Sylvia are describing a work meeting. Complete what they say with words from the box. Listen to the recording to check your answers.**

hot • hotly • boil • lukewarm • icy • frosty • flared • thawed • heated • blistering



Paolo

I don't know what I did in last week's meeting to offend Sylvia but she fixed me with an [1]_____ **stare** in the office canteen at lunch today. It had been a difficult meeting, I'll admit. Sylvia was anxious anyway, because her department has had a number of staff problems recently. I dared to suggest a solution which met with a decidedly [2]_____ **response**. I don't know why – it was a perfectly sensible suggestion as far as I was concerned. I was a bit frustrated by Sylvia's attitude and I told her so. There followed a [3]_____ **debate** with both of us speaking our minds. At times **tempers** [4]_____ and frank words were exchanged but, for my part, I said nothing that I regret. I suppose I can be quite blunt but I'm always careful to be professional. I've seen Sylvia several times since the meeting and tried to be friendly but my attempts at friendly conversation have all met with **a** [5]_____ **reception**.



Sylvia

Paolo is known throughout the company for his [6]_____ **temper** and I never look forward to meetings with him. I'd had some problems with two members of staff just before the meeting and was calmly discussing the issues with my colleagues when Paolo arrived, late, for the meeting. He obviously thought he had all the answers to my problems and proceeded to tell me them. I listened respectfully to what he had to say and even acknowledged one or two good points that he'd made. Then, quite out of the blue, he launched a [7]_____ **attack** on my department – or more specifically, the way I run the department. I was outraged by this and felt the **anger** [8]_____ up inside me but I was careful not to let it show – I think it's important to stay calm in a work situation. I said to Paolo that I thought he had a rather negative attitude towards my department, a suggestion that he [9]_____ **denied**. **Relations** between us **have** [10]_____ somewhat since the meeting. I've bumped into him once or twice in the canteen and made a point of being pleasant to him.

6 **Are the statements true (T) or false (F)?**

1 Sylvia likes having meetings with Paolo.
2 Sylvia has had problems with staff in her department.
3 Sylvia thought Paolo made his suggestions in a polite and respectful way.
4 Sylvia and Paolo had an argument in the meeting.
5 Sylvia felt very angry with Paolo.
6 Sylvia thinks that Paolo respects her ability as a manager.
7 Sylvia and Paolo are good friends now.
8 Sylvia and Paolo have not seen each other since the meeting.

7 **Match the collocations in Exercise 5 with the clues.**

1 If you give one of these, you are not particularly enthusiastic about a suggestion.
lukewarm response
2 If you launch one of these, you criticise someone or something very strongly.
3 If you have one of these, you get angry very easily.
4 If this happens to you, you feel anger growing inside you.
5 If you do this, you insist angrily that something is not true.
6 If you give someone one of these, you look at them in a very unfriendly way.
7 If this happens, people suddenly start to speak and act angrily.
8 If you give someone one of these, you make them feel that they are not welcome.
9 If this happens, you start to get on better with someone you were angry with before.
10 If you have one of these, you discuss something angrily.

8 **Complete the sentences using the collocations you have learned above. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

1 Some of the staff wanted a pay rise, while others said they'd prefer more holiday. We ended up having a very _____ about it.
2 Today's newspapers all carry reports that the environment minister accepted bribes from building companies. He has _____ these allegations.
3 The head teacher seemed unimpressed by our suggestions for more parental involvement in the school. There was a fairly _____ from the teachers too.
4 Pensioners have been struggling with rising prices. Not surprisingly, the minister received a _____ when she visited a group of them this week.
5 The couple have not spoken since the split. Outside court, she simply walked past him with an _____ .
6 Social workers had organised a meeting between the two gangs. But the police had to be called when _____ and fighting broke out.
7 They were barely speaking to each other for years, but _____ must have _____ because I saw them having a coffee together last week.
8 The report delivered a _____ on all those whose poor work contributed to the disaster.
9 This course will teach you how to control your emotions better. We will give you ways to cope when you feel _____ inside you.
10 I often regret the things I say. The trouble is, I have a very _____ and sometimes I just can't control myself.

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Divide the class into groups of three or four. Give each group one of the following collocations: *hotly deny, lukewarm response, blistering attack, tempers flare, heated debate, relations thaw, frosty reception.*

Students should write a short sketch illustrating the collocation. For example, the group with *hotly deny* could write a news item where a reporter puts allegations to a celebrity, and the celebrity denies them. Each group performs its sketch and the other groups have to guess the collocation.

10

FORMAL AND INFORMAL COLLOCATIONS

I'd like to make a complaint

Just as with general vocabulary, collocations vary in how formal or informal they are, and it is important to use them in appropriate situations. It would not be appropriate to use very informal language in a job application, or very formal language when chatting to friends. These exercises focus on formal and informal collocations and show you how to use them.

1 **Read the texts and match phrases from the box to the collocations in bold.**

a letter saying that something is correct • bad luck • write someone a letter • not do what was promised • ~~ask someone to promise something~~ • extremely anxious • say that you are not pleased • very upset • complain very forcefully • promise forcefully that something is true

1 Dear Mr Evans
I regret to inform you that the completion of your new office block has been delayed because of the recent bad weather. We are currently trying to **seek assurances** from the builders that they will finish by the end of the month.

ask someone to promise something

2 It's your responsibility to get to the station on time. If you miss the train, that's your **hard luck** – we won't be able to wait for you.

3 Really looking forward to seeing you in Paris next week. The children **kicked up a fuss** when I told them we'd be visiting lots of museums, but it'll do them good, won't it?!

4 I have therefore decided to withold payment, since your company has clearly **failed to deliver** the service I was expecting.
Yours sincerely,
Malcolm Greene.

5 The only way to stop these damaging plans is to make your voice heard. **Register your dissatisfaction** with the government's proposals by writing to your MP today.

6 Have u seen Harry? He hasn't been home for 2 days and his mum's **worried sick**.

7 Many of the stolen items were found at the thief's house. However, Mrs Taylor was **deeply distressed** to discover that treasured photographs of her grandchildren had been damaged.

8 If you require **written confirmation** that your short story has been received, please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

9 Dear Bella
Arrived safely in Singapore – it's incredibly hot here! I'll **drop you a line** when I know my new address.
Love, Dillon.

10 Just wondered if you'd heard the gossip about Jamie and Emma? Emma **swears blind** there's nothing going on, but I spotted them in a café today, looking very cosy together.

Study tip

As well as learning the correct grammar of collocations, it is important to understand the proper context. Is the situation formal or informal?

2 **Look again at the collocations in Exercise 1 and write them in the correct column in the table.**

Formal	Informal
seek assurances	

3 **John Williams had a terrible holiday. Put the sentences in the correct order to make two letters: a formal letter of complaint and a chatty postcard to a friend.**

1

Dear Sir/Madam

a Despite receiving **written confirmation** of this, when we arrived at the resort we were given a fifth-floor apartment in a block with no lifts.

b As your company has therefore clearly **failed to deliver** the holiday it promised, we will expect a substantial refund on the price.

c I am writing to **register my dissatisfaction** with our recent holiday, booked through your company.

d My wife was **deeply distressed**, as it was very difficult for her to leave the apartment.

e My wife has a disability which makes climbing stairs difficult, so I phoned your office both prior to booking and shortly before departure, to **seek assurances** that our holiday apartment would be on the ground floor.

Yours faithfully

John Williams

2

Hi Joe



a The whole thing is a bit of a disaster really. We've ended up on the 5th floor, which is a nightmare, as you can imagine.

b We **kicked up a fuss** with the holiday rep as soon as we arrived, but there was nothing she could do – all the other apartments were taken.

c Ah well, it's just our **hard luck**, I suppose, but we'll be glad to be back home, and are looking forward to seeing you soon.

d She **swears blind** that she never got a message about our needs, even though I checked it with the holiday company just before we left.

e You can imagine what it's like for Maria – she's **worried sick** that she'll slip on the stairs, so we've hardly been out at all.

f Just thought I'd **drop you a line** to let you know how we're getting on in Spain.

all the best

John

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask your students to imagine a situation where they have been disappointed by something such as a holiday, concert, or other event. They should write a letter of their own, using some of the collocations they have learned.

What seems to be the problem?

It is common for professionals to use rather formal language in the course of their work, while their customers, clients or patients may use more informal terms.



4 **Complete the conversation between Holly and her doctor with nouns from the box. Then listen to the recording to check your answers.**

stomach • treatment • symptoms • specialist • flu • antibiotics • hospital • cough • bug • disease • headache • fever

Holly: I seem to have **picked up** an awful [1]_____ while I was on holiday.

Doctor: Ah, so you think you may have **contracted a** [2]_____ abroad? Can you describe how you're feeling?

Holly: I've got an **upset** [3]_____ and a **hacking** [4]_____ .

Doctor: I see. When did you first start to **develop** these [5]_____ ? Was it while you were there or since you got home?

Holly: Well, a couple of days before we left, I started to feel as though I was **going down with** [6]_____ . I had a **splitting** [7]_____ on the flight back, so I went to bed as soon as I got home, and then woke up in the night with a **raging** [8]_____ .

Doctor: Your chest certainly sounds bad – I think you've got some sort of infection. I'll put you on a **course of** [9]_____ . If it's a normal bacterial infection, it should **respond to** [10]_____ in a few days.

Holly: What if it doesn't?

Doctor: Well, if it's a viral infection, it probably won't, so do ring me again if you're not feeling any better in two or three days. Considering where you've been, I'd probably have to **refer you to a** [11]_____ in tropical medicine. They may even need to **admit you to** [12]_____ for a few days to find out what it is. But don't worry yet – the most likely thing is that the antibiotics will cure it. Good luck!

Sound natural

Learning collocations often gives you more interesting words for common words you already know. Repeatedly using words such as *get* can sound unsophisticated and imprecise.

5 **Look at the collocations in Exercise 4 and find:**

1 three verbs which mean *get*.
2 three adjectives which mean *very bad*, used to add emphasis to a noun meaning a symptom of an illness.

6 **Use the collocations you have learned to answer these questions.**

1 Did Holly become ill at home?
2 What symptoms does Holly have now?
3 How was Holly feeling on her flight home?
4 Does the doctor give Holly any medicine?
5 What should happen to her illness if it is a bacterial infection?
6 What will the doctor do if Holly doesn't get better soon?

7 **Sasha often picks up leaflets offering health advice from her doctor's surgery. Her Aunt Ida also offers Sasha advice. Look at the sentence halves 1–12 and decide which come from a leaflet and which come from Aunt Ida. Then match them with sentence halves a–l.**

1 Sorry to hear you've been ill, dear, but you do eat all the wrong things, you know. If you have an **upset stomach**,
2 You young people are far too free and easy with strangers. If you want to avoid **picking up bugs**,
3 There can be many reasons for skin complaints, ranging from allergies to psychological problems. Talk to your doctor first. If your doctor is not sure what is causing the problem,
4 Stay away from tablets – they're a waste of money and you should trust your body to know what it's doing, I say. A **raging fever**
5 Earache is often associated with fever and pain. Always get your child checked out by a doctor. If they have an ear infection,
6 My old mum always told me the best thing for a **hacking cough**
7 If you are travelling, you may be exposed to illnesses that do not occur here. Therefore, if you **contract a disease** abroad,
8 It is very rare for this medication to have side effects. However, if you **develop symptoms** such as chest pain and difficulty breathing,
9 Occasionally, problems with the joints cannot be solved with exercise and manipulation alone. If physiotherapy fails to restore complete movement to the joint,
10 I know it's a bit smelly, but the best way to get rid of a **splitting headache**
11 You need to take care of your health at this time of year, dear. If you feel as if you're **going down with flu**,
12 Scientists have discovered some links between skin conditions and the consumption of particular foods, so if your eczema does not **respond to treatment** with creams,

a he or she may **refer you to a specialist**.
b you may be **admitted to hospital** for minor surgery.
c put three drops of lavender oil in your bath and drink plenty of orange juice.
d you shouldn't eat anything at all for at least three days.
e is a drink made from stewed nettles and lemon juice – it tastes horrid, but it really works.
f is to eat lots of raw garlic.
g you may be advised to make changes to your diet.
h you should never shake hands with anyone you don't know.
i a **course of antibiotics** will usually be prescribed.
j it is important to tell your doctor where you have been.
k is just your body's way of burning up germs.
l you should call an ambulance at once.



8 **In four of the sentences below , the verb form is wrong. Find the errors and correct them.**

1 Her asthma did not responded to treatment.
2 I contracted the disease when I was in the tropics.
3 I gone down with flu the day before the concert.
4 I realised that I was develop symptoms of lung disease.
5 I asked to be referred to a specialist.
6 She was admitting to hospital and treated for shock.

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask students to discuss whether the advice in Exercise 7 is good or bad, and whether they have any better advice to offer.

11 COLLOCATIONS WITH PHRASAL VERBS

Come and get it

There are many collocations which are formed with phrasal verbs, or which use a verb that is always followed by a preposition. For these collocations, you need to learn the verb, the particle (or particles) and the noun that goes with them.

Study tip

Notice that some phrasal verbs can be separated, i.e. the object can come after the whole phrasal verb or between the verb and the particle. For instance, we can say that someone has *put on weight* or *put weight on*. Check in a dictionary if you are not certain.

1 **Complete the sentences with prepositions to form collocations made with phrasal verbs. Note that two of the phrasal verbs have two prepositions. Use a dictionary to help you if necessary, and make sure you understand the meaning of the whole collocation.**

1 Taking up running has been great for my health. It stops me **putting** *on* **weight**, and I'm finding it much easier to **get** _____ _____ **sleep** at night.

2 As soon as doctors found he had the disease, they asked him to **draw** _____ **a list** of everyone he had **come** _____ **contact** with over the past month.

3 Our new boss arrived at the company determined to **bring** _____ **a change**. Even though many people disagree with her, she expects everyone to **carry** _____ her **orders** without question.

4 I wish my mum would take more care of herself. She still wears clothes that **went** _____ _____ **fashion** years ago, and although she used to be really fit and sporty, these days she can barely **break** _____ **a run** if she's late for her train.

5 I've been offered a weekend job in a clothes shop. I really like sleeping in late on Saturdays, but the money would definitely **come** _____ **handy**, because I'm a student and I've already **run** _____ a lot of **debts**.

2 **Rewrite the sentences using the collocations in brackets. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

1 I wrote down the names of everyone I wanted to invite to the party. (draw up a list)
2 Our boss expected us to do what he told us without asking any questions. (carry out orders)
3 I borrowed a lot of money when I was starting my business. (run up debts)
4 I became much fatter when I lived in Italy because the food was so good. (put on weight)
5 I wasn't very tired, but I eventually fell asleep at around midnight. (get off to sleep)
6 When he saw his mother, he started running. (break into a run)
7 In my job, I meet people from all over the world. (come into contact)
8 Floor-length skirts have become less fashionable. (go out of fashion)
9 A big hat would be useful – it's very hot there. (come in handy)
10 Life is very hard for us, but we are optimistic that a new government will make things different. (bring about a change)

3 **Complete the sentences with verbs from the box. Make sure you use the correct form of the verb.**

come • go • get • bring • draw • run

1 Improved education has _____ about a real change in this area.
2 It was past midnight before I _____ off to sleep.
3 These hats seem to have _____ out of fashion now.
4 When I was travelling in India, I _____ into contact with a lot of interesting people.
5 I have _____ up a list of all the jobs that need to be done.
6 While he was living in Paris, he _____ up huge debts.

8 **4** **Use the collocations you have learned above to complete the web posts. Then listen to the recording to check your answers.**

1 **Debt advice**
Recently I've been finding it very difficult to [1]_____ at night. I think it's because I'm so stressed about money. I really love skiing, and – stupidly – I've [2]_____ going on expensive holidays and buying lots of new gear. The trouble is that on these holidays I [3]_____ with a lot of wealthy people, and I can't help wanting to live like them.
Roger

2 **Family fitness**
My kids are really unfit, and I know I need to do something to [4]_____ before it's too late. I've been trying to interest them in playing tennis, but they hate it – they seem to get exhausted as soon as I force them to [5]_____. They prefer to spend all their time in front of a computer screen, and all three of them have started to [6]_____. Does anyone have any tips?'
Gemma

3 **Budget fashion**
I have a very limited budget for clothes, so I always make sure I buy things that won't [7]_____. Each season, I [8]_____ of things I really need, and I buy the best quality I can afford. This season I've treated myself to a really chic raincoat, which is bound to [9]_____ if the weather continues like this!
Olivia

8 **5** **Listen again to the web posts in Exercise 4. Are the statements true (T) or false (F)?**

1 Roger can afford to go skiing as often as he likes.
2 Roger is having sleep problems.
3 Roger finds it hard to accept that other people have more money to spend than him.
4 Gemma wants to make her children more active.
5 Gemma's children are keen to get fit.
6 The whole family enjoys playing tennis.
7 Gemma's children are beginning to get fat.
8 Olivia buys very fashionable clothes.
9 Olivia always buys the cheapest things she can.
10 It has been raining a lot recently where Olivia lives.

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask students to make up three questions using the collocations they have learned, e.g. *When was the last time you broke into a run?* Then ask them to move around the class, interviewing each other.

Tell me how you feel

The collocations in these exercises are formed with phrasal verbs and are connected to people's emotions.

6 **Match the collocations 1–8 with the meanings a–h.**

1	**pour your heart out**	**a**	to make yourself eager to do something
2	**burst out laughing**	**b**	to suddenly start crying
3	**pluck up the courage**	**c**	to make yourself brave enough to do something
4	**bottle up your feelings**	**d**	to still think that something good might be true
5	**burst into tears**	**e**	to not tell anyone about your emotions
6	**go to pieces**	**f**	to suddenly start laughing
7	**work up the enthusiasm**	**g**	to tell someone all your problems and feelings
8	**hold out hope**	**h**	to be so upset that you cannot deal with life

Study tip

Check you understand how to use phrasal verbs correctly. Look them up in a dictionary.

7 **Read the texts and complete the answers to the questions with the collocations from Exercise 6. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

1 Rosa has been having a terrible time. She has lost her job and her boyfriend has left her, but when her friends try to talk to her about it, she simply says she's fine. What is Rosa doing?

She's bottling up her feelings .

2 Laura's dog Elvis went missing more than a month ago. Laura has put up posters everywhere. Every day she expects a phone call telling her he is safe. Does Laura think Elvis will be found?

Yes, she still _____ .

3 Roberto hasn't seen his best friend Jan for nearly a year. During that time he has had a lot of problems and he hasn't been able to talk to anyone. Jan is coming to see him next week and he's really looking forward to having a friend to talk to. What is Roberto likely to do to Jan?

He is likely to _____ .

4 There's something about other people having hiccups that Jonas finds extremely funny. If he hears someone hiccup, he always starts to laugh. What would Jonas do if someone near him started to hiccup?

He would _____ .

5 Christa has been invited to a party and her host has encouraged her to bring a friend. There's a boy she really likes, and she'd love to ask him, but she's very shy. What does Christa need to do?

She needs to _____ .

6 George was invited to play tennis with a group of friends. He said he might, but when the day came he was quite tired, and he didn't feel at all keen to play. Why didn't George go to play tennis?

He couldn't _____ .

7 Daniel never coped well with life. The slightest problem upset him. When his wife died, his friends were worried. They arranged to take turns to stay with him. What did Daniel's friends think might happen if he was left alone?

They thought he might _____ .

8 Barbara gets so emotional at weddings. She always starts crying as soon as she sees the bride. What does Barbara do when she sees a bride?

She _____ .

8 **Complete the sentences with the collocations you have learned above. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs. Then complete the crossword.**

Across

2 I'm taking my driving test this June, but I don't hold out much hope of passing.

6 It took me ages to pluck up enough _____ to dive into the water.

7 He'd been bottling up his _____ of anger for years.

8 I couldn't manage to work up the _____ for a swim.

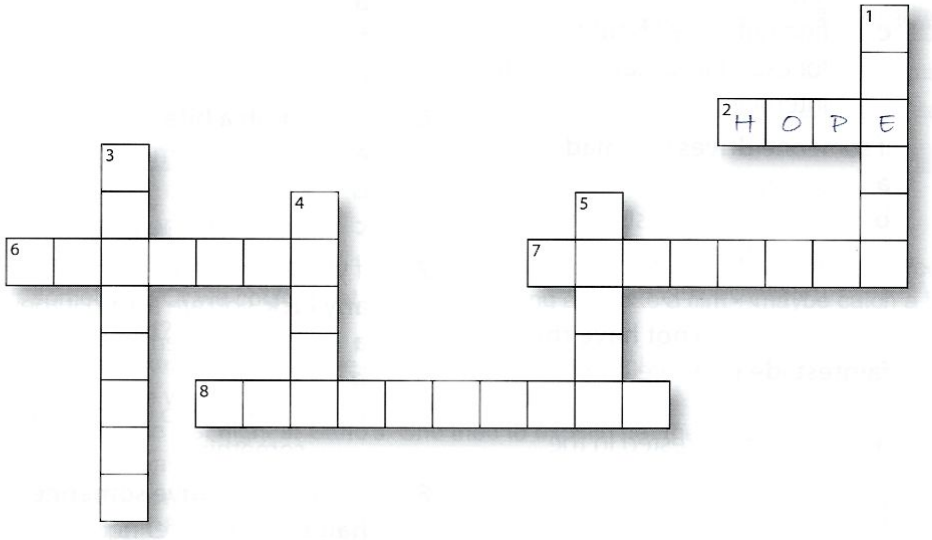
Down

1 I know I'd go to _____ if I didn't have my parents to support me.

3 When we saw what he was wearing, we all burst out _____.

4 Over dinner, she poured her _____ out to me.

5 When she saw that the vase was broken, she burst into _____.



9 **Rewrite the sentences, replacing the <u>underlined</u> parts with the collocations you have learned.**

poured her heart out to me

1 During the evening, she <u>told me everything about her life, her troubles and her hopes</u>.

2 When her husband died, she <u>suddenly stopped being able to cope with life</u>.

3 I saw Kylie Minogue getting out of a taxi. I really wanted her autograph, but I <u>was too nervous</u> to speak to her.

4 When he saw the gift they had bought him, he was so moved that he <u>started to cry</u>.

5 I was supposed to be going to a party tonight, but I can't <u>be bothered</u> now.

6 There have been so many peace talks that have failed, I don't <u>think they will succeed</u> this time.

7 The teacher's hat blew off, and all the children <u>started to laugh</u>.

8 If you <u>never tell anyone how you are feeling</u>, nobody will be able to help you.

CLASSROOM EXTRA

In pairs, students choose three words from the collocations in this unit and make mini crosswords like the one in Exercise 8. They then write their own gap-fill clues and swap them with another pair.

12 COLLOCATIONS IN SPEECH

How are you doing?

These exercises include a selection of common spoken collocations that occur in a variety of contexts. What all these collocations have in common is that they are the sort of phrases that we **say** more than we **write**, although we do use them in very informal writing, such as chatty e-mails too.

Sound natural

Next time you are watching an interview or a chat show, look out for common collocations in spoken English.

1 **Circle the correct answer. Use a dictionary to help you if necessary.**

1 If you **have a catch-up**, you:
- **a** run so that you can reach a person who is in front of you.
- **b** exchange news with someone that you have not seen for a long time.
- **c** find out more about a subject, for example, by looking on the internet.

2 If someone **drives** you **mad**, they:
- **a** annoy you.
- **b** drive you too fast in an uncontrolled way.
- **c** make you very excited.

3 If you say you do **not have the faintest idea**, you are emphasising that you:
- **a** are not interested in the subject.
- **b** know nothing about the subject.
- **c** are stupid.

4 If you **catch** a **film,** you:
- **a** watch it.
- **b** record it on your mobile.
- **c** understand it.

5 If you **put** your **feet up**, you:
- **a** dance.
- **b** die.
- **c** rest.

6 If you **grab a bite**, you:
- **a** eat a small meal quickly.
- **b** catch a fish.
- **c** kiss someone with enthusiasm.

7 If you ask someone if they have **had any luck**, you are asking if they:
- **a** enjoyed themselves.
- **b** are rich.
- **c** were able to get or find something.

8 If you offer to **give someone a hand**, you are offering:
- **a** to go somewhere with them.
- **b** to help them.
- **c** to push them.

2 **Match the questions 1–8 to the replies a–h on page 55.**

1 Doesn't all this noise from the traffic **drive** you **mad**?

2 Did you **have any luck** getting hold of Kristen?

3 I'm going to go home now and **put my feet up**.

4 I'm just going to **grab a bite** now. Do you want to join me?

5 I haven't seen you for ages, Dorota! We should **have a catch-up** over a coffee some time – maybe this weekend?

6 We could **catch a film** tonight if you like?

7 I did**n't have the faintest idea** what she was talking about.

8 Let me **give you a hand** with moving these boxes.

a Yes, how about Saturday afternoon?

b No, she never answers her phone.

c Why didn't you ask her to explain?

d Oh thanks – that would be great.

e I don't think there's anything on at the cinema that I want to see.

f I'm sorry – I've got to be back at the office in half an hour.

g No, I'm used to it now.

h Yes, you must – you look exhausted!

3 **Lucy is e-mailing her friend Georgia to arrange to see her. However, she has used the wrong verbs in her collocations. Find and correct eight verbs.**

From: Lucy Walker <lwalker@xyzworld.co.uk

To: Georgia Shapur <georgia.shapur@abcworld.com

Subject: Hiya!

Hi Georgia,
How are you doing?
Feels like I haven't seen you in ages! Do you fancy doing a catch-up over a coffee sometime? Or we could meet up in the evening and take a film – maybe catch a bite beforehand?
Stefan's exams are in two weeks and he's studying night and day. He's stressed and grumpy the whole time and pressing me mad. ☹
Saw Sophie last night at Carlo's. She tried to explain her thesis to me – I didn't know the faintest idea what she was talking about!
By the way, Al says he'll put you a hand moving your stuff to the new place at the weekend. Give him a call when you need him.
Right, I'm going to throw my feet up for an hour before I head off to work
Love Lucy
ps, Did you discover any luck finding a dress for the wedding?

CLASSROOM EXTRA

In pairs, students tell each other about something that they have done recently or something that has happened to them using the collocations that they have learned.

4 **Are the statements true (T) or false (F)?**

1 Lucy would like to have a talk with Georgia and hear her news.
2 Lucy suggests seeing a film and having a meal after.
3 Lucy is enjoying the company of her friend Stefan at the moment.
4 Lucy knows a lot about the thesis that her friend Sophie is writing.
5 Lucy's friend Al has offered to help Georgia.
6 Lucy has just been to work when she writes to Georgia.

5 **Put the phrases in the correct order to make sentences. Add punctuation where necessary.**

1 a film/and then/dinner/we caught/went for
2 be nice/catch-up with you/it would/sometime soon/to have a
3 a bite/I grabbed/hungry now/while I was in town/so I'm not
4 I don't/idea/what she means/have the faintest
5 give me/with these/could you/a hand/boxes
6 and it/to talk non-stop/drove me/she used/mad
7 his mobile number/any luck/getting hold of/did you have
8 put your/for a while/why don't you/feet up

I (don't) remember ...

These exercises include collocations that people often use to talk about remembering and forgetting things. They are useful to learn because people talk a lot about things that happened in the past.

6 **How good is your memory? Answer the questions by choosing *a*, *b* or *c*, and life coach Guy Grounded will tell you!**

How good is your memory?

1 Do you remember your first day at school?
- **a** I remember it as if it was yesterday.
- **b** I **vaguely remember** it.
- **c** I have no memory of it.

2 From what period of your childhood is your **earliest memory**?
- **a** before two years of age
- **b** between the ages of two and four
- **c** between the ages of four and eight

3 Can you remember the first house/apartment you lived in?
- **a** Yes, I have **vivid memories** of my first home.
- **b** I can sort of remember one or two rooms in it.
- **c** No – I have absolutely no memory of it.

4 How do you feel when you see photographs from your early childhood?
- **a** They always **bring back memories**.
- **b** Sometimes they **bring back memories** but sometimes not.
- **c** It's as if I'm looking at a photo of someone else.

5 How often think about scenes from your childhood?
- **a** Constantly.
- **b** Now and then, when I'm reminded of something that happened.
- **c** I think it's best not to **dwell on the past**.

6 How do you respond when you see TV programmes/films/adverts, etc., from your childhood?
- **a** I'm **filled with nostalgia**.
- **b** I sometimes get nostalgic, especially if I remember them clearly.
- **c** They mean nothing to me.

7 How often does a social arrangement that you have made **slip your mind**?
- **a** Never – or at least, very rarely.
- **b** Now and then.
- **c** All the time – it drives my friends mad!

8 You know someone's face but when you try to remember their name, you **draw a blank**. How often does this happen to you?
- **a** Never, I'm good at remembering names.
- **b** It happens but not often.
- **c** I'm always forgetting people's names.

9 You are talking to someone and suddenly you **mind goes blank**. You have absolutely no idea what you were talking about. How often does this happen to you?
- **a** Never.
- **b** It happens but only now and then.
- **c** This happens all the time. Sorry, what was I saying?

10 You **distinctly remember** asking Tom to buy some milk. He says you didn't. Who do you think is right?
- **a** Me, definitely.
- **b** I'm not sure.
- **c** Probably Tom – I have an appalling memory.

MOSTLY A'S
Lucky you! Your memory, both short-term and long-term, is amazing. And how wonderful to have such vivid childhood memories. Just remember that as fascinating as the past is, the present is even more exciting!

MOSTLY B'S
So you remember some things and forget others? This is normal. So long as you remember what is important, you can let the other stuff go. As regards nostalgia, you have the balance about right.

MOSTLY C'S
You are forgetful! Perhaps a little brain training is called for. Crosswords and number games can help to keep the brain active. Keep a diary with you at all times and note down all your arrangements. Good luck!

CLASSROOM EXTRA

If this is being done in class, ask students to interview one another, rather than doing the questionnaire individually.

7 **These people are all talking about their memories. Match the collocations 1–10 to the meanings a–j on page 57.**

1 I **vaguely remember** meeting her at Jim's party.
2 My **earliest memory** is sitting in my Grandma's garden.
3 I have a very **vivid memory** of their house.
4 This record really **brings back memories** for me.
5 I don't think there's any point in **dwelling on the past**.
6 I was supposed to call Nicole last night and it **slipped my mind**.
7 I know the name but when I try to remember his face I just **draw a blank**.
8 He asked me a question and my **mind** just **went blank**.
9 Every time I hear this song, I'm **filled with nostalgia**.
10 I **distinctly remember** giving the keys to you.

a I was suddenly unable to remember or think about anything
b thinking too much about things that have happened
c I forgot to do it
d am completely unable to remember it
e thinking about very happy times in the past
f remember very clearly
g remember, but not clearly
h something that I remember very clearly
i makes me think of things from the past
j the first thing that I remember from childhood

9 **8** **The radio programme *Your Story* is marking National Memory Week by inviting listeners to call in with issues relating to memory. Complete what they say with the collocations that you have learned. Then listen to the recording to check your answers.**

Flora

I worry a lot about memory loss these days – I really do. Every week it seems I have some arrangement or other that [1]_____ **my mind**. Last Saturday I was at home when I got a phone-call from a friend who was waiting for me in a café. Apparently, we'd arranged to meet for a coffee. I suppose I [2]_____ **remembered** talking about meeting up, but I certainly didn't remember fixing a time or a place. My memory fails me all the time. I'll see someone in the street that I know quite well, I want to use their name to greet them and I [3]_____ **a blank**. There are other occasions too – like finding myself in my bedroom, knowing that I've gone upstairs for a reason but when I try to think why I'm up there, my [4]_____ **goes blank**. Another thing that happens from time to time is that my husband is sure I've told him something – he [5]_____ **remembers** me saying it – but I have absolutely no memory of it.

Ricardo

I find my childhood memories quite sad so generally, I prefer not to [6]_____ **on the past**. My [7]_____ **memory** is of my father leaving – I must have been about three at the time. I recall a man standing in the hall of our first house with a big suitcase. I have a [8]_____ **memory** of a tall, dark-haired man, though possibly this is influenced by photographs that I've seen of him since. I have plenty of friends who enjoy thinking about their childhoods and who are [9]_____ **nostalgia** when they look at photographs of themselves as children. But for me, early family photos just [10]_____ painful **memories**.

9 **Rewrite the sentences, replacing the underlined parts with the collocations you have learned.**

1 I'd rather look to the future and not think too much about what has happened.
2 I still have very clear memories of our first meeting.
3 Most people find that the music of their youth really makes them think about things that happened in the past.
4 I had to apologise to Max. I'd arranged to meet him in town after college and it completely went out of my mind.
5 I was full of happy thoughts from the past, looking at the old photos from my school days.
6 I know Julia denies it but I definitely remember sending her the report.
7 What's the first thing you can remember from childhood?
8 It's everyone's worst nightmare – you stand up in front an audience to give a talk and your mind is suddenly completely empty and you cannot remember anything.
9 I have a memory that is not clear of seeing him before.
10 I knew her face so well but when I tried to think of her name, I was completely unable to think of it.

REVIEW

Units 9–12

These exercises use collocations from units 9–12, and will help you see how many you have remembered. After each exercise, add up your score to see how well you have done.

1 **Complete the sentences.**

1 I woke up with a splitting _____ and took two tablets.
2 Looking at these photos really brings _____ memories for me.
3 I knew his face but his name slipped my _____ .
4 He's had a sore throat and a hacking _____ for two weeks now.
5 I _____ up a bug on holiday and I came home feeling awful.
6 I _____ on so much weight when I was pregnant.
7 This bag was really useful – I knew it would _____ in handy.
8 Where have you been? I was worried _____ about you!
9 I should finish this job but I can't work up any _____ for it.
10 You need a rest, my love – go home and put your _____ up.

Score: ☐ / 10

2 **Underline the correct word to complete the collocations.**

1 She seemed to be in very **low/deep/distant spirits**.
2 Don't **tank/bucket/bottle up** your **feelings** – let it all out!
3 Do **drop/send/throw** her **a line** when you have time. She loves getting letters.
4 He still had **vivid/sharp/bright** wartime **memories**.
5 She launched a **roasting/baking/blistering attack** on her opponent.
6 We had a **hot/heated/boiling debate** on the subject.
7 They weren't speaking but **relations** have **melted/thawed/dissolved** recently.
8 If you **develop/grow/evolve** any of these **symptoms**, contact your doctor.
9 She had a **raging/furious/fervent** fever in the night.
10 Sean **swore deaf/blind/dead** he hadn't told anyone.

Score: ☐ / 10

3 **Match the collocations 1–10 to the definitions a–j.**

1 buoyant mood
2 contract a disease
3 upset stomach
4 bring about a change
5 earliest memory
6 respond to treatment
7 someone's mood lifts
8 sink into despair
9 raise morale
10 dwell on the past have eaten it

a someone stops being sad or angry
b to make a situation different
c to become infected with a disease
d to spend too much time thinking about things that have happened
e the first thing that you can remember from your childhood
f to improve because of medical treatment
g an illness affecting the part of the body where food goes when you
h when someone is feeling happy
i to become very sad
j to make people feel happier or more positive

Score: ☐ / 10

4 **Match the two halves of the sentences.**

1	I distinctly remember asking	**a**	till after midnight.
2	She was deeply distressed at	**b**	the news.
3	I smiled at her but she gave me	**c**	he burst out laughing.
4	He went to pieces when	**d**	all the tasks that need to be done.
5	You will receive written confirmation	**e**	his wife left him.
6	I could see what's on at the cinema if	**f**	you want to catch a film.
7	Did you have any luck	**g**	him to lock the gate.
8	When I told him what had happened,	**h**	an icy stare.
9	I didn't get off to sleep	**i**	finding a hotel room?
10	I've drawn up a list of	**j**	of the booking within six working days.

Score: ☐ / 10

5 **Correct the word in *italics* to make a collocation with the word in bold in each sentence.**

1 I walked on stage and suddenly, to my horror, my **mind went** *zero*.
2 I did**n't have the faintest** *thought* what he was talking about.
3 Linda's constant chatter is *pushing* me **mad**.
4 Let's meet in café Rosa at the weekend and **have a catch**-*in*.
5 I told Rosie the bad news and she just *exploded* **into tears**.
6 Don't put up with bad service – **kick up a** *complaint*!
7 The doctor has put her on a *series* **of antibiotics**.
8 She was *accepted* **to hospital** in the early hours of the morning.
9 It's hard to *maintain* your **spirits up** when everything is going so badly.
10 He *warmly* **denied** that any of the allegations were true.

Score: ☐ / 10

6 **Complete the sentences with collocations from the box. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

refer someone to a specialist • draw a blank • go down with the flu • vague memory • frosty reception • pluck up the courage • run up debts • anger boils up • be filled with nostalgia • register your dissatisfaction

1 I was so furious with him – I felt the _____ inside me till I couldn't contain it any longer.
2 I have a _____ of the house that we first lived in when I was a child.
3 She didn't look at all well and I had a feeling she was _____.
4 I tried to think of his name but I just _____.
5 The doctor was clearly concerned about her health because he has _____ her _____.
6 There's a boy in my class that I like and I'm trying to _____ to ask him out.
7 He _____ while he was a student and hasn't paid them off yet.
8 All the same, I wasn't at all happy with the service and I felt I ought to _____ my _____.
9 I'm _____ when I look at those old photos – such happy times!
10 My suggestion that Bethan pay for the meal herself received a very _____.

Score: ☐ / 10

Total score: ☐ / 60

13 COLLOCATIONS FOR PEOPLE'S APPEARANCE

What does he look like?

Sound natural

Many collocations describe features such as hair and eyes while other collocations refer to the build of a person's body. They are extremely useful and worth memorising.

It is useful to be able to describe people's appearances in many situations. For example, you can explain who you mean when you are talking about one person among a group of people. A good knowledge of collocations in this area will allow you to sketch a quick word picture of someone's appearance.

1 **Read a witness statement made to the police about a robbery. Make sure you understand all the words, using a dictionary to help you if necessary. Then read the text again and underline collocations to match the phrases 1–10.**

I heard some shouting behind me, so I turned round to see two men running towards me. The first man – the taller of the two – was fair, with longish, shoulder-length hair. He was probably in his early twenties but as he ran past me, I noticed that he had a bald patch at the back of his head. He was tall – probably over six feet – and had a wiry frame, like an athlete. He ran very fast – faster than his mate. He looked slim but strong, with a very flat stomach. All I can remember about his face is that he had a fairly large nose and close-set eyes. I got a better look at the second man. He got very near to me as he ran past. He was more heavily built than the first man. He was shorter but a lot wider, with very broad shoulders. His hair was dark and messy and I'm pretty sure he had a receding hairline. He had a beard, too – a big bushy beard. I seem to recall he didn't look well – he was quite pale and spotty and he had bloodshot eyes.

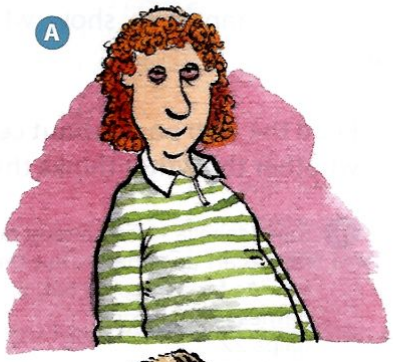
1 a line where the hair starts on a man's forehead which is higher than usual because some hair has fallen out
2 having a body that is wide and strong
3 a wide top of the back
4 no fat on the front of the body
5 an area of thick hair on a man's chin
6 eyes which are red on the part that should be white
7 quite long hair that reaches the bottom of the neck *shoulder-length hair*
8 an area on the head where there is no hair
9 a body that is thin but strong
10 eyes that are nearer to each other than is usual

2 **Look at the statement in Exercise 1 again and answer the questions, using the collocations that you have learned.**

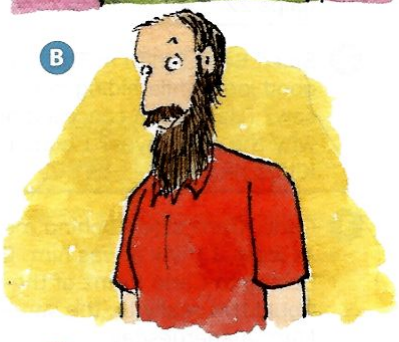
1 Did the taller man have short hair? *No, he had* **shoulder-length hair**.
2 Was the taller man losing his hair?
3 Was the shorter man losing his hair?
4 Did the shorter man have tidy facial hair?
5 Apart from his big nose, what was unusual about the taller man's features?
6 The shorter man's skin suggested that he was not healthy. What else about his face suggested that he was not well?
7 Was the taller man weak-looking?
8 Was the taller man fat around his middle?
9 Was the shorter man slim?
10 Was the shorter man narrow?

10 **3** **A magazine interviewed three men, asking them to describe their appearance and say what they thought was their 'best feature' (most attractive part, usually of the face). Listen to their descriptions and match the pictures A–C to the texts 1–3.**

1 JOHN
I'm quite heavily built, though I don't think you'd describe me as fat. I inherited my father's broad shoulders which I'm quite proud of. I've got a few lines around my eyes now I'm in my forties but I've got very little grey hair, which is lucky at my age. I have a beard which used to be quite long but I keep it neatly trimmed nowadays. I'm not sure what my best feature is – perhaps my dark hair?

A 

2 MARCO
I'm suppose I'm of medium height for a man and, like both my parents, pretty slim. I used to do a lot of running when I was younger and I have the typical long-distance runner's wiry frame. I have blond hair from my mother's side of the family which I'm quite proud of. My eyes are probably my best feature – they're quite big and people say they're very expressive.

B 

3 HENK
I've always struggled with my weight, but I've been going to the gym a lot recently so I've got a fairly flat stomach. I've still got a lot of hair and it's quite nice and curly. It's always been my best feature so I keep it a bit longer than most men my age. I've improved my diet a lot recently and I think it's really made a difference to my appearance. My skin is looking better and my eyes are bright.

C 

4 **Are the descriptions in Exercise 3 accurate? Complete the notes in the table for each man. Your notes should include all ten collocations from Exercise 1.**

Name	Accurate information	Inaccurate information	Missing information
John	heavily built broad shoulders	says: neatly trimmed beard but truth is: bushy beard	
Marco			
Henk			

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Describe yourself or someone that you know to your neighbour using some of the collocations that you have learned.

Study tip

When you are describing someone's appearance, it is important to make sure you choose the right phrases. Are you stating facts, or do want to give your opinion?

Really (un)attractive ...

These exercises focus on collocations that are used to describe people's features and, importantly, to show whether the features are considered attractive or unattractive.

5 **Read the web posts about celebrities spotted by members of the public. Decide whether the writer thinks the celebrity is looking good or not.**

1. Saw Isabella Khan coming out of Gigi's in Knightsbridge. She was 'disguised' in a headscarf and shades but there was no mistaking those high cheekbones and full lips. As far as I could tell, she wasn't wearing make-up. Neither would I if I had her flawless complexion.
galpal22

2. Spied Brett Smith in The Maypole, Soho, drinking a black coffee. Was able to get a good look while hiding behind my newspaper. Was that the start of a double chin I saw? (Has Smith cancelled his gym membership now that he has found love?) And why the puffy eyes? I hope his new love hasn't been making him cry ...
Kittypink

3. Carlo Kranz stood behind me in the queue in the Richmond Bakery, Kensington. At least, I think it was him. Could this greasy hair and sallow complexion really belong to Carlo Kranz of the Hero films? That square jaw and those perfect teeth? Could this really be the same man?
Marthajanetuesday

4. Saw Tilly Rose bagging her groceries in Camden's Walkers yesterday. So used to seeing those even features gracing the covers of magazines, could scarcely believe it was her. Such impossibly glossy hair just to go to the supermarket! Had she just stepped out of the salon?
Honeybird20

6 **Put the collocations from Exercise 5 in the correct column in the table.**

Positive	Negative
glossy hair	greasy hair

7 **Complete the sentences with words from the box.**

puffy • even • glossy • flawless • greasy • high • double • square • full • sallow

1 She looks like a model with her wonderful _____ **cheekbones**.
2 I assumed from her _____ **eyes** that she'd been crying.
3 Rachel's sister had a slightly bent nose and a very big mouth but Rachel had lovely _____ **features**.
4 What shampoo do you use to get such gorgeous _____ **hair**? It's so shiny!
5 This lip gloss will help you make the most of those lovely _____ **lips**.
6 He had horrible _____ **hair** that badly needed a wash.
7 In the summer, Marta goes brown very easily but in the winter she has quite a _____ **complexion**.
8 He was handsome with strong features and a _____ **jaw**.
9 He'd put on weight, his face was fatter and he had a bit of a _____ **chin**.
10 Your skin doesn't need make-up, Sophie – you have a _____ **complexion**!

8 **Match the sentence halves.**

1	Like a lot of actresses, she	**a**	a **double chin**.
2	Sylvie looks like a model	**b**	which made him look slightly unhealthy.
3	I always get horrible **puffy eyes** when	**c**	the women you see in magazines.
4	Sadly, I didn't inherit	**d**	my mother's **even features**.
5	If you want a **flawless complexion**,	**e**	don't eat chocolate and greasy foods.
6	As he grew older and put on weight, he started to get	**f**	when I was a teenager.
7	He always looked like a Hollywood hero with his	**g**	has beautiful **high cheekbones**.
8	I had a really **greasy skin**	**h**	with her gorgeous **full lips**.
9	He had a rather **sallow complexion**	**i**	I get a cold.
10	I always wanted **glossy hair** like	**j**	**square jaw**.

9 **Complete the sentences using the collocations you have learned above. Then complete the crossword.**

Across

4 There's no colour at all in my cheeks – I have a very sallow complexion .

5 She has those very _____ features that the camera loves.

7 I have such _____ hair – it needs washing every day.

9 He has a very manly _____ jaw.

Down

1 Like a lot of older people, he has a double _____ .

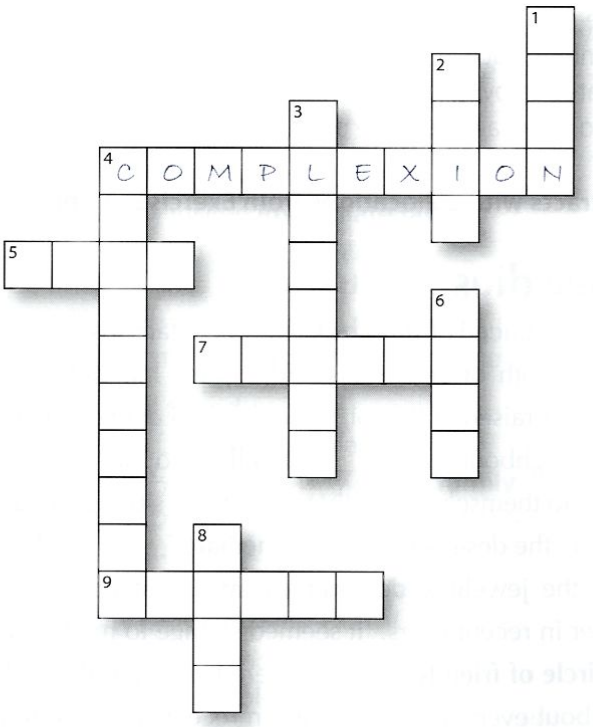
2 I was admiring her glossy _____ and wondering what shampoo she used.

3 She has a _____ complexion – not a spot or a blemish anywhere.

4 The photo really captures her beautiful high _____ .

6 Hay fever gives you a runny nose and puffy _____ .

8 I have such thin lips whereas my lucky sister has gorgeous _____ lips.



CLASSROOM EXTRA

In pairs, students choose three words from the collocations in this unit and make mini crosswords like the one in Exercise 9. They should then write their own gap-fill clues and swap them with another pair.

14 COLLOCATIONS FOR RELATIONSHIPS

Family and friends

The collocations in this unit focus on natural ways to talk about families, relationships and the way in which people are connected with each other.

Many collocations that describe family members and friends refer to how close or how distant the relationship is. Other collocations give information about how well the people in a relationship get on.

1 **Complete the groups of collocations with words from the box. Use a dictionary to help you if necessary.**

family • relative • acquaintance • ~~friend(s)~~

1 mutual, wide circle of } friend(s)
2 old, casual } _____
3 blood, distant } _____
4 close-knit, dysfunctional, stable, immediate } _____

2 **Match the collocations in Exercise 1 to the definitions 1–10.**

1 someone that you are related to but not closely
2 a family where the parents and children have strong relationships and are very involved with each other
3 someone who is known and liked by two people who also know each other
4 a lot of people who know and like you
5 a happy family in which there are no big changes or problems
6 someone who you know and like a little but do not have strong feelings for
7 a family in which there are many problems and bad relationships
8 closely related family members, such as parents, children, brothers and sisters
9 someone that you are related to by birth and not by marriage
10 someone who you used to know a little in the past

3 **Complete the newspaper extracts with collocations from Exercises 1 and 2.**

Jewellery designer dies

The sudden death has been announced of Timothy Carlton, the famous jewellery designer. Carlton, a favourite both of celebrities and royalty, has died at his home, aged thirty-eight. He was raised in Bristol, the only child of two teachers. They were, said friends and neighbours, a [1]_____ **family** who did everything together and kept themselves to themselves. Neither parent had siblings, so after the death of his father last year, the designer had no **immediate** [2]_____ . James Plant, an **old** [3]_____ of the jewellery designer, claimed that Carlton had become something of a loner in recent years. 'It seemed strange to me because he'd had a very [4]_____ **circle of friends** when we were hanging out together – he seemed to know just about everyone in London! In recent years, he never answered my calls so I sort of gave up trying. We had a **mutual** [5]_____ who still saw him from time to time, but she reported that he had changed a lot.'

CRIMINAL'S TROUBLED CHILDHOOD

Kai Turner himself was from a deeply **dysfunctional** [6]_____. His mother was an alcoholic who was incapable of looking after her son. His father left the family when Turner was two years old, never to return. His mother then embarked on a series of relationships that lasted a month or two. Neighbours report seeing various men at the property. The young Turner was therefore raised by a series of [7]_____ **acquaintances** who stayed at the family home for a period and then left. This was, in every way, the opposite of a **stable** [8]_____. The boy was isolated, with no siblings or cousins and few friends. The only **blood** [9]_____ he had regular contact with was his ill and inadequate mother and she was too ill to look after him. Shelly Turner, 54, a **distant** [10]_____ of the family, visited the house once in 2004 and described the young Turner, aged seven at the time, as a 'wild child, completely out of control'.

4 **Are the statements true (T) or false (F)?**

1 Timothy Carlton was from a loving family.
2 James Plant was a close friend of Carlton in the past.
3 Timothy Carlton had never been very sociable.
4 No one had seen Timothy Carlton in recent years.
5 Kai Turner was from a loving family.
6 Kai Turner had contact with a number of adult males throughout his childhood.
7 Kai Turner had other brothers and sisters.
8 Shelley Turner is closely related to Kai Turner.

5 **Match the sentence halves.**

1 He was an **old acquaintance** who I hadn't
2 She was a fairly **casual acquaintance** – I never
3 Her mother had left home when she was six and her father was an alcoholic. It was a
4 Dan and I were introduced by a
5 I have family in Canada but
6 We only invited **immediate family**
7 He was married to her aunt
8 They have a very **wide circle of friends** and they're
9 She had very nice, supportive parents and a sister who she got on well with
10 He's from a very **close-knit family** so he's always

a **mutual friend**.
b they're fairly **distant relatives**.
c and they seemed a very **stable family**.
d on the phone to his parents and sisters, telling them his news.
e to the funeral.
f completely **dysfunctional family**.
g knew her very well.
h always socialising with them.
i so he wasn't a **blood relative**.
j seen for years and years.

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask students to use three or four of the collocations in these two pages to make sentences relating to members of a famous family. Then put them in pairs to exchange their sentences. Can they guess the family?

More than just friends

There are a lot of collocations relating to romantic love. Some describe love starting and the circumstances in which love happens, while others refer to the strength of love and the speed at which it starts. There are also collocations describing the end of romantic relationships.

11 **6** **Read a report on a TV show and match the collocations in bold to the meanings 1–8. Then listen to the recording and pay attention to the where the stress falls in the collocations.**

AND NOW, FOR AN UPDATE ON THIS WEEK'S CELEBRITY GOSSIP, OVER TO MICHAEL MAXTON.

It looks as if *Sweetie* star, Mariella Streak, has **fallen in love** again. The twenty-six-year-old actress has apparently been dating movie legend, Mario Lowe. It's said that the couple had a **whirlwind romance** on the set of Al Walker's latest film, *Seems Like Yesterday*. Lowe has reportedly told friends that he is **madly in love** with the young actress. (Aren't we all, Mr Lowe!) You might recall Lowe went through a particularly **messy divorce** only last year after five years of marriage to pop star, Lolly Havers.

Well good luck to you, Mariella! Meanwhile, it was **love at first sight** for opera diva Rebecca Romano and film director, Jed Parker, when they met on the French Riviera. Both were holidaying in the region when a mutual friend invited them over for dinner. But will this **holiday romance** fade as quickly as their tans? (And is it really only three months since I was telling you about Parker's **quickie divorce** from his wife of ten years, Arletta Carmichael?) Only time will tell. And finally, since no Hollywood round-up is complete without a mention of Sean De Luca, I am sorry, ladies, to break the news that **romance** has **blossomed** for the dashing De Luca and his *Hot*! co-star, Lyla Carlstrom. Yes, apparently, Sean and Lyla have been inseparable since the series finished filming. So will De Luca give up his wild ways now that he's in a relationship? Watch this space!

1 love has started and developed between two people
2 a romantic relationship that starts when you are staying away from home for pleasure
3 a very unhappy and complicated end to a marriage
4 strong romantic feelings that start as soon as you look at a person
5 a romantic relationship that starts very quickly and unexpectedly
6 having extremely strong romantic feelings for someone
7 a very quick end to a marriage
8 started to have strong romantic feelings for someone

7 **Match the comments 1–4 to the collocations in the box.**

romance blossomed • love at first sight • messy divorce • whirlwind romance

1 Our eyes met across a crowded room and that was it – I was in love!

2 When my parents split up, it was pretty nasty – they argued over the children, the house, the family car, everything.

3 We started seeing each other socially – just as friends – but over time we gradually fell in love.

4 We met at the start of summer and were married by December – it all happened so quickly, I didn't have time to think.

8 **Put the phrases in the correct order to make sentences. Add punctuation where necessary.**

1 romance/and it was unlikely/I knew/a holiday/it was just/to last
2 one of those/they had/quickie divorces/Hollywood-style
3 I met/in love/Simon and/and fell/at college
4 in love with/was trekking /he met while he/Alastair is madly/in New Zealand/a woman

9 **Match the problems 1–8 to the advice a–h.**

RELATIONSHIPS

Need advice? Not sure what to do or who to turn to? Remember, a problem shared is a problem halved.

1 I'm **madly in love** with my best mate's boyfriend. I've tried not to be but I'm crazy about him – I think about him all the time. I feel *so* guilty. What should I do?

2 I met a woman while I was holidaying in Spain earlier this summer and I am completely and utterly in love. Do **holiday romances** ever last? Is there just ***one*** person out there who met the love of their life on holiday? Please say there is.

3 I met a girl on a train last week and I swear, the moment I looked at her face, I knew she was the one for me. Could this be possible? Does **love at first sight** actually happen in real life?

4 I've **fallen in love** with my boss. I know it's wrong but I'm crazy about him and I strongly suspect the feeling is mutual.

5 I moved cities last year to be with a guy that I'd had a **whirlwind romance** with. I left my friends and my job – everyone said I was crazy at the time. The thing is, the passion has started to cool and I'm now wondering whether they were right …

6 I'm ***finally*** single again after a particularly **messy divorce** and feeling very cynical about relationships generally. Will these negative feelings pass?

7 Three months after a **quickie divorce**, my best mate has started a new relationship and she's already talking about marriage. How can I talk sense into her?

8 **Romance** has recently **blossomed** between two of my best friends and, I'm ashamed to say, I'm feeling a bit left out. Am I being silly here?

a Forget it – this relationship is doomed. ***Always*** remember the golden rule: never mix business with pleasure.

b You can't. You've got to let her make her own mistakes. If she's daft enough to rush into a second marriage so soon, that's her own affair.

c Are you mad? What's more important to you – a friend for life or a passing passion? Come on, girl, you can do better!

d Well, my best mate met her husband (Lars) while travelling round Norway eight years ago. They're as in love today as they've ever been.

e No, your feelings are totally natural – it's just a bit of a shock. You'll get used to it in time and they're still your friends, even though they're an item.

f Personally, I doubt it. I think it's more likely you just really fancy her.

g They will – but give yourself time and ***don't*** put pressure on yourself to find a new partner.

h Well you can't say they didn't warn you. Maybe it's time to call it quits and go back to your mates. Hey, we all make mistakes!

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask your students to discuss in pairs which pieces of advice they agree with and which they do not.

15 COLLOCATIONS FOR PERSONALITY

Study tip

When you learn these collocations, think about which ones are positive and which are negative.

The problem with people ...

The collocations in this unit focus on ways to talk about people's qualities and characteristics.

1 **Complete the problem page letters with words from the box.**

bored • company • fiery • way • speak • tendency • sense • painfully • impression • likes

Dear Muriel
I'd like your advice on the best way to help my daughter, who is [1]_____ **shy**. I don't know why she feels like this, because all we see is a talented and lovely girl. She's very musical and she has a real [2]_____ **with words**. She writes beautiful poetry – the problem is that it's yet another hobby she does shut away on her own. When she relaxes, she has a good [3]_____ **of humour** too, but around girls of her own age she is always anxious. If I try to talk to her about it, she just says I'm being silly and she [4]_____ **her own company**.
Molly P

Dear Muriel
Please help me. I knew before I married my husband that he had a [5]_____ **temper**, but recently he's been getting angry over tiny things. He's always **had a** [6]_____ to be critical, but now he complains every day about my cooking, the way I dress, and even the way I talk. Sometimes he **gives the** [7]_____ that he'd rather be on his own again. What should I do?
Susie R

Dear Muriel
My father came to stay with us after an illness four years ago, and he's still here! We love him dearly, and he can be very **good** [8]_____ at times, but he puts quite a strain on my family. He's **easily** [9]_____ and always wants someone to entertain him – just like a child, really. At the same time, he disapproves of a lot of things my teenagers do, and he never hesitates to [10]_____ **his mind**, which leads to a lot of arguments. He could easily manage on his own again and just come to us for visits, but I don't know how to suggest it without sounding cruel.
Ricky A

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask students to discuss what advice they would give the three people in Exercise 1.

2 **Rewrite the sentences using the collocations in brackets.**

1 Chris was a lovely companion on the trip – it's fun spending time with him. (good company)
Chris was a lovely companion on the trip – he's good company.
2 I've noticed that Sam often exaggerates. (have a tendency to)
3 Carine says what she thinks and that doesn't always make her very popular. (speak your mind)
4 I think Melissa is fine living on her own – she enjoys spending time alone. (like your own company)
5 He's always found it very difficult to talk to people – parties and other social situations are a nightmare for him. (painfully shy)
6 I don't know him very well but he makes me think he is rather arrogant. (give the impression)
7 My older brother gets angry very easily – he flies into a rage over very little things sometimes. (fiery temper)
8 Paul is quite quiet but he likes to joke with other people. (good sense of humour)
9 My younger son is clever at using words well and writes marvellous stories. (have a way with words)
10 Tom gets bored very quickly – he never does one activity for any length of time. (easily bored)

3 **Rewrite the sentences so that they mean the opposite, using the collocations you have learned.**

1 Yolanda rarely gives an opinion. Yolanda always **speaks her mind**.
2 She hates spending time on her own.
3 Diana doesn't express herself very clearly.
4 Michael never laughs at anything and he never makes me laugh.
5 My husband is very calm and never gets angry.
6 Lola is very confident with people.
7 She's happy doing the same thing every day.
8 No one enjoys spending time with Yan.

12 **4** **Caroline and Anton have decided it's time to meet each other's friends. Use the collocations you have learned to complete their descriptions. Listen to the recording to check your answers.**

ANTON

Of all my friends, I suppose I'd have to call Brendan my best mate. We were at school together and we've stayed close all these years. I usually see him at least once a week. He's funny and interesting – really [1]_____ . I'm not too keen on his girlfriend Kitty, though. We'd be happy to sit chatting all evening, but she's [2]_____ and always wants to be doing something new. She gets cross if we go out without her too.

Then there's Geoff, someone I know from uni. He's great, although he has a really [3]_____ – sometimes he gets furious about the tiniest things. We're fairly used to it, and we know that he'll usually calm down fairly soon, but unfortunately he [4]_____ to get into arguments with complete strangers too, which can be embarrassing. If Kitty's there, she usually tells him to stop being so stupid – she's not afraid to [5]_____ .



CAROLINE

I can't wait to introduce you to Miriam. When you first meet her, she [6]_____ of being a bit serious, but actually she has a brilliant [7]_____ – she always sees the funny side of everything, and we have a real laugh together.

Deb is probably the cleverest of my friends. Her dad was in the diplomatic service, so she's lived in lots of different countries, so she knows loads about different cultures, and she's fascinating to talk to. She's a journalist. At the moment she's specialising in Asian affairs, and there's talk of her moving to Hong Kong – I hope she won't! I'm not surprised she's doing so well in that job though – she has a real [8]_____ .

Paul is my next-door neighbour. He was [9]_____ when I first met him. In fact, it took about six months before he'd even say hello! But over the years we've become good friends. He doesn't socialise much, though – he says he [10]_____ too much!

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask your students to describe some of their friends to each other.

Just the person for the job

Study tip

Think about which are positive and which are negative characteristics. Remember – something that might be positive for someone's job performance might not make them a nice person!

The collocations in these exercises describe personality traits that are important in a work situation.

5 **Two interviewers, Ian and Aisha, are discussing three candidates for the job of salesperson, Antonio, Michelle and Mario. Match the collocations in bold to the definitions 1–8.**



Ian: I was very impressed by Antonio. He has a very **strong personality** which I think he would need in this job. I imagine he has quite a **ruthless streak** which is a good thing in a salesperson.

Aisha: Yes, he certainly gives the impression of being **supremely confident**. I'm just a bit concerned that he is too confident and that the existing team might find him difficult to work with. Personally, I preferred Michelle. She has a very nice **outgoing personality** and I thought she would fit in with the team.

Ian: Yes, she was certainly friendly and likeable but I didn't sense that she had a **burning ambition** to work for this company. You see, I think in this role we need a **risk taker** – someone who's not afraid to do things a little differently if it increases sales. I think we've played safe for too long.

Aisha: Well, let's invite both Antonio and Michelle back for a second interview. I'm assuming you were not impressed by Mario?

Ian: Absolutely not. I find it incredible that someone so **shy and retiring** works in sales. I suppose on the positive side, he seems to have an **eye for detail** but apart from that, I think he has nothing to offer us.

Aisha: I agree.

1 completely sure about your own abilities
2 nervous about meeting new people and quiet
3 a character that is confident and determined
4 a very strong desire to achieve something
5 an ability to notice small things or single pieces of information
6 a part of someone's character that does not care about upsetting other people
7 someone who will do dangerous things or things that may cause something bad to happen in order to achieve something good
8 a friendly character, showing interest in other people

6 **Read the dialogue in Exercise 5 again. Are the statements true (T) or false (F)?**

1 Aisha liked Antonio best of all the candidates.
2 Both interviewers thought that Antonio would not care about upsetting others in order to achieve his goals.
3 Aisha thought that Antonio might have problems with other members of the sales team.
4 Michelle was quite shy.
5 Ian thought Michelle was not keen enough on doing the job.
6 Ian is looking for someone who will always choose the safest course of action.
7 Both interviewers thought that Mario would probably be careless in his work.
8 Mario is going to be given another interview.

7 **How driven are you? Answer these questions by choosing *a*, *b* or *c* and our life coach Guy Grounded will tell you!**

HOW DRIVEN ARE YOU?

1 Would you describe yourself as a **risk taker**?
- **a** Absolutely! It excites me to take risks.
- **b** Now and then I take risks when I think it will pay off.
- **c** No, I never take risks. I don't even like ordering a new dish on a menu.

2 How sociable are you?
- **a** Extremely sociable. I have what you would call an outgoing personality.
- **b** I like spending time with my friends but I like my own company too.
- **c** I'm not at all sociable – quite shy in fact.

3 How confident are you?
- **a** I'm supremely confident in most situations.
- **b** I'm fairly confident in some situations and not so confident in others.
- **c** I wouldn't describe myself as confident at all.

4 Do you think anyone has ever described you as shy and retiring?
- **a** Are you joking?
- **b** I doubt it – I can be shy sometimes but I would say I'm fairly sociable.
- **c** Quite possibly. I'm generally not comfortable in social situations.

5 Do you have an eye for detail?
- **a** No, not at all – I'm interested in the bigger picture.
- **b** I don't know if I have but I know that details are important.
- **c** Definitely.

6 Would other people describe you as ruthless?
- **a** Possibly, depending on the situation in which we've met.
- **b** I doubt it, though they might say I have a ruthless streak.
- **c** I sincerely hope not.

7 Do you have any burning ambitions?
- **a** Too many to list.
- **b** I have ambitions but I don't think I have burning ambitions.
- **c** No – no burning ambitions.

8 Which of these statements best describes your character?
- **a** I have a strong personality.
- **b** I have my own ideas about how to do things but I listen to other people's ideas too.
- **c** I am gentle person and I don't like to upset people.

MOSTLY A'S
It would take a brave person to get in your way, you alpha male/female! Your drive is to be admired (and feared!). Just remember that a little self-doubt is a good thing and that family and friends do matter.

MOSTLY B'S
Clever you! You have ambitions but you have friends. You want to achieve things but you like to help other people to achieve their goals too. You have found the middle way!

MOSTLY C'S
You may not have a marvellous career or a huge circle of friends but you have an army of admirers. Take courage – you are so much better than you think you are!

8 **Complete the e-mail with the collocations you have learned above.**

You should see my boss, Grace. The moment she walks into a room, everyone feels it. She has a very [1]_____ – you certainly can't ignore her! The dresses she designs are absolutely amazing, and she has a real [2]_____ – every stitch must be perfect. In meetings, she never shows the slightest nervousness. She's always [3]_____ of her designs and of her business sense. She says that to succeed in fashion, you have to be a [4]_____ – nobody is interested in safe, boring clothes. Last week she sacked two of her junior designers because she said their work wasn't creative enough. They were really upset, but she didn't seem to care at all – she certainly has a [5]_____!

CLASSROOM EXTRA

If this is being done in class, ask students to interview one another, rather than doing the questionnaire individually.

16 COLLOCATIONS FOR WHERE WE LIVE

City life



These exercises focus on collocations relating to living in a town or city.

Study tip

Notice how the choice of words can make a place sound attractive or unattractive.

1 **Read two different descriptions of the same area. Match the collocations in bold to the definitions 1–10.**

RUSH AND BAKER RESIDENTIAL LETTINGS
4 The Broadway, Hartington Town

Hartington Town

With its attractive Victorian houses and **tree-lined streets,** Hartington Town continues to be one of the most popular **residential areas** of the city. It has a wealth of shops and **local amenities**, schooling for all ages and a large superstore. There are plenty of **green spaces** for children to enjoy. With its unique atmosphere, this is a **friendly neighbourhood**, enjoyed by families and students alike. It is **within easy reach of** the train station and just twenty minutes' walk from the town centre.

Having been to estate agent Rush and Baker's website and read their description of the Hartington Town area of the city, I immediately called a letting agency and arranged to inspect a property for rent in the area. The next day, I came to Hartington Town and was disappointed to say the least.
Where Rush and Baker see 'a popular residential area', I saw only shabby houses and **overflowing bins**. The amount of rubbish on the pavements was frankly disgraceful, though probably caused in part by the complete lack of **recycling facilities** in the area. Cars were parked on every available pavement with, as far as I could tell, no provision for **off-road parking**. As for Rush and Baker's description of the 'friendly neighbourhood', I saw very little evidence of this. I witnessed two arguments during my half-hour in the area – both over parking – and as it became darker, felt distinctly unsafe walking the **dimly lit streets**.
I, for one, will certainly not be moving into the Hartington Town area.
Victoria Billington

1 an area where cars can be left that is not the side of the road
2 large containers in public places that people put used paper, bottles, etc., into so that they can be changed into other things and used again
3 near enough to a place so that you can go there easily
4 rubbish containers that are much too full
5 roads with little light
6 a road in a town with a lot of trees
7 areas of grass where there are no buildings, for example parks
8 places where there are a lot of houses
9 places such as swimming pools and parks that make it pleasant or easy for people to live in an area
10 an area of a city with people who are pleasant and helpful to each other

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask students to discuss what sort of area they like to live in. First, ask them to rank the above collocations from 1 to 10, 1 being the best feature and 10 the worst. Then ask them in pairs to compare their lists and explain their decisions.

2 **Jonathan and Tiane are trying to decide where to live. They list the five most important things for them. Rewrite their lists using collocations from Exercise 1.**

Tiane

1 lots of parks for walks
2 near to the town centre
3 lots of trees growing by the road
4 drive or other space for car
5 no dark roads at night (don't feel safe)

Jonathan

1 an area with nice people
2 lots of shops, post office, etc., nearby
3 in part of town with other houses
4 no rubbish spilling out onto the street
5 places to take used bottles, paper, etc.

3 **Read the messages on a social networking website by people who have just moved house. Complete the updates 1–10 with the sentences a–j.**

1 Just taken Basil (my dog) for a walk in one of several parks in this area.
2 Just moved into very **friendly neighbourhood** – can't believe how helpful people are.
3 Can't work out where the **recycling facilities** are in this area.
4 Wonder if **local amenities** in this neighbourhood include a pool?
5 One problem with this area – where to leave car?
6 New neighbourhood so green and leafy.
7 Love it that I'm in town but **within easy reach of** the countryside.
8 Walked home alone along **dimly lit streets** and didn't feel safe.
9 People in the house opposite had a party last night and kept half the street awake with their noise.
10 Find all these **overflowing bins** depressing.

a What am I supposed to do with my bottle mountain?
b This is supposed to be a quiet **residential area**!
c Never seen so many **green spaces** in a town!
d No **off-road parking** and limited spaces in my street.
e Am desperate for a swim.
f Such a pleasure to walk down **tree-lined streets**.
g Planning a walk in the hills this weekend.
h 2 complete strangers helped me get my sofa out of van and into sitting room!
i Why doesn't the council empty them more often?
j Will take a taxi next time.

4 **Complete the sentences using the collocations you have learned above.**

1 House for rent in quiet _____ area.
2 We walked down elegant tree-_____ streets.
3 At that time, there were few local _____ – no supermarkets or post offices, no swimming pools or sports centres.
4 These inner-city areas had no green _____ where you could take the kids or walk the dog.
5 I'm very happy living in this part of town – it's a very friendly _____ .
6 I want to live somewhere that's within easy _____ of London.
7 I wish the council would empty these _____ bins.
8 There are fantastic recycling _____ almost on every street corner.
9 There is very little _____ parking in the middle of town.
10 Do you feel safe walking along these _____ streets at night?

Country life



These exercises focus on collocations relating to living in the countryside.

5 **Underline the correct word to complete the collocations. Use a dictionary to help you if necessary.**

1 We drove along **winding/bending/curving lanes** for over an hour before reaching the village.
2 The guidebook described a 'pretty village deep **in the body/heart/bosom of the countryside**'.
3 They have a more relaxed **way/method/type of life** in the country.
4 Outside she could hear the sound of tyres on the **cobbled/stoned/stony streets**.
5 The charity was set up to protect this area of **vintage/ancient/elderly woodland**.
6 From the top of the hill we had a great view of the **startling/surprising/breathtaking scenery**.
7 We drove through the most **pictorial/picturesque/photographic villages** on the way there.
8 Our room looked out onto beautiful **rounded/rolling/curving** hills.

6 **Bea is describing a visit to her friend Charlotte in her diary. Replace the underlined phrases with collocations from the box.**

remote village • way of life • winding lanes • rolling hills • cobbled streets • ancient woodland • picturesque village • in the heart of the countryside

17TH JUNE

Today I visited my friend Charlotte, who lives in a [1] very beautiful small town near the Scottish border. It really is deep [2] in the part of the country with fields, farms, etc., far away from towns and cities, and it took ages to drive there along the [3] narrow roads with many bends in them. Charlotte's pretty little cottage is at the end of a narrow, [4] road with a surface made of small stones.

After lunch we went for a walk. There are lots of lovely footpaths in the [5] gentle, rounded slopes. We climbed to the top of the highest hill and looked out at the [6] incredible view. Then we walked back through an area of [7] extremely old trees – it was like something from a fairy tale!

Back at Charlotte's we had tea and cake in her rose-filled garden. It really is a completely different [8] style of living from what I am used to in the city!

7 **Put the phrases in the correct order to make sentences. Add punctuation where necessary.**

1 rolling hills/window onto/she looked out/of her hotel
2 a long time/it took me/the way of life here/to get used to
3 of the Oxfordshire countryside/this is a/right in the heart/beautiful little village
4 reached the village/we walked/lanes till we/along winding
5 I've ever seen/this must/picturesque village/be the most
6 of the horses' hooves/hear the sound/on the cobbled streets/I could
7 the area you/if you visit/absolutely breathtaking scenery/will see some
8 ancient woodland/almost destroyed/forest fires have/this area of

8 **Complete the postcards, using the collocations you have learned.**

Hi Beth,

How are you doing? Woodvale is starting to feel like home. It's such a [1] _____ village – all cobbled streets, flowers in pots and tea shops – you'll love it. And it's deep in the [2] _____ of the Sussex countryside, which is just gorgeous – rolling [3] _____ as far as the eye can see. You'll be amazed at the breathtaking [4] _____.

Visit soon – I really want you to see this place.

Much love, Lara

xxx

PS Bring your camera when you come!

Hi Isabel,

Am visiting Lara Parkes in her new home in the middle of Sussex. Can't imagine living here. It's the sort of place you'd want to visit for a day – stroll around the [5] _____ streets, have a cup of tea in a tea shop – and then leave. Poor L is stuck here.

The house is pretty but so cold and damp. It's right next to this really creepy area of ancient [6] _____. There's absolutely nothing to do, and no social life whatsoever. I don't see how anyone can enjoy this [7] _____ of life, frankly.

Had a nightmare drive getting here too – all [8] _____ lanes and steep hills. Didn't think my car was going to make it.

Hope you're having more fun where you are!

Love, Beth x

PS Must get this in the post before L sees it!

9 **Read the description of a village in a guidebook. Six of the adjectives in the collocations have become muddled up. Put them in the right places to correct the text.**

Lower Brookford

This winding village, deep in the heart of the Eastmoreland countryside, is generally considered to be the prettiest in the region and is well worth a visit. Set in picturesque hills, with cows and sheep grazing in the fields, it is a half-hour drive from the nearest town (Tonville). The journey itself is a pleasure, driving along breathtaking country lanes and through a marvellous area of cobbled woodland, then climbing to the top of Penny Hill. Stop there for a moment to savour the ancient scenery before dropping down into the valley where Lower Brookfield is situated. Have tea in the grounds of the centrally located Rosefort or stroll through the rolling streets and admire the eighteenth-century architecture. However you choose to spend your time here, you are sure to enjoy yourself. ■

CLASSROOM EXTRA

If this unit is being done in class, ask students in pairs to discuss their feelings about living in the town or the city. Are they like Lara – or more like Beth?

REVIEW

Units 13–16

These exercises use collocations from units 13–16 and will help you see how many you have remembered. After each exercise, add up your score to see how well you have done.

1 **Complete the sentences.**

1 Al is dark with a moustache and a big bushy _____ .
2 This area of ancient _____ contains the oldest trees in the country.
3 Have you noticed Simon has a bald _____ on the top of his head?
4 They fell in _____ and were married within the space of four months.
5 She looked like a model in a shampoo advert with her perfect glossy _____ .
6 The town centre is very old and full of cobbled _____ .
7 He's about forty with blond hair and a receding _____ .
8 The Taylors were always a very close-knit _____ .
9 They met in January and were married in April – it was a real whirlwind _____ .
10 We were introduced to each other by a mutual _____ .

Score: ☐ / 10

2 **Underline the correct word to complete the collocations.**

1 She had a **burning/fiery/blazing ambition** to succeed.
2 He has a real **mind/eye/brain for detail** which makes him very good at his job.
3 My dad is quite **thickly/heavily/weightily built**.
4 She's related to me by marriage so she's not a **blood/flesh/bone relative**.
5 I've always envied her gorgeous **round/heavy/full lips**.
6 She has very **near-set/close-set/next-set eyes**.
7 My parents split up when I was six. They had a really **messy/untidy/confused divorce**.
8 She's a therapist and does a lot of work with children from **defective/dysfunctional/malfunctional families**.
9 She was very overweight with a **double/twin/dual chin**.
10 I'd had enough of the **spilling/overflowing/flooding bins** and the graffiti.

Score: ☐ / 10

3 **Match the collocations 1–10 to the definitions a–j.**

1	bloodshot eyes	**a**	love that starts as soon as you see someone
2	even features	**b**	eyes, nose and mouth that are regular in shape
3	quickie divorce	**c**	feeling very strong love for someone
4	love at first sight	**d**	someone you used to know in the past
5	distant relative	**e**	eyes in which the part that is normally white is red
6	casual acquaintance	**f**	a very fast legal end to a marriage
7	sallow complexion	**g**	a relation who is not closely related
8	square jaw	**h**	someone that you know but not very well
9	old acquaintance	**i**	pale yellow skin that looks unhealthy
10	madly in love	**j**	a strong, wide jaw

Score: ☐ / 10

4 **Match the two halves of these sentences.**

1	Romance blossomed over the months	**a**	shy and retiring.
2	He had horrible greasy hair	**b**	that needed washing.
3	She had puffy eyes	**c**	shoulder-length hair.
4	She has dark,	**d**	as if she'd been crying.
5	Most holiday romances	**e**	end as soon as the holiday is over.
6	She's supremely confident	**f**	and eventually they married.
7	It was just immediate family	**g**	of her abilities.
8	She's great at public speaking as she	**h**	has a real way with words.
9	These exercises will give you	**i**	a lovely flat stomach.
10	I couldn't imagine him as an actor – he seemed so	**j**	at the funeral.

Score: ☐ / 10

5 **Correct the word in *italics* to make a collocation with the word in bold in each sentence.**

1 The region is noted for its **breathtaking** *scenes*.
2 My cousin in America has a very different *route* **of life** from me.
3 The countryside there is gorgeous – I love its *flowing* **hills**.
4 Dominic has a very **wide** *square* **of friends**.
5 We live deep in the *chest* **of the countryside**.
6 We're in the countryside but we're **within** *simple* **reach of** the city.
7 I like Tim but I imagine he has a fairly **ruthless** *band* when it comes to business.
8 There are so many *nearby* **amenities** in the area – the swimming pool and sports centre and so on.
9 Lara **speaks her** *head* so you're never in any doubt as to her opinion.
10 They live in a very pleasant **residential** *region* of the city.

Score: ☐ / 10

6 **Complete the sentences with collocations from the box. Use the correct form of the verbs.**

recycling facilities • off-road parking • winding lane • easily bored • picturesque village • outgoing personality • green spaces • friendly neighbourhood • good company • broad shoulders

1 I'm always trying to think of activities to occupy the kids in the holidays – they're very _____ .
2 It's a very pretty part of the country with so many _____ that you can visit.
3 Are there any _____ where I can take my bottles and cans?
4 I think you'll have fun together – she's really _____ .
5 I found driving along the _____ in the countryside rather stressful.
6 There was no _____ so we had to leave the car on the roadside.
7 Are there any _____ nearby where I can go for a jog?
8 I can imagine her doing well in sales – she has a very _____ .
9 It's a very _____ – we know everyone in the street and everyone gets along.
10 He looks very strong with his _____ .

Score: ☐ / 10
Total score: ☐ / 60

17 COLLOCATIONS FOR WORK

All in a day's work

The collocations in this unit focus on ways to talk about work. People often like to talk about their work and learning these collocations will help you to do this.

Study tip

Pay particular attention to collocations with phrasal verbs and try to remember them by using your own examples as it is easy to confuse them.

1 **Circle the correct word to complete the collocation in each sentence.**

1 You need to know someone very well and be very confident of their abilities before you _____ **into business** with them.
a start **b** fall **c** go

2 She earns a lot of money but she _____ very **long hours**.
a performs **b** works **c** completes

3 His company has an **annual** _____ of over £20 million.
a rollover **b** turnabout **c** turnover

4 Last year he left drama school, hoping to _____ his **career** as an actor.
a throw **b** jump **c** launch

5 So many small **companies** have _____ in the recession.
a gone under **b** gone down **c** gone off

6 She's just _____ a **business**, selling handmade jewellery.
a made up **b** set up **c** set off

7 We've got so much work on we've had to _____ more **staff**.
a take on **b** take up **c** take in

8 He recently took three months off work with _____ **stress**.
a work-connected **b** work-related **c** work-caused

9 If the **business** _____, we'll be looking for more staff.
a takes off **b** takes up **c** takes over

10 He's done a lot of _____ **labour**, working on building sites and so on.
a handy **b** manual **c** hand

13 **2** **Complete the text with collocations from Exercise 1. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs. Then listen to the recording to check your answers.**

Presenter: And this week on *Real Lives*, we hear Kevin's story about how he survived the recession.

Kevin: Eight years ago, I [1]_____ **into business** with my brother, selling sportswear. We gave it everything, we really did. We **worked** [2]_____ **hours** – sometimes twelve or more a day – and we didn't take any holidays. Everything went really well and within three years we had an [3]_____ **turnover** of three million pounds. The company expanded and we **took on** more [4]_____ and so it went on. Then, all of a sudden, the recession came. People gradually stopped buying our product, and before we could do anything about it, our **company** had [5]_____. It was a pretty depressing time, I can tell you. Basically, I didn't know what to do with myself.

To occupy my time, I started gardening, working on my neighbour's garden. I did the digging and planting but I also designed it and it looked pretty good. Then I started reading up on garden design and a year later, took a course in it. So in 2009, I launched a [6]_____ as a garden designer. It's been two years since I set up the [7]_____ and I haven't regretted it for one minute. It's just me, so there's no one else to worry about and there's very little in the way of work-related [8]_____ – perfect. And after all those years in an office, I actually really like it that the job involves manual [9]_____ The [10]_____ has really taken off and I'm happier now than I've ever been.

3 **Match the sentence halves.**

1	She **went into business** with an ex-colleague of hers,	**a**	**launched** his **career** as an actor.
2	It was an incredibly popular film – it really	**b**	small **companies** like these will **go under**.
3	She took several months off	**c**	**set up** my own **business** selling underwear.
4	I assume they're growing the business as they've	**d**	twelve hours a day.
5	Like many university graduates,	**e**	in the region of £40 million.
6	If the banks continue to refuse to lend money,	**f**	had **taken off** and she had a staff of 200.
7	Eventually, I'd like to leave this company and	**g**	selling stationery.
8	Nurses **work long hours** – sometimes as many as	**h**	recently **taken on** so many **staff**.
9	Their **annual turnover** is somewhere	**i**	he has no experience of **manual labour**.
10	Within two years, the **business**	**j**	suffering from **work-related stress**.

4 **Rewrite the sentences using the collocations you have learned above.**

1 I've been feeling very anxious and depressed recently as a result of my work.
I have been suffering from work-related stress recently.

2 I work ten or eleven hours a day.
I work _____ .

3 That's the amount of business that our company does every year.
That's our _____ .

4 The collection was a successful start to her work as a fashion designer.
_____ *as a fashion designer.*

5 His company failed last year.
His _____ *last year.*

6 Why don't you start your own business?
Why don't you _____ ?

7 The company is expanding so we're employing more people.
The company is expanding so _____ .

8 My father spent his life doing work with his hands.
My father spent his life _____ .

9 After years of struggle, her business has suddenly started to be successful.
After years of struggle, _____ .

10 Last year I started working with my sister in a company that we created together.
Last year I went _____ .

Study tip

Using the correct collocation often means you can sum up an idea in fewer words.

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask each student to pick three collocations to make questions, for example, *Would you like to set up your own business?, What's the best way to avoid work-related stress?* Students then move around the class, asking each other the questions they have written.

A successful career

The collocations in these exercises are used to talk about people's careers, and how successful or unsuccessful they are. They include such things as the importance of your job, the hours that you work and whether or not you enjoy it.

14 **5** **Read the webpage and replace the underlined phrases with collocations from the box. Then listen to the recording to check your answers.**

high-powered job • realise your ambitions • job satisfaction • dead-end job • steady job • pursue a career • demanding work • relevant experience • brilliant career • heavy workload

LifeSkills Careers Advice

Read what our clients have to say about us ...



Ben, youth worker

My story is proof that it's never too late to change! I left school at the age of sixteen and had a series of [1] jobs that do not help you to get better jobs, filling shelves in supermarkets, cleaning offices and so on. My poor parents were always desperate for me to get a [2] reliable job but I just never settled to anything. By the time I decided that I needed to do something with my life, I thought I'd missed my chance – but the people at LifeSkills helped me to find out how to get the qualifications I needed and suggested ways for me to get [3] knowledge gained from doing a similar job. I can't thank them enough, as I now have a job I love!



Nick, stockbroker

Most of the men in my family have been factory workers, but LifeSkills helped me to realise that I could aim higher. It is largely because of their encouragement that I now have a [4] very important and powerful job in a City bank, selling stocks and shares. It's [5] work that needs a lot of effort and skill – I work long hours and have to cope with a lot of stress. For me it's worth it though, and I have real [6] pleasure in my work. For the first time in my life, I can afford pretty much anything I want to. I always dreamed of having a nice apartment and a good car, and, aged just thirty-six, I've [7] achieved what I very much wanted to.



Alex, doctor

For me, the most important thing was to feel that I had a job that would be useful to society. I was also interested in travelling. LifeSkills helped me decide that the best thing for me would be to [8] follow a particular profession in medicine. I'm now an eye specialist, and although I'm based at a London hospital, I spend at least three months every year in Africa or Asia. My mother is very proud of what she calls my [9] very successful job, but secretly I think she's disappointed that I've never married or had children. It's partly because of the [10] huge amount of work I have to do – I don't have time for romance! I don't really mind, though – my work is my life.

6 **Rewrite the sentences so that they mean the opposite, using the collocations you have learned.**

1 In his work, Charles failed to do what he wanted and tried to do.
In his work, Charles ***realised his ambition.***
2 The work gave Claudia no pleasure or feelings of achievement.
3 He doesn't have a job that he can rely on to earn him a regular income.
4 It's a job with great chances of success in the future.
5 He does unimportant low-paid work.
6 Daniel decided not to continue his job as a lawyer.
7 It's easy work that requires no skill and little effort.
8 She doesn't have much to do in her new job.
9 He doesn't have any of the skills and knowledge gained from doing a similar job.
10 Maria had not been especially successful in her work.

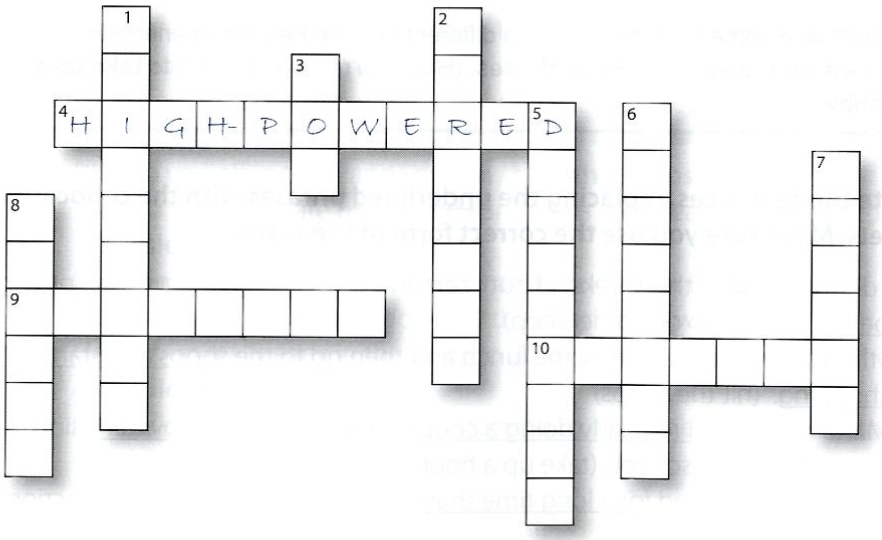
7 **Complete the sentences using the collocations you have learned above. Then complete the crossword**

Across

4 His wife has a *high-powered* job in a legal firm and earns loads of money.
9 She had _____ all her work ambitions and still she didn't feel satisfied.
10 You don't want to be stuck in a _____ job for the rest of you life!

Down

1 She had a _____ career as an academic.
2 Like most people in the medical profession, she has a very heavy _____.
3 There's a lot of _____ satisfaction in teaching children and seeing the progress that they make.
5 Teaching can be very satisfying but it's very _____ work.
6 I'd never get the job – I have no _____ experience.
7 He had his wild years but now he has a girlfriend and a _____ job.
8 She wants to _____ a career in nursing.



CLASSROOM EXTRA

In pairs, students choose three words from the collocations in this unit and make mini crosswords like the one in Exercise 7. They then write their own gap-fill clues and swap them with another pair.

18 COLLOCATIONS FOR LEISURE

Taking it easy

The collocations in these exercises describe the sort of things that people do in their spare time, such as socialising, shopping and sleeping. Many of them are quite informal.

15 **1** **Read the five messages on a social networking website written over three days. Put them in the correct order. Then listen to the recording to check your answers.**

The baby didn't get to sleep till 3:00 a.m. Sigh! Absolutely must **catch up on some sleep**. Joe says he'll get up with her tomorrow morning and I can **have a lie-in!** Can't wait!

It was lovely seeing M&S tonight. It's always good to **catch up with friends** and they're a really lovely couple.

Oh dear, exhausted again this morning – we **stayed up** way too **late** last night chatting. Will **go for a stroll** round the park now in the hope that the fresh air wakes me up!

Feel better today for late start. (Not up till 11:00, thank you, Joe!) **Hit the shops** with Pia and Beth this afternoon. Bought food from the market as we're **having** M&S **over for dinner** tonight.

A walk and some fresh air and I'm a different person! Feeling so energetic, have even signed up for salsa classes. (Hey, you're never too old to **take up a hobby**!)

Sound natural

The sentences with collocations will sound more natural and concise.

2 **Rewrite the sentences, replacing the underlined phrases with the collocations in brackets. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

1 I didn't do much this weekend but I certainly slept a lot, having not slept enough before. (catch up on some sleep)
2 I thought we could have some lunch and then go to the shops and start shopping. (hit the shops)
3 Marta has started regularly doing a couple of activities for enjoyment since she's been at her new school. (take up a hobby)
4 We didn't go to bed for a long time that night in order to watch the election results. (stay up late)
5 She's really tired so she's sleeping longer than usual this morning. (have a lie-in)
6 I walked in a slow, relaxed way around the park with Alessandro on Sunday morning. (go for a stroll)
7 I saw some friends that I hadn't seen in ages while I was in Rome. (catch up with some friends)
8 We gave Lisa and Andrew a meal at our house on Saturday. (have someone over for dinner)

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask your students to look at the collocations they have learned and think about what they would most like to do this weekend. They should put the collocations in order of preference, and compare with their friends.

3 **Complete the e-mail with the collocations from Exercises 1 and 2.**

From: Ali Sharma <Ali.Sharma@abc.co.uk
To: <Gustav Svenska@def.co.uk
Subject: Hello there!

Hi Gustav
Just a quick one to say thanks for your lovely birthday card. It was really sweet of you!
We've had a very nice, lazy weekend here. I got up at 11.00 on Saturday morning – (can't remember the last time I [1]_____). It was a nice warm day so Philip and I [2]_____ along the river and had lunch in that café on Mill Lane. (We used to go to it – do you remember?) P went off to football in the afternoon (as ever!) so I did a spot of shopping in town. It's been a while since I [3]_____ .
Saturday night was fun – we [4]_____ Ollie and Helena _____ , (a fantastic fish stew cooked by P!). They both send you their love. We hadn't seen them for over a year (!) so it was great to spend a bit of time with them. They seem to be enjoying life in Oxford. Ollie has [5]_____ various new _____ , including cycling and jujitsu. (Where does he get his energy?) It was good to hear all their news – it's so nice to [6]_____ that you haven't seen in ages. We [7]_____ – I think it was three o'clock when we finally all went to bed! I don't know where the time went.
It's only 9 o'clock in the evening here and P is already in bed. He's been a bit tired recently (too many late nights studying) and feels he needs to [8]_____ .
Poor thing has to be up at 5:00 (!) tomorrow morning to get to London for a meeting. Rather him than me!
Right, I'm just going to make a couple of calls and then it's bed for me too. I hope all is well with you and Katinka.
Write if you ever get a moment.
Love
Ali x

4 **Correct the word in *italics* to make a collocation with the word in bold in each sentence. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

1 We *kept* **up late** to watch the men's 100 metre final so we're a bit weary this morning.
2 I don't get to socialise during the week so at the weekend I like to *pick* **up with friends**.
3 I'll drop you off in town and you can *knock* **the shops**.
4 I've had too many late nights and early starts and I really feel I need to *take* **up on** some **sleep**.
5 It's been ages since we've *put* Jenny and James **over for dinner**.
6 We could *walk* **for a stroll** down by the beach after we've had dinner.
7 He gets up really early in the week to go to work so at the weekend he likes to *gain* **a lie-in**.
8 He was complaining that he had nothing to do in the evenings so I told him he should *start* **up a hobby**.

Enjoy yourself!

Of course people do more in their leisure time than sleep and shop. The collocations in these exercises include activities that are done away from home. Many of these collocations are used by travel companies to describe leisure pursuits in a way that sounds exciting or appealing.

5 **Read the extracts from three travel websites. Complete the texts with words from the box. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

person • inspiration • limit • idyllic • lifetime • activity • book • atmosphere • adventure • soak up

Want to try white-water rafting in Peru? Ever fancied climbing Mount Kilimanjaro? Come with us! At Rush.com, we cater for the holiday-maker with a **sense of** [1]_____. You'll meet **like-minded** [2]_____ with whom you can share your unforgettable experiences. You'll **push yourself to the** [3]_____ and then discover who you are – and you'll come home a little prouder of yourself. One thing is certain, you won't regret booking a holiday adventure with Rush.com.

At ActiveBreaks.com, we are satisfied that no one offers a wider range of **outdoor** [4]_____, from walking to hang-gliding. Whatever your age, whatever your ability, you will find the perfect outdoor holiday with us in any number of [5]_____ **settings**, from stretches of unspoilt coast to mountainous regions. So whether it's gentle swimming you're after or strenuous sailing, leisurely walks or challenging climbs, you'll find what you want with ActiveBreaks.com. Travel with us and experience the **holiday of a** [6]_____ .

At MeTime.com, learning and leisure go hand in hand. Learn a language while [7]_____ the Mediterranean **sun**. Develop your writing skills in the **relaxed** [8]_____ of a beach class. Learn to paint, **finding** [9]_____ for your landscapes from picturesque fishing villages, purple lavender fields, or just the perfect blue sky. At MeTime.com, our tutors will be there when you want them, but we understand the importance of free time. So if you're **engrossed in** your [10]_____ or simply enjoying a lie-in, there's no pressure to attend classes – the decision is all yours. Your time with MeTime.com.

6 **Match the collocations in Exercise 5 to the sentences 1–10.**

1 If you are this, you are so interested in what you are reading, that you do not notice anything else.
2 If you meet these, you meet people with the same ideas and interests as you.
3 If a place where something happens is described as this, it is extremely beautiful and peaceful.
4 If you have this, you like doing exciting and sometimes dangerous things.
5 If you do this, you spend time enjoying the warmth outside.
6 If you have one of these, you have the best time away from home that you will ever have.
7 If you do this, you try your hardest to do something extremely difficult.
8 If a place has this, it makes you feel calm and not worried.
9 If you do this, you get good ideas for something or a feeling of enthusiasm that helps you to do something well.
10 If you do this, you do something for enjoyment outside.

7 **Complete the answers to the questions with the collocations you have learned.**

1 Is Rush.com for people who are afraid of danger?
No, it is for people with a **sense of adventure** .

2 Will you meet people who are similar to you on a Rush.com holiday?
Yes, you _____ .

3 Will you use a lot of physical effort on a Rush.com holiday?
Yes, you will _____ .

4 Can you do a lot of different things outside with ActiveBreaks?
Yes, ActiveBreaks offers _____ .

5 Are ActiveBreaks holidays in beautiful places?
Yes, their holidays _____ .

6 Will you have a very special holiday with ActiveBreaks?
Yes, you will _____ .

7 Can you enjoy the sun on a MeTime.com holiday?
Yes, you can _____ .

8 Will a class on a MeTime.com holiday have a calm, comfortable feel to it?
Yes, it _____ .

9 Will you get ideas for your paintings on a MeTime.com holiday?
Yes, you'll _____ .

10 Will you always attend classes on a MeTime.com holiday?
Not if _____ .

8 **Replace the underlined phrases with the collocations you have learned above.**

1 It was a lovely party in the most beautiful and calm place.
2 I thought that if I answered an advert in the newspaper that I always read, I would meet others who are like me in the way that they think.
3 I had travelled to Italy to get ideas and enthusiasm for a novel that I was writing.
4 You really use all your strength and determination when you're rock climbing.
5 He lacks a desire to do exciting and sometimes dangerous things.
6 It will cost me all my savings but it will be the best trip I will ever have.
7 I was looking for a holiday with lots of things that you can do outside.
8 I was so interested in my book that I didn't notice the time.
9 There was a very nice calm, easy mood at the party.
10 For the first few days we just lay by the pool, taking time to enjoy the warmth.

9 **Put the phrases in the correct order to make sentences. Add punctuation where necessary.**

1 you find/the extraordinary characters/where do/inspiration for/in your films?
2 a very relaxed/at the meeting/there was/atmosphere/which surprised me
3 to do/outdoor activities/it's good/a lot of/with young children
4 child he had a sense/even as a small/and was always/climbing or jumping off high places/of adventure
5 so engrossed in/that she didn't/Maya was/her book/notice them leave
6 in the garden/soaking up/I sat/the sun
7 the holiday/touring South-East Asia/she had/of a lifetime
8 a more idyllic/a wedding/imagine/I couldn't/setting for
9 other like-minded/I started/a club for/people
10 this high level/athletics at/demands that/to the limit/you push yourself

19 COLLOCATIONS FOR COMMUNICATION

Keep talking

As well as collocations used *in* conversation, there are many collocations used to *describe* conversations. These exercises focus on how conversations start and stop and what is being said. They are usually used in informal situations.

1 **Complete the groups of collocations with words from the box. Use a dictionary to help you if necessary.**

conversation • gossip • chat • subject

1 broach the / drop the / sensitive } _____

2 strike up a / lull in the / snatches of } _____

3 brief / cosy } _____

4 piece of / juicy } _____

2 **Match the collocations in bold to the definitions 1–10 on page 87. Use a dictionary to help you if necessary.**

From: Claudia Gomez <Claudia.Gomez@abc.co.uk
To: <Lucia Gomez@def.co.uk
Subject: Hello there!

Hi Lucia
How are doing there? Nice to chat with you last Sunday.
Thought you'd like to know I had dinner with Camilla last night. I didn't dare [1] **broach the subject** of work because I know she's been really upset about it. Eventually there was a [2] **lull in the conversation** and she started to talk about it herself. She's going to leave. Her boss continues to treat her badly and she's had enough. I feel bad for her.
Btw, (bossy big sister speaking here!), have you spoken to Emily about the money she owes you? I know it's a [3] **sensitive subject** and you don't like confronting people but I really think you should ask her when she intends to pay it back. You are *too nice*, Lucia!
Anyway, I'll [4] **drop the subject** now and pass on this [5] **piece of gossip.** According to Camilla, Al Clark was seen having a [6] **cosy chat** with Lena Cavendish in Café Brazil. Did you know they were seeing each other? So there, a bit of [7] **juicy gossip** for you (even if it's not true!)
I [8] **struck up a conversation** with a man on the train yesterday that made me think of you. He's a Man U fan and is selling his car so he can buy a season ticket. I told him my sister was a big fan too and that she would be impressed. Also, I heard [9] **snatches of conversation** from the table next to us where the man was talking about Shane Miller. He said he was going to live in Spain. Have you heard anything of the sort?
Hey, I bumped into Ellen Stead at the swimming pool on Saturday. We had a [10] **brief chat** – she said to say hi to you.
Right, I'm off to bed now.
Lots of love
Claudia

1 a topic that someone finds upsetting or embarrassing to talk about
2 an interesting fact about someone, especially relating to their private life
3 a short conversation
4 to start talking to someone you do not know
5 a friendly, relaxed conversation
6 very interesting facts about someone's private life that may not be true
7 a time when the talking between people stops
8 to stop talking about a particular thing, often because it is upsetting or embarrassing someone
9 short pieces of a talk between two or more people
10 to start to talk about something difficult to embarrassing with someone

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask students in pairs to describe a conversation that they have had or they have heard, using at least two of the collocations they have learned.

3 **Match the statements or questions 1–10 to the responses a–j. Make sure that there is a collocation (in bold) either in the statement/question or the response.**



1 Did you **broach** the **subject** of payment with Carlo?

2 Jenny seemed embarrassed so I thought I'd better **drop** the **subject**.

3 Could you hear what they were saying the other side of the room?

4 I saw her having a **cosy chat** with the boss in his office.

5 I was just waiting till there was a **lull in the conversation** to ask if you'd like coffee.

6 Do you have time for a **brief chat** about the conference dinner?

7 Work is a bit of a **sensitive subject** for Daniel at the moment.

8 I had an interesting conversation with a guy at the bar.

9 Hey, I've got some really **juicy gossip** about Claudia for you!

10 Did Helen have anything interesting to say?

a Yes, I noticed you'd **struck up a conversation** with a stranger – the tall guy with sunglasses.

b I'm afraid I've got to go into a meeting now. Can I call you to discuss it later this morning?

c I'd heard he was having problems with his boss.

d Oh really, what's she been doing?

e Yes, I think you were right to – she was clearly uncomfortable.

f She mainly talked about work, though she did pass on an interesting **piece of gossip** about Sara and Stephan.

g No, I find it really hard asking people for money.

h Not really – just **snatches of conversation**.

i Do you think he was offering her the job?

j Oh, yes please – black, no sugar.



The art of conversation

In these exercises, the focus in the collocations is on the function of speech and what the speaker is actually doing when they choose to say particular words.

4 **Solve the anagram in brackets to complete the collocations in the sentences.**

1 I only saw Sally briefly so we **exchanged** greetings but we didn't have a proper conversation. (tregeings)

2 He said in passing that his wife had been ill but he didn't **go into** _____ . (stedial)

3 It wasn't the most exciting party. I seemed to spend half the evening **making small** _____ about the weather. (latk)

4 I was very late for my lesson so I _____ **profusely** to the teacher. (ogisepolad)

5 After a **lengthy** _____ , we finally made a decision. (cionsiduss)

6 John has been _____ **hints** that he would like a bike for his birthday. (nrodppig)

7 I was very pleased because she _____ me a **compliment** on my cooking. (dapi)

8 He's a very shy man and he lacks **conversational** _____ . (kislls)

16 **5** **Complete the dialogue with collocations from the box. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs. Listen to the recording to check your answers.**

conversational skills • go into details • lengthy discussion • exchange greetings • make small talk • apologise profusely • drop a hint • pay someone a compliment

Anna: So did you enjoy the party last night? Did you chat to Simon?

Lisa: No, I never found myself in the same room as him. I saw him briefly as he was arriving and we [1]_____ but I didn't see him after that.

Anna: That was a shame – he's so funny. I spent an hour or more chatting with him towards the end of the evening. In fact, we had a [2]_____ on the state of British comedy.

Lisa: Lucky you! I got stuck with Martin in the kitchen – did you see us? That man completely lacks [3]_____. It's such hard work talking to him.

Anna: Yes, isn't it? What did you find to talk about?

Lisa: Oh, I just [4]_____ about holidays and the weather – nothing very interesting!

Anna: Still, you did get to talk to the gorgeous Alex, I noticed, and I overheard him [5]_____ on your dress!

Lisa: Yes. Mind you, he was probably only being nice to me because he'd just stood on my toe.

Anna: Ah, so that was why he was [6]_____ to you as I walked past.

Lisa: Yes. He couldn't say he was sorry enough! Oh, and I saw you talking to Jane Kennedy. Did she tell you she'd started a new course?

Anna: She mentioned it briefly but she didn't [7]_____.

Lisa: Oh right. I'm so tired today after the late night. I was hoping David would give me a lift home last night. He left just before midnight and I kept [8]_____ that I wanted to leave but he never offered to take me.

6 **Are the statements true (T) or false (F)?**

1 Lisa and Simon said hello to each other.
2 Anna and Simon had a brief chat.
3 Lisa enjoys talking with Martin.
4 Alex said he liked Lisa's dress.
5 Jane Kennedy talked a lot about the course that she has just started.
6 Lisa tried to let David know that she wanted a lift home.

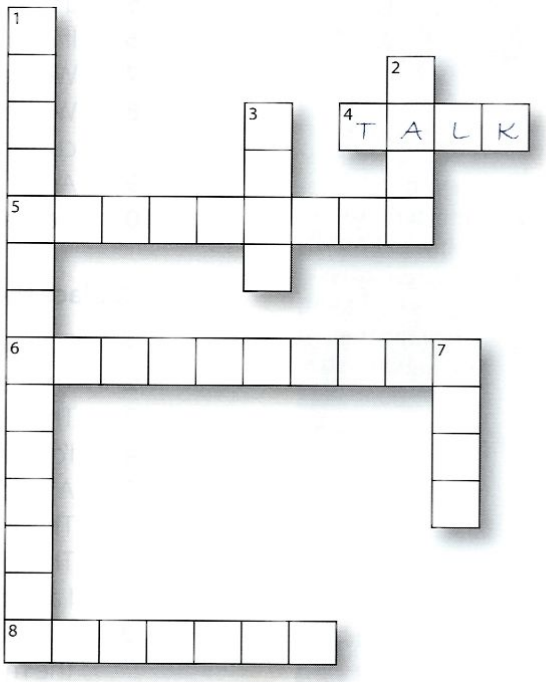
7 **Complete the sentences using the collocations you have learned above. Then complete the crossword.**

Across

4 I'm not very good at making small talk.
5 We _____ greetings as we passed each other on the stairs.
6 He _____ profusely and said he would never let it happen again.
8 After _____ discussions, we decided not to pursue the plan.

Down

1 He has fantastic _____ skills for a boy of nine.
2 I _____ him a compliment on his new haircut.
3 She _____ into great detail about the amazing meals she'd eaten on holiday.
7 I thought I might _____ a hint that it was about time for the guests to leave.



8 **Replace the <u>underlined</u> phrases with the collocations you have learned.**

1 She said she'd had a great holiday but she didn't <u>describe very many aspects of it</u>.
2 If someone <u>praises</u> you, it's polite to thank them.
3 I was admiring your <u>ability to talk with people.</u>
4 Most of the time I just <u>talk about things that are not important</u> with her.
5 He <u>said in an indirect way</u> that he was going to leave the company.
6 She <u>said she was sorry again and again</u>.
7 We had a <u>long conversation</u> on the subject in this afternoon's meeting.
8 If we saw each other in the street we would certainly <u>say hello to each other</u>.

CLASSROOM EXTRA

In pairs, students should choose three words from collocations in this unit and make mini crosswords like the one in Exercise 7. They then write their own gap-fill clues and swap them with another pair.

20 COLLOCATIONS FOR FOOD

It's perfectly delicious

Study tip

Look out for collocations connected to food in advertisements, supermarket leaflets, cookery programmes, etc. Notice word combinations that are frequently used to describe particular foods.

Many food collocations are very positive and describe good things about food, such as pleasant tastes or textures. Others tell you that a food is healthy in some way or that its production does not harm the environment.

1 **Where do you think you might see or hear these extracts? Match the extracts 1–10 with the types of text in the box (more than one match is possible).**

supermarket leaflet • recipe book • restaurant menu • advertisement

1 All our food is **freshly prepared** on the premises by a team of skilful chefs.
2 All our vegetables are cooked for as little time as possible to preserve their **delicate flavours**.
3 In our restaurant we serve only **seasonal fruit**.
4 pieces of **lightly seasoned** succulent chicken in a spicy tomato sauce
5 a bowl of **lightly steamed** vegetables to accompany your main course
6 If it's a **light snack** you're after, choose from our range of delicious sandwiches …
7 We are proud to say that all our meat is **locally sourced** from farms in the region.
8 We believe that this results in the sort of flavourful, **tender meat** that our customers want to eat.
9 And if you don't like **rich sauces**, how about one of the following lighter options?
10 How about a nice **crunchy salad** to go with your pizza?

2 **Replace the underlined phrases with collocations from Exercise 1.**

1 I fancy a bowl of uncooked vegetables that make a noise when you bite them.
2 The fish came in a delicious liquid food with a lot of butter or cream in it.
3 The whole dish had such a pleasant and not strong taste.
4 I'd never eaten such soft and easy to cut meat.
5 A lot of restaurants these days use food that has been grown or produced nearby.
6 These cooked for a short time over boiling water vegetables are very healthy.
7 The food is all made ready to eat just before serving.
8 I asked for the vegetables to be with just a little salt and pepper added.
9 I like to buy apples, pears, etc., only available at a particular time of the year from the market.
10 We can have a small meal at the motorway services if we can't last till dinnertime.

3 **Complete the food blog with collocations from Exercise 1.**

Sara Schneider's Food Blog

Last Friday I had the pleasure of eating lunch in a local restaurant, The Pink Rose. This nice little eatery functions as a café and a restaurant, offering both substantial meals and [1]_____ **snacks** at different times of the day. The food is all [2]_____ **prepared** in the kitchen and, according to the menu, where possible, all ingredients are **locally** [3]_____ from farms in the region. For my main course, I chose a [4]_____ **seasoned** salmon in a delicious [5]_____ **sauce** (full of calories, I dare say). This came with a healthy bowl of [6]_____ **salad**. Everything on my plate tasted fresh and full of flavour. My companion chose braised beef, accompanied by **lightly** [7]_____ vegetables (still with that bit of bite – perfect). He was delighted with his meal, reporting that he had rarely had such delicious [8]_____ **meat**. For dessert, we shared a 'platter of **seasonal** [9]_____' which was not only virtuous but also extremely tasty. It reminded me that the [10]_____ **flavours** of fresh fruit are best appreciated when the fruit is uncooked.

4 **Answer the questions about Sara Schneider's blog, using the collocations you have learned above.**

1 Does The Pink Rose only serve main meals?
No, it also serves light snacks.
2 Does The Pink Rose serve meals that are already made when you arrive there?
3 Where does most of the restaurant's food come from?
4 Did the salmon dish that Sara chose have a lot of salt on it?
5 Why are the vegetables served at The Pink Rose healthy?
6 Was the meat that Sara's companion chose difficult to cut?
7 What is it about fresh fruit that Sara particularly enjoys?
8 Does The Pink Rose serve the sort of fruit that is grown throughout the whole of the year?

5 **Match the sentence halves.**

1 Too much cooking spoils
2 All our food
3 All the food in the restaurant is **locally sourced**
4 I had a big meal at lunch so I'll only want
5 I generally buy **seasonal fruits** and vegetables and avoid
6 I try to avoid **rich sauces**
7 All their food is very **lightly seasoned**
8 I thought I'd serve the tart with a bowl
9 Slow cooking over several hours results
10 Serve the pasta with a bowl of **crunchy salad** for extra

a a **light snack** for dinner.
b from farms and small companies in the area.
c the **delicate flavour** of the fish.
d is **freshly prepared** to order.
e anything that has been flown in from other countries.
f with a lot of cream or butter in them.
g so you don't have to worry about your salt intake.
h of **lightly steamed** vegetables.
i in lovely **tender meat**.
j vitamins.

Study tip

Notice other words that form collocations with the adverbs *freshly* and *lightly*. These words are frequently used in descriptions of food.

6 **Put the phrases in the correct order to make sentences. Add punctuation where necessary.**

1 lightly steamed/to lose weight/and help you/vegetables are healthy
2 in the middle of the day/you should/snack in the evening/have your main meal/and a light
3 freshly/is generally/pre-prepared food/prepared food/healthier than
4 the delicate/cook for as little/flavour of the herbs/to preserve/time as possible
5 sauces/to lose weight/you should/if you are trying/avoid rich
6 using locally/food/is better for/sourced food/the environment
7 tender/cook for five hours/at a low heat/for really/meat
8 lightly/are healthier/and tastier/seasoned vegetables
9 salad is/to any meal/a crunchy/a healthy addition
10 that is out of season/seasonal/rather than produce/try to buy/fruits and vegetables

CLASSROOM EXTRA

If this unit is being done in class, ask the students in pairs to discuss whether they agree with these tips.

A healthy diet

Food is very often discussed in relation to how healthy or unhealthy it is. Accordingly, many food collocations give information on this subject. These exercises focus on the sort of collocations that are heard when diet is being discussed.

7 **Do you have a healthy diet? Answer these questions and find out!**

DO YOU HAVE A HEALTHY DIET?

1 How many times a week do you **cook from scratch**?
- **a** Never – I buy ready meals or eat out.
- **b** I cook most meals, but we have a takeaway about once a week.
- **c** I always cook everything myself.

2 Are **processed foods** a big part of your diet?
- **a** Yes – they're quick and cheap. What's wrong with that?
- **b** Well, it's handy to have a few things in the fridge that keep for a while.
- **c** No, I'd rather not eat food stuffed with additives, thank you!

3 How often do you buy food in a **health food shop**?
- **a** Never – brown rice and lentils are really not my thing.
- **b** Once or twice a month I buy dried fruit and beans.
- **c** All the time – I call in two or three times a week for organic fruit and veg and wholemeal bread.

4 What is your attitude to **ready meals**?
- **a** They're so convenient – I live off them!
- **b** I try to avoid them but now and then when I don't have time to cook, I'll buy a ready meal in the supermarket.
- **c** They look so unappealing in their plastic containers and they're generally very high in fat and salt. I'd never buy or eat one!

5 How often do you eat **savoury snacks**, such as crisps and salted nuts?
- **a** Every day without fail – I love crisps and peanuts.
- **b** Now and then as a special treat.
- **c** Never – they're loaded with fat and salt.

6 Are **fatty foods**, such as cheese and butter, a big part of your diet?
- **a** Absolutely. I can't imagine a meal without them.
- **b** No, I eat full-fat cheese but only in moderation and I very rarely have butter or cream.
- **c** I never eat butter or full-fat cheese.

7 How often do you eat green **leafy vegetables**?
- **a** What, spinach and cabbage? Yuck! Never!
- **b** Now and then I'll have some cabbage or greens but I'm not a huge fan.
- **c** Most days – they're vital for good health.

8 You are hungry and someone offers you a big plate of **greasy chips** or a bowl of home-made vegetable soup. Which do you choose?
- **a** The **greasy chips**, every time!
- **b** I'd be tempted by the chips but would almost certainly go for the soup.
- **c** The home-made vegetable soup for me, please. It sounds absolutely delicious!

9 Would you say you have a **balanced diet**?
- **a** No, if I'm honest – I eat far too much fat and sugar.
- **b** Fairly. I try to eat plenty of fruit and veg though I still eat too much fat.
- **c** Yes, I eat loads of fresh fruit and vegetables and about the right amount of protein.

10 Do you prefer **lean meat** or fatty meat?
- **a** I love a bit of fat on my meat.
- **b** I cut most of the fat off but I think a bit of fat gives the meat some flavour.
- **c** Lean meat – always. I can't stand fat.

MOSTLY A'S
Goodness, with your diet it's a miracle you have the strength to get out of bed in the morning! It might just be time to make a few changes. Start small – just one piece or fruit a day – and see where it leads you.

MOSTLY B'S
Everything in moderation, that's your motto! You look after your body but every now and then you like to treat yourself. And there's nothing wrong with that!

MOSTLY C'S
I can't fault your diet – you are Mr/Ms Perfect! Nothing unhealthy is allowed to pass your lips. I bet your friends all admire you. (But I bet they don't invite you to their houses for dinner!)

CLASSROOM EXTRA

If this is being done in class, ask students to interview one another, rather than doing the questionnaire individually.

8 **Match the collocations in bold in Exercise 7 with the definitions 1–10.**

1 slices of fried potato covered in oil
2 animal flesh with little or no fat on it
3 a small amount of salty food that is not sweet
4 foods that are not fresh and have had chemicals added, usually to keep them good to eat for a long time
5 healthy food that a person eats every day, including enough fresh fruit and vegetables, etc.
6 to make a meal using fresh food and not food that has already been prepared
7 vegetables that have leaves, such as cabbage
8 a shop that sells food that helps you to stay physically strong
9 a dinner or lunch that is already cooked when you buy it and just needs heating
10 foods such as cheese and cream that have a lot of oil in them

17 **9** **Complete the magazine interviews with the collocations you have learned above.**

For **Healthy Heart Week**, we interviewed some of our customers about their diets.

Beth

We eat very healthily in our house – I make sure of that. We grow a lot of our own vegetables organically in our garden here. Tony or I **cook from** [1]_____ most days so we eat very little [2]_____ **food**. The kids get plenty of fresh fruit and veg and I make sure they eat green [3]_____ **vegetables** at least twice a week, (even though they complain!). We all eat fish at least twice a week and we have brown bread rather than white, and so on. There's an excellent [4]_____ **food shop** on the high street in the village so there are no excuses for not having good, fresh food in the cupboard.

Maggie

I try to cook fresh food for the family though I find it quite hard in the week when my husband and I are both working. I'd like to think we have a fairly [5]_____ **diet** though I'm sure it could be better. The kids love their **savoury** [6]_____ and would eat crisps every day if I let them. I try to limit them to two bags a week, maximum. I also try to keep an eye on the amount of [7]_____ **foods** they're eating though it's quite hard as they love their cakes and chocolate. We're not vegetarians but I do try to limit the amount of meat that we eat and I always cook [8]_____ **meat**.

Pete

My diet's not great, if I'm honest with you. I know I should be eating more fresh fruit and veg but I find it a bit of a struggle. I don't get home from work till gone eight o'clock in the evening and then it's just too late to start cooking. Most evenings I just stick a [9]_____ **meal** in the microwave and eat that in front of the telly. Once a week I treat myself to a take-away – I get a couple of sausages or a piece of fish and a big pile of [10]_____ **chips**. Like I say, it's not a perfect diet.

10 **Are the statements true (T) or false (F)?**

1 Beth and Tony take time to cook healthy food for their family.
2 Beth and Tony's family eat very little food that has chemicals added.
3 Beth and Tony's children love eating vegetables such as cabbage and spinach.
4 Maggie thinks her family's diet is quite healthy.
5 Maggie tries to make sure that her children do not eat too many unhealthy salty foods.
6 Maggie allows her children to eat lots of food with oil in it.
7 Maggie cooks meat with fat on it for her family.
8 Pete usually eats meals that he has prepared himself.

REVIEW

Units 17–20

These exercises use collocations from units 17–20, and will help you see how many you have remembered. After each exercise, add up your score to see how well you have done.

1 Complete the sentences.

1 When we were starting this business we worked very _____ hours.
2 I heard some interesting snatches of _____ from the next table.
3 Marie said she'd had some trouble with a colleague but she didn't _____ into detail.
4 In the restaurant we use _____ sourced food from farms and producers in the region.
5 I like the delicate _____ in Thai cuisine.
6 I have a fairly balanced _____ with plenty of fresh fruit and veg.
7 I'm so tired – I really need to catch up on some _____.
8 We always _____ greetings when he arrives in the morning.
9 She lost her job when the company that she worked for _____ under.
10 I was making _____ talk with my neighbour about the weather.

Score: ☐ / 10

2 Underline the correct word to complete the collocations.

1 Does either candidate have **relevant/relative/correspondent experience**?
2 On holiday I like to lie on the beach and **absorb up/soak up/drink up the sun**.
3 Roberto **paid/presented/handed** me a nice **compliment** on my new haircut.
4 I was so **occupied/engrossed/engaged in** my **book** that I didn't notice the time.
5 He's just eaten a huge plate of **fatty/rich/greasy chips**!
6 I try to have a portion of green **leaved/leafy/leafed vegetables** most days.
7 I heard some **juicy/moist/succulent gossip** about Richard the other day.
8 I'll just get myself a **thin/light/slight snack** before I go out.
9 We could **have** Pete and Davina **in/over/up for dinner** next weekend.
10 I was looking for **same-/like-/identical-minded people** to socialize with.

Score: ☐ / 10

3 Match the collocations 1–10 to the definitions a–j.

1	set up a business	**a**	to achieve something you really want to do
2	freshly prepared	**b**	a very impressive job or series of jobs
3	realise an ambition	**c**	a liquid food with a lot of butter or cream in it
4	work-related stress	**d**	to walk somewhere slowly in a relaxed way
5	go for a stroll	**e**	a taste that is pleasant and not strong
6	brilliant career	**f**	meat with very little fat
7	lean meat	**g**	feelings of anxiety caused by a job
8	rich sauce	**h**	to start a company
9	health food shop	**i**	somewhere that sells food that is good for you
10	delicate flavour	**j**	made ready to eat just before serving

Score: ☐ / 10

4 Match the two halves of the sentences.

1	Meals are usually healthier if you	a	a brief chat.
2	We didn't speak for long – we just had	b	of over £10 million.
3	The company has an annual turnover	c	a lengthy discussion.
4	She would never go parachuting – she has no	d	in the medical profession.
5	Our trip cost all our savings but it was	e	in case it upset her.
6	He was intending to pursue a career	f	improved his conversational skills.
7	Anyone intending to be a teacher should know	g	sense of adventure.
8	We spoke briefly about it but we didn't have	h	that it is very demanding work.
9	I didn't like to broach the subject	i	cook them from scratch.
10	Having to meet and deal with a lot of people at work has really	j	the holiday of a lifetime.

Score: ☐ / 10

5 Correct the word in *italics* to make a collocation with the word in **bold** in each sentence.

1 I'll have the *softly* **steamed** vegetables with the salmon, please.
2 It's an interesting job but I don't think I could cope with the *big* **workload**.
3 What delicious *soft* **meat**!
4 He'd been *dripping* **hints** that he'd applied for the job.
5 I've *got* **up** a new **hobby** – windsurfing!
6 I *took* a lovely long **lie-in** this morning and I'm feeling so much better for it.
7 He **apologised** *richly* for his behaviour.
8 Her **business** has really **taken** *up* – it's been a real success.
9 There was a **lull in the** *communication* so I raised the subject.
10 She's got a *top*-**powered job** in an advertising agency.

Score: ☐ / 10

6 Complete the sentences with a collocation from the box. Use the correct form of the verbs.

steady job • catch up with friends • launch your career • ready meal • stay up late • job satisfaction • crunchy salad • fatty foods • sensitive subject • lightly seasoned

1 The work isn't terribly exciting but it's a _____ – it pays the rent.
2 I didn't ask about his relationship with Bella – I know it's a _____ _____.
3 I don't bother cooking for myself – I generally just eat _____ _____ from the supermarket.
4 My mother is trying to cut down on salt in her diet so all her food is very _____.
5 I like to _____ at the weekend as I don't get to see them in the week.
6 My problem is that I love _____ like cream and cheese.
7 Nursing doesn't pay so well but there's a lot of _____.
8 That was the novel that really _____ as a writer.
9 How about something green to go with your pasta – a _____ perhaps?
10 John and I _____ last night, watching a film and I'm exhausted today.

Score: ☐ / 10
Total score: ☐ / 60

21 COLLOCATIONS FOR OPINIONS

The way I see it

The collocations in this unit focus on ways to talk about beliefs and ideas. These exercises concentrate on collocations you can use when you are giving your own opinions.

Study tip

Notice which of the collocations describe strong opinions and which describe opinions you are less sure about.

1 **People are ringing in to a chat show on a local radio station to discuss the recent rise in burglaries. Look at the collocations they use, and match them to the explanations below.**

Dave: The [1] **stark reality** of the situation is that we have too many unemployed young people. There's almost no local industry left now, and no prospect of jobs for them. It's no wonder they turn to crime, and to be [2] **perfectly honest**, I can't really blame them.

Wendy: I [3] **take** Dave's **point** about unemployment, but I don't think that's the whole story. After all, nothing like this happened when the coal mines closed. I have a [4] **sneaking suspicion** that this might turn out to be more to do with the new children's home on the hill. Those kids just run wild, and nobody seems to care what they're up to.

Megan: I think that's terrible – people shouldn't go round [5] **making accusations** like that without any proof! I [6] **strongly suspect** that the real reason lies in the decline of religion these days. People just don't have the moral guidance they used to have, do they?

Aled: Whether or not religion is a good influence is a [7] **matter of opinion**, isn't it? Personally I think most people are fundamentally good, church or no church. What I want to ask is, how do we actually know that these burglaries really are getting worse? I don't know anyone who's been burgled. I'm always [8] **highly suspicious** of scare stories like this – where's the evidence? That's what I want to know.

Arthur: I just feel that everyone here is [9] **missing the point**, which is that we have all these burglaries, and nobody is doing anything about them. We never see police on the street any more, do we? If I had to [10] **hazard a guess** about the cause of the increase, I'd say it's that the thieves know they can get away with it.

a not understanding the main fact that is being explained
b say what you really think
c say what you think might be true
d accept what someone is saying
e be fairly sure that something is true
f an unpleasant feeling that something may be true
g unpleasant truth
h saying that someone is guilty of something
i be reluctant to believe
j something about which different people have different views

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask the class to choose an issue to discuss. In small groups, students prepare short speeches like the ones above, using the collocations they have learned to express their views.



2 **Which people do you think feel most strongly about the issue? Listen to the recording and see if you were right. Notice how they use stress and intonation for emphasis.**

3 **Replace the underlined phrases with collocations from Exercise 1.**

1 My friend Polly has asked me to go on holiday with her. I don't know what to say, because if I really told her the truth, I really prefer going on holiday on my own.
2 My novel was intended to be an exploration of the links between childhood and old age. Unfortunately, most of the critics don't seem to have understood the main message – they have just described it as a family saga.
3 Bella seems really unhappy at work. I've seen her looking at job ads in the paper, and although she hasn't said anything, I think it is very likely that she is applying for other jobs.
4 Whenever I cook for my parents, they always say they love it. The thing is, they never finish what's on their plates, and I have the unpleasant feeling that they don't really like my food.
5 We think my brother has got a new girlfriend. He's denying it, but he's acting in a way that is very strange and makes us think he is hiding something – spending hours in the bathroom and checking for texts every few minutes.
6 We were all expecting Tom to be here by now. We're not sure what's happened to him, but if I had to say what I think it most likely, I'd say he's overslept.
7 There have been several thefts in my office. I have a good idea of who's responsible, but I don't want to accuse anyone before I have enough evidence.
8 A huge supermarket has opened at the end of our road. A lot of people think it's a good thing for our area, but it's something that not everyone agrees about.
9 My flatmate says it's not fair if he has to do all the cleaning. I agree that that is true, but I work such long hours, it's difficult for me to help.
10 He has found it difficult to adapt to the unpleasant facts of living in a war zone.

4 **Put the sentences in the e-mail in the correct order.**

From: Laura
To: Isha
Subject: Family

a My kids aren't angels, but I strongly suspected that they were overreacting, so I didn't exactly apologise, but I said I'd have a word with them.
b The house next door is much bigger than ours, so I already knew they must have plenty of money, but they turned up in a posh car, and wearing really formal clothes – if I had to hazard a guess, I'd say the husband is a banker or something like that – groan!!
c They claimed they'd been throwing rubbish in their garden and shouting insults over the fence.
d Our new neighbours moved in last week, and as soon as I saw them I had a sneaking suspicion that we wouldn't get on. sentence 1
e When I spoke to the kids, they denied doing anything, but they did have a funny look on their faces, and to be perfectly honest, I'm not sure who to believe!
f Andy said I shouldn't judge them on appearances, and I do take his point, but they'd only been there a couple of days before they came round here making all sorts of accusations about my kids.

Oh well, time to go.
Love to you and the boys
Laura

Different points of view

The collocations in these exercises are quite formal and are often associated with business meetings, political debate or academic discussions.

5 **Conrad is trying to persuade his colleagues that his company needs to take on more staff. Read his notes about how the meeting went. Which colleagues agree with Conrad and which disagree?**

1 Minutes of the last meeting

2 Office equipment budget

3 Conrad's proposal to increase the sales team

4 Recruitment of health and safety officer

1 Bruno remains sceptical about my ideas.
2 After a frank exchange of views, Carla was willing to accept my plan.
3 I will never shake Tom's belief that the existing staff could work harder.
4 Richard shares my strong conviction that a bigger team would bring bigger profits.
5 After I presented my evidence, my plans gained acceptance with Jill and Jacob.
6 My first impression is certainly that Otto is in agreement with me.
7 Elizabeth takes issue with the idea that more staff leads automatically to higher sales.
8 Andre agrees with me, but Gita has conflicting views.
9 There is a difference of opinion between Hugo and Isabel, with Isabel arguing strongly in my favour.
10 Michael is deeply sceptical about employing more people at such a difficult time.

Agree	Disagree
	Bruno

6 **Match the collocations 1–10 to the definitions a–j.**

1	**exchange of views**	**6**	**conflicting views**
2	**remain sceptical**	**7**	**first impression**
3	**shake someone's belief**	**8**	**strong convictions**
4	**take issue with something**	**9**	**difference of opinion**
5	**deeply sceptical**	**10**	**gain acceptance**

a to make someone think that their opinion may not be correct
b to become agreed to by other people
c to say that something is not true
d when people tell each other their opinions about something
e very different views
f a situation where people do not agree
g to continue to be unsure that something is good or true
h very unsure that something is good or true
i very firm opinions
j the opinion that you get of someone or something when you see them the first time

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask students to suggest some controversial topics, e.g. climate change, animal experiments, and write them on the board. They get into pairs and talk to each other. Then they report each other's views, using the collocations they have learned.

7 **Complete the sentences using the collocations that you have learned above.**

1 The meeting enabled us to have a very useful _____ of _____ .
2 He promised that he would start to work harder at college, but frankly, I _____ _____ about his attitude.
3 I'm afraid I have to _____ with your statement that exams are getting easier.
4 Unfortunately, the authors of these two studies appear to have _____ .
5 Lola and I had a _____ of _____ over whose turn it was to cook.
6 It took a long time for her ideas to _____ with the public.
7 It's very hard to argue with Adam – he's a man of _____ .
8 When I met Olga, my _____ was of a frail, rather quiet woman.
9 After years of living in this country, I'm _____ about the claims that politicians make.
10 There's nothing you can say that will _____ his _____ in his religion.

Sound natural

If you hear people talking about the opinions of others, notice the words they use.

8 **New director Tim Knight wants to make some changes to the working methods in his company. He is finding it difficult to persuade his colleague. Correct ten collocations in Tim's version of the story.**

"When I started working as finance director of Loxton Electricals, my beginning impression was that this was a company with a lot of potential, but that it was very badly managed.

Within a week, I had a meeting with the sales director, Christina Hardy, and we had a very useful exchange of thoughts. I felt I had to find issue with Christina's statement that all her staff were working as efficiently as possible. I suggested some changes to the way they offer discounts to customers, but she was doubtful. Apparently, it takes a long time for new ideas to earn acceptance in an old firm like this.

We had a slight difference of argument over whether or not her staff should simply be told what to do. I'm not sure if I'll ever be able to persuade her – Christina is a woman of large convictions.

Unfortunately, there seems to be fighting evidence about whether or not larger discounts lead to more sales. Nothing I could say could squeeze Christina's belief that what the company really needs is a larger sales team.

Despite all her arguments, I stay sceptical about the idea that more staff would help matters. I'm strongly sceptical about her claim that the staff we already have are working to their maximum capacity."



9 **Are the statements true (T) or false (F)?**

1 Tim was impressed with the management of Loxton Electricals.
2 Tim agreed that staff were working as efficiently as possible.
3 Staff at Loxton Electricals are eager to try new ideas.
4 Christina is a hard person to influence.
5 Christina says she needs more sales staff.
6 Tim agrees that more sales staff would be a good way to improve performance.

22 COLLOCATIONS FOR EMPHASIS

Adjectives

This unit focuses on collocations used to add emphasis. They include interesting and natural alternatives to *very* and *very much*. These exercises look at ways of emphasising adjectives.

Sound natural

It is very important to use the correct adverb with particular adjectives, because it can sound very strange to use ones that are not usually found together.

1 **The adverbs in the table all mean *very* when they go before the adjectives in the box. Some can be used with several adjectives and some cannot. Put the adjectives into the table according to the adverbs they can be used with. Some adjectives can go with more than one adverb.**

~~unlikely~~ • cold • ill • opposed • delighted • successful • important • popular • sick • disappointed • injured • critical • obvious • effective

highly	unlikely
seriously	
violently	
hugely	
bitterly	
blindingly	
absolutely	

2 **Rewrite the sentences in a more emphatic way, using the adjectives in brackets.**

1 His career as an art dealer has gone well. (successful)
~~His career as an art dealer has been~~ highly successful.
2 They raised some objections to the new road. (opposed)
3 Having a big house and a nice car is important to her. (important)
4 I was sorry that I couldn't get back in time for her party. (disappointed)
5 He was pleased with his exam results. (delighted)
6 She is not well. (ill)
7 His novels are well-liked in his native country. (popular)
8 I don't think she will win the competition. (unlikely)
9 Although she tried to hide it, we could tell she was disappointed. (obvious)
10 It's cold outside today. (cold)

3 **Alex regularly sends messages about his life, but he has used the wrong adverbs to emphasise what he says. Correct two adverbs in each message.**

1 Got the new job! I'm bitterly delighted – and big thanks to Rob, my old boss, who apparently told them I was an absolutely effective manager – I think that's what did it!
2 Jeannie failed her piano exam. She's violently disappointed, of course, after all that work. The examiners were blindingly critical of her technique – I think she needs to change teacher.
3 Went to visit my gran yesterday. It's hugely obvious that she needs help in the home now, but she won't admit it. Her kitchen is disgusting – we had tea with her and we were all highly sick afterwards.
4 Went to the fireworks display. I know it's a seriously popular event, and the kids love it, but I can't see the attraction of all that flashing and noise. It's always hugely cold too, and I got home feeling like a block of ice.

4 **Complete the sentences using the collocations you have learned above.**

1 I met this man at a party. He told me he was a surgeon, but when I tried to talk to him about his work, he didn't seem to know anything about medicine. In fact, it was _____ that he was lying.

2 Grace had applied to be an assistant at an engineering company. During the interview, she realised that she did not really have the necessary qualifications or experience. She thinks it's _____ that she will be offered the job.

3 We were warned to bring sleeping bags with us. Although it is hot during the day, it can be _____ at night in the mountains.

4 After the crash, Joe was taken to hospital and treated for some minor cuts. Later, when he saw the damage to his car, he realised he was very lucky that he hadn't been _____ .

5 The official report into the oil spill found that the directors had not put the correct safety procedures in place. They did not employ sufficient staff, and they had tried to cover up the accident. In short, the report was _____ of the directors.

6 I'd never eat at that restaurant again. Pat and I went there once. She had fish pie and I had steak. By the time the coffee came we had started to feel ill, and when we got home we were both _____ .

7 We have been working with children who refuse to go to school. All our research shows that without a good education, their chances of a happy and successful life are much reduced. It is _____ that we persuade these children of the value of education.

8 My daughter Emma spent the whole of last year doing a specialist translator's course. She worked extremely hard, but we've just found out that she failed her exam by one mark. Not surprisingly, she's _____ .

9 That patch of land used to be an awful mess, covered in beer cans and cigarette ends, but since a group of local gardeners turned it into a beautiful area of grass and flowers, people have stopped dropping litter there. The gardeners' plan has been _____ .

10 Builders have bought the field and they are planning to put up three enormous blocks of flats. Not surprisingly, people who live nearby are _____ to the plans.

11 She has been moved out of the intensive care unit, and can now breathe without the help of a machine. However, she is being kept in a coma, and doctors are still not sure how much brain damage she has sustained. She is better than she was, but still _____ .

12 He has dedicated his life to science. As well as being one of the most original thinkers I have ever met, he always has time for his students, and shows a great interest in their work. I am _____ that he has won this award.

Study tip

Notice which emphatic adverbs can be used with many adjectives (e.g. *extremely*) and which ones can only be used with very specific adjectives.

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask your students to write three sentences using the collocations they have learned, but writing 'very' instead of the emphasising adverb. Then give each student one of the adverbs from the table on the opposite page. Students move around the class, reading their sentences to each other. When they find someone with the adverb they need, they can complete their sentence. The first person to complete all three sentences is the winner.

Verbs and nouns

These exercises include collocations for emphasis with verbs and nouns. It is common to emphasise verbs with a strong adverb and nouns with a strong adjective.

5 **Form collocations by replacing the words *very much* or *a lot* in the sentences with one of the adverbs from the box.**

categorically • widely • dismally • bitterly • thoroughly

1 The quality of clothing **varies** a lot in the different shops.
The quality of clothing **varies widely** in the different shops.
2 She very much **resents** having to look after the children while her husband travels round the world.
3 She has **failed** very much in her attempt to give up smoking.
4 We very much **enjoyed** our weekend in Cambridge.
5 He very much **denies** that he was involved in the theft.

6 **Match the sentence halves to form emphatic collocations with nouns.**

1 We skied at **breakneck**
2 Disaster workers say there is an **acute**
3 The new medication has led to a **dramatic**
4 Since January, there has been a **sharp**
5 She has had offers from over the world following the **roaring**

a **increase** in the number of people out of work.
b **success** of her first solo album.
c **shortage** of food and medicines.
d **speed** all the way back to the village.
e **improvement** in her general health.

7 **Complete the sentences using the collocations from Exercises 5 and 6. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

1 The success rate for this treatment _____ from patient to patient.
2 He has _____ passing secrets to enemy agents.
3 Since taking up running, there has been a _____ in her fitness levels.
4 She is often forced to work at the weekends, and she _____ it.
5 We wanted to go out, so we did all the housework at _____ .
6 Illness amongst nursing staff has led to an _____ of hospital beds.
7 I _____ the show, and I will recommend it to my friends.
8 Since the start of the economic crisis there has been a _____ in unemployment.
9 I tried to make friends with Ulli, but I _____ – he hardly speaks to me now.
10 After the _____ of her first album, she is being asked to do concerts all over the world.

8 **Look at the two versions of a text. The rewritten version includes the collocations from Exercises 5 and 6. Notice how much better the style is when collocations are used. Rewrite the texts 1–3 using the collocations in brackets.**

Since the new tennis coach arrived, the performance of our younger players has got much better. Unfortunately there can be a big difference in the quality of coaches. The last one seemed promising when we interviewed him, but he turned out to be lazy and the children hated him. Luckily, this one is doing really well. Since his arrival I'm happy to report that the club has been very successful.

Since the new tennis coach arrived, there has been **a dramatic improvement** in the performance of our younger players. Unfortunately, the quality of coaches can vary widely. The last one seemed promising when we interviewed him, but he turned out to be lazy and the children hated him. Luckily, this one is doing really well. Since his arrival, I'm happy to report that the club has been **a roaring success**.



1 Apparently, there has been a big rise in the number of viewers tuning in to watch Michael Rook in the police drama serial *Unmarked Cars* recently. It seems that the great popularity of his latest movie has encouraged people to watch him on the small screen too. I watched the latest episode myself, and I liked it very much.

(sharp increase, roaring success, thoroughly enjoy)



2 I hate living in this street. The traffic is terrible, and lorries come round this corner really fast. It's a wonder nobody has been killed. I've written to the council many times, but my attempts to get them to introduce a speed limit have not been at all successful. Despite all the evidence, they insist that there is no problem.

(breakneck speed, fail dismally, categorically deny)



3 Strikes among drivers of large fuel lorries have led to a very serious lack of petrol in this country. Because of this, prices have gone up a lot. Of course, many people really need to drive, especially if they live in rural areas, and they are very upset at having to pay so much.

(acute shortage, sharp increase, bitterly resent)



9 **Rewrite the sentences in a more emphatic way, using the collocations you have learned above.**

1 The car was coming fast towards us.
2 The weather has got better this week.
3 Her organic food company has been very successful.
4 We had a nice time at her party.
5 There isn't enough food.
6 He's fed up at having to stay at home while his brother goes out.

CLASSROOM EXTRA

For homework, ask your students to keep a look out when they read, and to try to find some more collocations where one of the words is there to add emphasis.

23 COLLOCATIONS FOR DECISIONS

Taking advice

The collocations in this unit are connected to the processes involved in making decisions. These exercises include collocations connected with getting the advice or information you need to make a decision.

1 **Complete the sentences with words from the box. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

pick • informed • make • helpful • carry out • offer • professional • provide • additional • seek

1 If your finances are more complex, I recommend that you _____ **advice** from an accountant.
2 Before setting up our company, we _____ a lot of **research** into the safety of the plastics we are using.
3 Many websites _____ a lot of useful **information** about health issues.
4 My mother grows all her own vegetables, so you might want to _____ **her brains*** about the best varieties to choose.
5 The organisation was set up to _____ **guidance** to young people starting out in their careers.
6 This leaflet will tell you some basic facts about the area: if you require any _____ **information**, try the tourist office.
7 We can give you information about the pension schemes, but we are not allowed to _____ **recommendations** about which you should choose.
8 Her book contains a lot of _____ **hints*** on dressing well on a budget.
9 In matters of law, it is usually best to take _____ **advice**.
10 I don't feel that I have enough facts to be able to make an _____ **decision**.

* informal

Study tip

Remember the words that form a collocation do not always have to come next to each other.

2 **Bargain Bob writes a blog on travelling on a small budget. Underline ten collocations from Exercise 1 in his advice.**

It is certainly possible to travel cheaply, but you need to carry out some basic research first. Your first stop will probably be the internet. There are thousands of sites providing a wealth of information on budget travel, and you will find all sorts of helpful hints on how to have a great time without spending a fortune. Even better, if you know someone who has been to the area you are interested in, buy them a coffee and pick their brains! They may be able to make interesting recommendations about places to stay and things to do.

If you plan to travel somewhere very remote, it is best to seek advice from someone who knows the area well. If you need any additional information, internet message boards can be very useful. Some travel agents can offer guidance on specialist holidays such as wildlife or archaeological tours. They will help you to make an informed decision about the best ones to choose.

And finally, however stretched your budget is, don't forget to buy medical insurance. If you become ill while abroad, it is always best to get professional advice in case it is serious.

3 **Match the people 1–10 to the advice a–j.**

1 I'm trying to find a school that will be suitable for my daughter – she's very musical and she loves sport.
2 My parents always said I would get their house when they died, but now my brother is claiming half its value. I don't know what to do.
3 I've got an important interview next week, and I can't decide what to wear.
4 I'm thinking about opening a vegetarian café near the church, but I'm worried about whether I'd have any customers.
5 I'm still not quite sure whether it's safe to travel in the area at the moment.
6 I'm taking my new girlfriend out to dinner tomorrow and I'm a bit embarrassed because I don't know anything at all about wine – what shall I do if she asks me to decide what to have?
7 My colleague Rav is leaving and I don't know what to get him as a leaving present.
8 I've been diagnosed with a heart complaint and the doctors have said I can either have an operation or join in the trial of a new drug.
9 We're thinking of buying a cottage in Devon, but we're a bit worried about the damp in the walls.
10 My daughter is really stressed about her exams, and I'm not sure of the best way to help her.

a You need to carry out some research locally to see if there's any demand for that kind of food.
b There are lots of websites that offer guidance on supporting young people in their studies.
c It sounds as though you need more information from the hospital to help you make an informed decision.
d Don't worry, the waiter should be able to make some recommendations.
e The council has a booklet that provides information about all the local schools.
f I've got a good book with lots of helpful hints on dressing for success – you can borrow it if you like.
g Here's his girlfriend's phone number – why don't you give her a ring and pick her brains?
h I think you need professional advice – I'd always recommend a complete survey before buying any property.
i Well, keep an eye on the papers, but if you need any additional information, you can always call the embassy.
j I think you need to seek legal advice – if your parents didn't make a will, things could be very difficult.

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask students to think about a subject they know a lot about. They should then get into pairs and tell each other the best way to get advice about that subject, using some of the collocations they have learned.

4 **Rewrite the sentences, replacing the <u>underlined</u> parts with the collocations you have learned above.**

1 This booklet is designed to <u>tell people facts</u> about healthy eating.
2 This website offers some <u>useful advice</u> about ways to save money on your household bills.
3 I hope to discover more about how children learn to speak, and I'm <u>finding out facts</u> with a group of four-year olds.
4 Hi Anna – I'm phoning to <u>get information from you</u> about working for the university.
5 We asked Lord Flowers to look at how we should improve our service and his report <u>suggests several things we should do</u>.
6 This sheet covers frequently asked questions, but if you need <u>extra facts</u>, log on to our website.

Thinking it through

The collocations in these exercises are connected with the thinking you need to do before you make a decision. Note that some of them are informal.

Sound natural

Remember to think about your audience when using collocations. It can sound strange or comical to use informal language in formal situations.

5 **Circle the correct answer. Use a dictionary to help you if necessary.**

1 If you **hit upon an idea***, you:
- **a** look for an idea on a website.
- **b** have an idea yourself.
- **c** steal an idea from someone else.

2 If you **bear something in mind**, you:
- **a** worry about it all the time.
- **b** never forget about it.
- **c** remember to consider it.

3 If you **toy with an idea***, you:
- **a** definitely agree to an idea.
- **b** tell other people your idea.
- **c** consider an idea.

4 If you **reach a decision**, you:
- **a** think very hard about something.
- **b** discuss something a lot.
- **c** decide what to do.

5 If you **rack your brains***, you:
- **a** think very hard about something.
- **b** fill your head with lots of details.
- **c** get a lot of ideas.

6 If something **crosses your mind***, it:
- **a** makes you feel angry.
- **b** suddenly comes into your thoughts.
- **c** is immediately forgotten.

7 If something **springs to mind***, you:
- **a** jump up when you think of it.
- **b** feel very surprised by it.
- **c** think of it straight away.

8 If you **grapple with a problem**, you:
- **a** have difficulty deciding what to do.
- **b** solve the problem.
- **c** feel upset about a problem.

9 If you **have second thoughts** about something, you:
- **a** think about it twice.
- **b** decide that it may not be a good idea after all.
- **c** think it is a very good idea.

10 If you refuse to **entertain an idea**, you:
- **a** say you will not consider it.
- **b** think the idea is not amusing.
- **c** say you will not tell anyone your idea.

* informal



6 **Zoe is describing how difficult it was to choose a present for a colleague. Complete her description using the collocations you have learned above. Use the correct form of the verbs. Listen to the recording to check your answers.**

It's my colleague Ollie's 21st birthday next week, and I stupidly volunteered to buy a present from everyone at work. After [1]_____ for ages with the problem of what to get, I suddenly [2]_____ upon an idea – instead of a *thing*, I'd get him an *experience*. I [3]_____ with the idea of tickets for a show, but Ollie's more of an active type, so I [4]_____ second thoughts about that – to be honest, culture's not the first thing that [5]_____ to mind when you think of him!

So, [6]_____ in mind his love of adventure, I eventually [7]_____ a decision – I'd buy him a helicopter ride. Perfect, or so I thought ...

It never [8]_____ my mind that he'd be scared of flying – until Katie told me this morning. Apparently he won't [9]_____ the idea of travelling in anything that is not firmly on the ground. Now I've got to start [10]_____ my brains all over again!

7 **Match the sentences 1–10 with the events a–j.**

1 I've been grappling with the problem of how to transport the teams to and from the stadium.
2 I need to reach a decision about who to invite as our main speakers.
3 We're toying with the idea of having everyone dressed as foxes.
4 We need to bear in mind that the acoustics are not great in the church.
5 It never crossed my mind that Iceland would be a suitable destination until Eva suggested it.
6 The first place that sprang to mind for the ceremony was our wonderful castle and its grounds.
7 I hit upon the idea of hiring a magician.
8 I've been racking my brains to think of ways of getting men to come along.
9 I thought a casino would be a good idea, but the church leaders won't entertain the idea of gambling.
10 I was going to book a table at La Perla, but I had second thoughts when I saw how expensive it was.

a a wedding
b a children's party
c a concert
d a romantic meal for two
e a sports competition
f an anti-hunting protest
g a church fundraising event
h a dance class
i an international conference
j a holiday

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask students to imagine that they are planning an event of their choice. In pairs, they then write a short dialogue discussing their plans, using some of the collocations they have learned.

8 **Put the phrases in the correct order to make sentences. Add punctuation where necessary.**

1 the problem of/in temporary shelters/we've been grappling with/how to accommodate 500 people
2 a decision/we reached/to sell the land/after much discussion
3 worried about you/didn't it/I would be/cross your mind that
4 when I saw him/was 'eccentric'/the word that/sprang to mind was
5 and Dad hit upon the idea/to raise some money/of organising a quiz night/we wanted
6 to think of the best/we all/places for them to visit/racked our brains
7 I'm toying with/retraining to/the idea of/become a physiotherapist
8 none of them is particularly fit/I think they'd/but you need to bear in mind that/enjoy a walk
9 about getting married /the wedding he told his mother he/three weeks before /was having second thoughts
10 of eating meat/my daughter has refused/since the age of ten/to entertain the idea

24

COLLOCATIONS FOR FEELINGS

Study tip

Notice that these collocations are used for emphasis, giving you strong ways to talk about feelings.

Say how you feel

You will already be familiar with many words connected with feelings and emotions. In this unit you will learn some collocations that will help you express those ideas in more interesting ways.



1 **Match the sentences 1–5 to words from the box.**

admiration • fear • sadness • guilt • happiness

1 My **heart leaped** when I saw that the letter was from Max.
2 I know I was unkind to Emma, and it's been **weighing on my conscience**.
3 I have a **high regard** for the teachers in this school.
4 When I saw the rock we had to climb, my **courage failed me**.
5 It was with a very **heavy heart** that I decided to resign from my job.

2 **Complete the sentences with words from the box.**

admiration • happy • thrilled • scared • dislike

1 When I heard that I'd got the job, I was _____ **to bits**.
2 He had an **intense** _____ of any form of exercise.
3 We were **blissfully** _____ in our new home.
4 She expressed her **profound** _____ for the work of the firefighters.
5 I was _____ **stiff** that my parents would notice the damage to the carpet.

3 **Rewrite the sentences using the collocations in brackets.**

1 I really admire people who work for charities. (profound admiration)
I have a **profound admiration** *for people who work for charities.*
2 I believe that Woody Allen's films are really good. (high regard)
3 I think I would be extremely happy living on a desert island. (blissfully happy)
4 If I had to give a speech at a wedding, I'd be really nervous. (scared stiff)
5 If I'm expecting a call from someone I love, I have a sudden feeling of happiness every time the phone rings. (heart leaps)
6 If I found a wallet full of money lying in the street and kept it, I'd feel guilty about it. (weigh on my conscience)
7 If I knew my friend had been stealing, I'd tell the police, but I'd do it with sadness. (heavy heart)
8 If someone offered me a million pounds, I'd be very happy indeed. (thrilled to bits)
9 When you climb to the top, there's a zip wire to come down. But if you find you're too scared, there's always a ladder. (courage fails you)
10 I really hate modern technology like mobile phones. (intense dislike)

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Ask students to discuss whether they agree or disagree with the statements in Exercise 3.

4 **Complete a short sentence about the situations 1–6, using the collocations you have learned above. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

1 For my mum's birthday, we bought her a ticket to visit her sister in Canada. When she opened it, she started dancing around the room, shrieking with delight.
She was thrilled to bits .

2 When I was at school, I was involved with a gang who used to bully one particular girl. Last week, I heard that this girl still suffers from depression. I can't stop thinking about it, and I feel really bad.
It's _____ .

3 I had just gone to bed when I heard a noise coming from downstairs. I was alone in the house, and I just froze in horror.
I was _____ .

4 One of Sarah's friends kept asking to borrow money, but he never paid her back. In the end, she had to break off the friendship even though she really liked him and she was sorry about it.
She did it with _____ .

5 Ivan was sick of the way his boss treated him. He made up his mind to go and tell him exactly what he thought, but when he got to the door of his boss's office, he just couldn't do it. He hated arguments, and he couldn't afford to lose his job.
His _____ .

6 They met each other on holiday, and fell in love straight away. It was a match made in heaven – they absolutely adored each other, and loved spending time together.
They were _____ .

5 **Complete the sentences using the collocations you have learned above. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

1 I was on a train last week when I noticed, sitting opposite me, none other than Katherine Stockwell! I've always had a _____ for her poetry. I did think about speaking to her, but in the end my _____ .

2 Olivia and I worked for the same company. It wasn't long before I noticed that my _____ every time she came into my office to talk to my boss. Eventually, I managed to ask her out, and we've now had over ten _____ years together.

3 Greta worked for my father for over twenty years, and I know that he always held her in _____ . When the company began to fail, he was forced to make her redundant, but I know that he did it with a _____ .

4 Kit was the most popular boy in our class, and I was _____ when he invited me to tea. He showed me some things his grandfather had given him, including a lovely pocket watch, and for some reason, I was terribly jealous. Anyway, while I was looking at it, I dropped it and broke the glass. I pretended it was an accident, but it wasn't really. It's something that has _____ ever since!

5 For some reason, all my children seem to have an _____ of dogs. This Alsatian ran up to Millie in the park the other day and she was _____ .

CLASSROOM EXTRA

Brainstorm words connected with emotions and feelings. For homework, ask students to look up these words in their dictionaries (making sure they are using a good monolingual learner's dictionary) and see if they can find any more collocations connected with feelings.

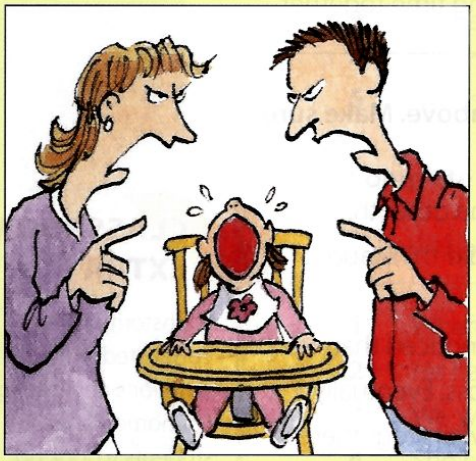
Verbs for emotions

These exercises focus on verbs that are used to form collocations with words to do with feelings.

6 **Answer the questions. Use a dictionary to help you if necessary.**

1 If you **contain your anger**, do you let other people see that you are angry?
2 If you **bear a grudge** against someone, do you forgive them?
3 If you **derive pleasure** from something, does it make you happy or unhappy?
4 If something **comes as a shock**, were you expecting it to happen?
5 If you **dash** someone's **hopes**, will they be pleased or disappointed?
6 If **tempers fray**, does everyone stay calm?
7 Is it easy to deal with a child who is **throwing a tantrum**?
8 If someone **hurls abuse**, do they say nasty or pleasant things?

20 **7** **Why is Louise so angry with her husband, Max? Put the verbs in bold in the right place to find out. You will need to change the form of some verbs. Listen to the recording to check your answers.**



"I know that becoming a father **dashed** a shock to you, but for goodness sake, you're thirty, not thirteen, and it's time you grew up a bit! It's hard enough dealing with Millie when she **bears** a tantrum, without you behaving like a spoilt child too. We're both tired, and it's easy for tempers to **hurl**, but you have to learn to **derive** your anger. That's just part of being a parent. It would be terrible if Millie grew up **containing** a grudge against you because you couldn't make the effort to play with her and look after her calmly. And she really shouldn't have to listen to you **fraying** abuse at me just because you're finding things hard. It makes me really sad that you don't seem to **come as** very much pleasure from having a child. I feel as if all my hopes for a happy family have been **thrown**."

8 **Complete the sentences with the collocations you have learned above.**

1 It's not healthy to bear _____ – if you can't forgive others, you will never be happy.
2 It comes as quite a _____ to some children to realise that their parents don't know everything.
3 If you have to spend a long time in a small space with other people, it's easy for _____ to fray.
4 A lot of football fans seem to enjoy hurling _____ at the referee.
5 What's the best thing to do if your child throws a _____ in a supermarket?
6 He has his heart set on becoming a firefighter, and I can't bear to see his _____ dashed.
7 She's the sort of person who seems to derive _____ from the embarrassment of others.
8 There are some situations where, no matter how cross you feel, you just have to contain your _____.

9 **What sort of person are you? Take this test set by our life coach Serena Smiles and find out!**

What sort of person are you?

1 If someone threw a surprise party for you, how would you feel?
- **a** I'd be absolutely delighted!
- **b** It would come as a bit of a shock, but I'd probably enjoy it.
- **c** I'd be really angry. I hate parties and I hate surprises.

2 How would you feel if you were given six months paid holiday?
- **a** Awful. I couldn't derive any pleasure from laziness.
- **b** Really excited – I can think of a hundred things I'd like to do.
- **c** Quite pleased, though I'd miss my colleagues.

3 How do you feel about people who have upset you in the past?
- **a** I'm happy enough now and I don't think it's healthy to bear grudges.
- **b** If one of them walked into the room now, I'd probably punch them.
- **c** Sometimes I feel a bit angry still, but mostly I don't think about them.

4 What would you do if a group of youths started insulting you?
- **a** I'd hurl abuse back at them – it's what they'd deserve.
- **b** I'd ignore them and get away as quickly as possible.
- **c** I'd ask them calmly and firmly to stop.

5 How do you think you would react if you failed an important exam?
- **a** Terrible – I'd feel as if all my hopes had been dashed.
- **b** Disappointed, but I'm basically an optimistic person – I'd probably try again.
- **c** As long as I have my health and my family, I don't really bother too much about anything else

6 Do you enjoy spending time with your family?
- **a** I love it – I wish I could be with them all the time.
- **b** It's OK now and then, but if we spent too long together, tempers usually start to fray.
- **c** Frankly, I can't stand any of my relatives.

7 What would you do if your parents refused to lend you their car?
- **a** I wouldn't expect them to – I'm old enough to make my own travel arrangements.
- **b** To be honest, I'd probably still throw a tantrum like I did when I was little – it still seems to work.
- **c** I'd try to persuade them by offering to clean it afterwards.

8 What would you do if you saw someone kick a dog?
- **a** I don't think I'd be able to contain my anger – I hate people who are cruel to animals.
- **b** Nothing – I'd be too scared that they would kick me too.
- **c** I'd take a photo on my mobile phone and contact the police.

ADD UP YOUR SCORE

1 a4 b2 c0
2 a0 b4 c2
3 a4 b0 c2
4 a0 b2 c4
5 a0 b2 c4
6 a4 b2 c0
7 a4 b0 c2
8 a4 b2 c0

SERENA SMILES SAYS:

16–24: Wow – if only we all had your positive outlook! You are fun to be with and you value your family and friends. Will you be my friend?

8–16: You are an easygoing sort of person. You don't get too upset or excited about anything, and you take care not to offend others.

0–8: You should try not to be so negative! You are shutting yourself off from friends and from experiences, and I don't think it's making you happy.

10 **The four collocations in sentences 1–4 are followed by a specific preposition. Choose the correct preposition to complete each sentence.**

1 She seems to derive pleasure **out of/from/by** humiliating others.
2 Protesters outside the court hurled abuse **at/to/on** the accused.
3 It came as a shock **with/of/to** my mother to discover that I hadn't been going to school.
4 A medical error left him with limited sight in one eye, and he has borne a grudge **against/for/to** doctors ever since.

Study tip

When learning new collocations, pay particular attention to prepositions. Use a dictionary to check.

REVIEW

Units 21–24

These exercises use collocations from units 21–24, and will help you see how many you have remembered. After each exercise, add up your score to see how well you have done.

1 Complete the sentences.

1 I treated him fairly badly and it's been _____ on my conscience these past few months.
2 She's _____ several accusations against her former boss.
3 I have a sneaking _____ that she's going to resign.
4 Prices for the same product _____ widely from shop to shop.
5 He was cycling down the hill at _____ speed.
6 If the hotel is full we can always make alternative _____.
7 My _____ leaped when I saw him – I was so excited.
8 It was with a heavy _____ that I told him he had to leave.
9 It came as a real _____ to see her looking so ill and thin.
10 Tempers started to _____ towards the end of the meeting as everyone started to get tired.

Score: ☐ / 10

2 Underline the correct word to complete the collocations.

1 She was **seriously/violently/highly critical** of the report.
2 I'm **highly/seriously/violently sceptical** about the science behind these claims.
3 I **firmly/strongly/heavily suspect** that he won't offer us the work.
4 He was **seriously/tremendously/hugely injured** in the crash.
5 She was **hotly/bitterly/nastily disappointed** to be out of the competition.
6 I need some ideas for my essay – can I **tap/pick/touch** your **brains**?
7 These ideas are gradually **gaining/holding/taking acceptance**.
8 The golfer has **decisively/precisely/categorically denied** the accusations.
9 I was **powerfully/forcefully/violently sick** after eating in that restaurant.
10 Her mother is **seriously/badly/harmfully ill** in hospital.

Score: ☐ / 10

3 Match the collocations 1–10 with the definitions a–j.

1	take issue with someone	**a**	achieving a very good result
2	derive pleasure	**b**	to get enjoyment
3	matter of opinion	**c**	a very strong feeling of not liking something
4	difference of opinion	**d**	to suddenly have a thought about how to do something
5	intense dislike	**e**	something that people have different opinions about
6	hugely successful	**f**	to disagree with someone
7	thoroughly enjoy	**g**	to give someone help and advice
8	spring to mind	**h**	a disagreement
9	offer guidance	**i**	to come suddenly into your thoughts
10	hit upon an idea	**j**	to get a lot of pleasure from something

Score: ☐ / 10

4 **Match the two halves of the sentences.**

1	There's been a sharp increase	**a**	a dramatic improvement in his work.
2	It didn't cross my mind	**b**	to be invited.
3	There's an acute shortage	**c**	I was blissfully happy.
4	This school term has seen	**d**	in the number of burglaries in the area.
5	The film wasn't the	**e**	that he might not want to come.
6	Let me know when you've	**f**	on how to reduce your fat intake.
7	If you have a legal problem	**g**	it's best to get professional advice.
8	I was thrilled to bits	**h**	reached a decision.
9	The article gives lots of helpful hints	**i**	of trained nurses.
10	Lying on the beach next to Sam	**j**	roaring success they were hoping for.

Score: ☐ / 10

5 **Correct the word in *italics* to make a collocation with the word in bold in each sentence.**

1 To be ***ideally*** **honest**, I preferred you in the grey dress.
2 David was very much in favour of the proposal, but I ***stay*** **sceptical**.
3 I think it's ***strongly*** **unlikely** that they'll be ready by the end of the month.
4 Anyone could see that she's unhappy at work – it's ***violently*** **obvious**.
5 I ***angrily*** **resent** having to pay extra for the service.
6 He has **failed** ***unhappily*** to follow the most basic instructions.
7 If I were to ***risk*** a **guess** I'd say she's about fifty.
8 The ***hard*** **reality** of war is movingly expressed in his paintings.
9 If you invite more people, ***keep*** **in mind** you'll have to provide more food.
10 At this time of year it is ***burningly*** **cold**.

Score: ☐ / 10

6 **Complete the sentences with a collocation from the box. Make sure you use the correct form of the verbs.**

rack your brains • make recommendations • courage fails someone • scared stiff • toy with an idea • high regard • contain your anger • hurl abuse • dash someone's hopes • throw a tantrum

1 I've been _____ trying to think what to get him for a present – it's so difficult.
2 My two-year-old _____ in the middle of the shop because I wouldn't buy him any sweets.
3 I was furious and I just couldn't _____ any longer.
4 The crowd were _____ at the referee.
5 The committee is due to _____ about improving health and safety.
6 I have a very _____ for the teachers in this school – I think they do a marvellous job.
7 I wanted to tell him how I really felt but at the last minute my _____ .
8 I think you're very brave – I'd be _____ to get on a horse that size!
9 Last week's defeat _____ United's _____ of winning the competition.
10 I've been _____ of moving to a new city.

Score: ☐ / 10
Total score: ☐ / 60

KEY

Unit 1

1
1 sustain 2 serious 3 heavy 4 divert 5 major 6 pose
7 launch 8 brutal 9 heed 10 ignore

2
1 pose a threat 2 launch an attack 3 serious injuries
4 heed warnings 5 divert traffic 6 major threat
7 brutal attack 8 sustain injuries 9 heavy traffic
10 ignore warnings

3
1 brutal attack, sustained injuries, pose a threat
2 launched an attack, ignore these warnings
3 heed warnings, divert traffic, serious injuries
4 heavy traffic, major threat

4
1 brutal attack 2 injuries, sustained 3 pose, threat
4 launched, attack 5 ignore warnings 6 heed warnings
7 diverted traffic 8 serious injuries 9 heavy traffic
10 major threat

5
1 **bad:** nasty, negative 2 **big:** wide 3 **get:** earn 4 **complete:** full
5 **take:** seize 6 **very:** spotlessly, sick 7 **new:** fresh
8 **very well:** ideally, highly 9 **improve:** enhance

6
1 F 2 F 3 T 4 F 5 T 6 T 7 F 8 T

7
Molly's Mechanics 1 nasty surprise 2 earned a reputation
3 worried sick 4 full explanation (Order: 3, 1, 4, 2)
John Oram: Life Coach 1 negative attitudes
2 seize the opportunities 3 enhance the quality of
4 make a fresh start (Order: 3, 2, 1, 4)
Celebration Dining Co. 1 are highly trained 2 ideally suited
3 spotlessly clean 4 wide range (Order: 2, 1, 4, 3)

Unit 2

1
1 a 2 b 3 c 4 b 5 a 6 b

2
1 issued 2 attach 3 spread 4 enforced 5 clouded
6 expending

3
1 admitted, hospital 2 expended, energy 3 cloud, judgement
4 attach, importance 5 restore confidence 6 assume control

4
1 admitted, hospital 2 restore confidence 3 attach, importance 4 cloud, judgement 5 assume control
6 issued, warning

5
1 raised the alarm 2 resort to violence 3 spreading rumours
4 denying responsibility 5 enforce discipline
6 expend a lot more energy

6
1 struck 2 broke out 3 buckled 4 pound

7
1 afresh 2 extensively 3 aloud 4 soundly 5 openly 6 highly

8
1 a 2 e 3 d 4 f 5 c 6 b

9
Across 1 heart 4 breaks 5 start 6 buckle 8 highly
Down 2 earthquake 3 sleep 7 laugh

10
laughed **aloud**, talk **openly**, start **afresh**, slept **soundly**, speak **highly**, travelling **extensively**

Unit 3

1
1 heavy 2 regular 3 complete 4 lasting 5 torrential
6 gentle 7 brisk 8 natural 9 close 10 favourable
11 enviable 12 budding

2
1 heavy snow 2 enviable position 3 close links
4 lasting damage 5 gentle persuasion 6 budding romance
7 complete beginner 8 natural beauty 9 torrential rain
10 favourable impression 11 regular occurence 12 brisk walk

3
Skiing in the Alps: [...] There had been **heavy** snow [...] became a **regular occurrence** [...] most of us were **complete beginners** [...] happily there was no **lasting damage** [...]
Geography trip to the Lake District: [...] at the **torrential rain** outside [...] after some **gentle persuasion** [...] a **brisk walk** [...] an area of great **natural beauty**.
Exchange trip to France [...] has had **close links** [...]I immediately formed a **favourable impression** of my host family [...]/being in the **enviable position** [...] (in some cases) **budding romances**.

4
1 Yes, there was heavy snow. 2 No, most people were complete beginners. 3 No, they needed some gentle persuasion (from their teachers). 4 (They were impressed by) the natural beauty of the Lake District. 5 Yes, they have had close links for many years.
6 He was in the enviable position of speaking French well.

5
1 major breakthrough 2 detailed description 3 malicious gossip 4 full extent 5 deliberate attempt 6 broad daylight
7 anecdotal evidence 8 conclusive proof 9 prior knowledge
10 strong possibility

6

1 the full extent of the damage. 2 have no conclusive proof (that he is guilty). 3 a strong possibility that Lee will go to prison. 4 set on fire in broad daylight. 5 is based on anecdotal evidence. 6 malicious gossip (in the village). 7 a detailed description of the man. 8 a major breakthrough for the police. 9 a deliberate attempt to burn down the office. 10 prior knowledge of the premises.

7

1 major breakthrough 2 full extent 3 detailed description 4 strong possibility 5 broad daylight 6 malicious gossip 7 deliberate attempt 8 prior knowledge 9 anecdotal evidence 10 conclusive proof

Unit 4

1

1 surprised 2 baked 3 accustomed 4 awake 5 asleep 6 lit 7 empty 8 populated 9 available 10 short

2

1 Yes, he has been **pleasantly surprised** by his accommodation. 2 He has **freshly baked** bread and croissants. 3 No, he has **grown accustomed** to the mountain roads. 4 No, **he lies** awake (because of the heat). 5 Because the restaurants are **dimly lit**. 6 He has problems **falling asleep**. 7 No, many of them are **standing empty**. 8 Yes, it is very **densely populated**. 9 Yes, food is **freely available**. 10 No, you never **run short** of things to do there.

3

1 grew accustomed 2 standing empty 3 run short 4 pleasantly surprised 5 lying awake 6 densely populated 7 freshly baked 8 dimly lit 9 freely available 10 fell asleep

4

Hi Patsy!: lying awake, **grown** accustomed, **freely** available, **running** short
Hi Kitty: standing empty, **densely** populated, **fall** asleep, **pleasantly** surprised

5

1 hive of activity 2 chorus of approval 3 bundle of nerves 4 catalogue of errors 5 blaze of publicity 6 torrent of abuse

6

1 sound 2 collected 3 tidy 4 tired 5 twisted 6 proper

7

1 h 2 e 3 a 4 f 5 g 6 d 7 c 8 b

8

1 prim and proper 2 catalogue of errors 3 hive of activity 4 torrent of abuse 5 safe and sound 6 chorus of approval 7 neat and tidy 8 sick and tired 9 bundle of nerves 10 calm and collected

9

1 The morning before the wedding, the house was a hive of activity.
2 I'm always a bundle of nerves before speaking in public.
3 I'm absolutely sick and tired of cleaning up after everyone.
4 Everything in her office is always neat and tidy.
5 I'll be happier when I know everyone is back safe and sound.
6 He opened his mouth and out came a torrent of abuse.

Review Units 1-4

1

1 asleep 2 heavy 3 injuries 4 worried 5 start 6 laugh 7 raise 8 full 9 major 10 description

2

1 brutal 2 sustained 3 issued 4 pounding 5 soundly 6 favourable 7 conclusive 8 standing 9 brisk 10 calm

3

1 j 2 g 3 h 4 a 5 c 6 b 7 f 8 i 9 e 10 d

4

1 i 2 d 3 e 4 f 5 c 6 g 7 j 8 h 9 a 10 b

5

1 densely 2 broad 3 blaze 4 sick 5 budding 6 bundle 7 spotlessly 8 chorus 9 deliberate 10 pleasantly

6

1 war broke out 2 ignore warnings 3 attaches, importance 4 restore confidence 5 earthquake struck 6 seized the opportunity 7 talk openly 8 launch an attack 9 start afresh 10 assumed control

Unit 5

1

1 a 2 c 3 b 4 a 5 c 6 a 7 b 8 a 9 c 10 a

2

1 promising start 2 remarkable achievement 3 bright future 4 able student 5 high opinion 6 glowing reference 7 prime example 8 a huge success 9 solid performance 10 made a favourable impression

3

1 promising start, c 2 glowing reference, a 3 bright future, d 4 able student, e 5 solid performance, b 6 favourable impression, j 7 high opinion, g 8 huge success, i 9 remarkable achievement, f 10 prime example, h

4

1 a very promising start for Arsenal. 2 a huge success. 3 an able student. 4 have a very bright future . 5 His last employers ... a glowing reference. 6 a favourable impression on me. 7 a solid performance this afternoon. 8 a remarkable achievement. 9 high opinion of his boss. 10 prime example of a painting from this period.

5

1 f 2 g 3 b 4 c 5 a 6 h 7 e 8 d

6

1 shoddy 2 foul 3 glaring 4 poor 5 lame 6 painful 7 rough 8 horrific

7

1 horrific injuries 2 shoddy treatment 3 poor quality 4 painful memories 5 rough time 6 glaring error 7 lame excuse 8 foul mood

8

1 She suffered horrific injuries in the accident. 2 There were lots of glaring errors in the report. 3 The clothes were of poor quality. 4 Juan made a lame excuse for not helping out. 5 She's received shoddy treatment from the company she works for. 6 I have painful memories of/from my school days. 7 He's having a rough time at the moment. 8 She was in a foul mood this morning.

Unit 6

1

1 e 2 a 3 d 4 c 5 f 6 b 7 h 8 g

2

1 d, b, c, a 2 c, d, b, a 3 b, c, a, d

4

1 dream 2 support 3 victory 4 interest 5 access 6 permission 7 success 8 benefits

5

1 h 2 g 3 d 4 a 5 e 6 f 7 c 8 b

6

1 success 2 access 3 permission 4 interest 5 victory 6 support 7 benefits 8 dream

7

1 scored, success 2 gain access 3 win, support 4 capture, interest 5 obtain permission 6 secure, victory 7 fulfil, dream 8 reaping, benefits

8

1 Somehow she had managed to gain access to highly confidential information. 2 We all reap the benefits of new medical advances. 3 The film certainly captured my interest. 4 Later that year I fulfilled my dream of dancing for the Royal Ballet. 5 They succeeded in winning the support of 40 percent of the voters. 6 United secured the first victory of the season today. 7 Her first film was a box-office failure but she scored a success with her second film. 8 Eventually we obtained permission to see the records.

Unit 7

1

1 key figure 2 top priority 3 pressing need 4 major problem 5 vital importance 6 serious consideration 7 prime example 8 burning issue 9 leading experts 10 chief reason

2

1 Because he is a key figure in the council's 'Green Team'. 2 The chief reason is that the system is too complicated. 3 Yes, (he says) there is a pressing need for a simpler system. 4 Customer surveys show that recycling has to be the top priority. 5 The major problem for her is remembering what goes in each box. 6 No, it's a prime example of a (well-intentioned) scheme that has been badly thought through. 7 She thinks the council should give serious consideration to a system where everything is collected together and then sorted out later. 8 No, he thinks it is of vital importance that we do everything we can to combat global warming. 9 He thinks it is the burning issue of our time. 10 Because leading experts are divided on whether it is worthwhile.

3

1 prime example 2 key figures 3 chief reason 4 vital importance 5 serious consideration 6 pressing need 7 major problem 8 leading expert 9 burning issue 10 top priority

4

key figure, **chief** reason, **vital** importance, **top** priority, **burning** issues, **leading** expert, **serious** consideration, **prime** example

5

1 g 2 d 3 c 4 f 5 b 6 h 7 a 8 e

6

1 momentous decision 2 decisive factor 3 central role 4 overriding concern 5 paramount importance 6 essential ingredients 7 prominent role 8 notable achievement

7

1 a central role in setting up the drama group.
2 an essential ingredient 3 a momentous decision for me.
4 the overriding concern for us. 5 The weather was a decisive factor 6 the location would be of paramount importance.
7 history of World War II was a notable achievement.
8 prominent role in national politics.

8

1 decisive factor 2 paramount importance 3 momentous decision 4 essential ingredient 5 notable achievement
6 overriding concern

Unit 8

1

1 b 2 d 3 c 4 a 5 b 6 d 7 c 8 a

2

1 He struck up a conversation. 2 You can see new shops and cafés springing up. 3 Violence erupted. 4 They have brought in a law to make it illegal to use a mobile phone while driving.
5 She hoped to launch a career as an actress.
6 The head teacher adopted a new approach to the problem.
7 It triggered protests. 8 They have embarked on a project to modernise the road network.

3

1 d, c, a, b 2 d, a, c, b 3 c, a, d, b 4 c, d, b, a

4

1 career 2 protests 3 companies 4 conversation 5 project
6 violence 7 law 8 approach

5

1 e 2 f 3 h 4 c 5 g 6 d 7 a 8 b

6

1 e 2 d 3 c 4 b 5 a 6 g 7 f 8 h

7

1 breaking 2 implementing 3 set 4 prompting 5 generate
6 set up 7 introduce 8 broke out

9

Across: 4 legislation 5 alarm 6 plan 8 generated
Down: 1 speculation 2 dawn 3 company 7 war

Review Units 5-8

1

1 excuse 2 job 3 importance 4 conversation 5 future
6 error 7 alarm 8 deal 9 need 10 career

2

1 remarkable 2 painful 3 acquired 4 gain 5 reap
6 leading 7 prominent 8 brought in 9 prompted
10 generate

3

1 e 2 f 3 h 4 b 5 j 6 i 7 d 8 g 9 c 10 a

4

1 h 2 a 3 f 4 e 5 i 6 d 7 c 8 j 9 g 10 b

5

1 broke 2 high 3 example 4 concern 5 decision
6 impression 7 out 8 injuries 9 treatment 10 time

6

1 glowing references 2 poor quality 3 achieve her ambition 4 obtain permission 5 key figure 6 vital importance 7 notable achievement 8 violence erupted
9 set up a company 10 able students

Unit 9

1
1 buoyant 2 low 3 mind 4 despair 5 morale 6 mood 7 feeling 8 keep

2
1 f 2 e 3 a 4 g 5 b 6 h 7 d 8 c

4
1 He was upset about his boss's criticism but later that evening, when he was out with his friends, his mood lifted.
2 Unexpectedly good exam results, combined with the gift of a new laptop from his dad, have put him in a buoyant mood.
3 When I was told that I might lose my sight, I shut myself away and sank into despair. 4 I can't concentrate at work because I have so many problems weighing on my mind. 5 We knew we would be rescued eventually, so we all told jokes to keep our spirits up.
6 Her low spirits are due to the fact that she still hasn't been able to find a job. 7 After so much bad publicity for the company, managers need to come up with a plan to raise the morale of staff. 8 Can you imagine the sinking feeling I had when I realised I had lost my passport?

5
1 icy 2 lukewarm 3 heated 4 flared 5 frosty 6 hot 7 blistering 8 boil 9 hotly 10 thawed

6
1 F 2 T 3 F 4 T 5 T 6 F 7 F 8 F

7
1 lukewarm response 2 blistering attack 3 hot temper 4 anger boils up 5 hotly deny 6 icy stare 7 tempers flare 8 frosty reception 9 relations thaw 10 heated debate

8
1 heated debate 2 hotly denied 3 lukewarm response 4 frosty reception 5 icy stare 6 tempers flared 7 relations, thawed 8 blistering attack 9 anger boiling up 10 hot temper

Unit 10

1
1 ask someone to promise something 2 bad luck 3 complain very forcefully 4 not do what was promised 5 say that you are not pleased 6 extremely anxious 7 very upset 8 a letter saying that something is correct 9 write someone a letter 10 promise forcefully that something is true

2
Formal: seek assurances, fail to deliver, register your dissatisfaction, deeply distressed, written confirmation
Informal: hard luck, kick up a fuss, worried sick, drop someone a line, swear blind

3
1 c, e, a, d, b 2 f, a, e, b, d, c

4
1 bug 2 disease 3 stomach 4 cough 5 symptoms 6 flu 7 headache 8 fever 9 antibiotics 10 treatment 11 specialist 12 hospital

5
1 pick up, contract, go down with 2 hacking, splitting, raging

6
1 No, she picked up the bug on holiday. 2 An upset stomach and a hacking cough. 3 She had a splitting headache. 4 Yes, s/he gives her a course of antibiotics. 5 It should respond to treatment. 6 S/He will refer her to a specialist.

7
Doctor's leaflet: 3 a, 5 i, 7 j, 8 l, 9 b, 12 g
Aunty Ida: 1 d, 2 h, 4 k, 6 e, 10 f, 11 c

8
1 ~~responded~~ respond 2 correct 3 ~~gone~~ went 4 ~~develop~~ developing 5 correct 6 ~~admitting~~ admitted

Unit 11

1
1 on, off to 2 up, into 3 about, out 4 out of, into 5 in, up

2
1 I drew up a list of everyone I wanted to invite to the party.
2 Our boss expected us to carry out orders without asking any questions. 3 I ran up a lot of debts when I was starting my business. 4 I put on weight when I lived in Italy because the food was so good. 5 I wasn't very tired, but I eventually got off to sleep at around midnight. 6 When he saw his mother, he broke into a run. 7 In my job, I come into contact with people from all over the world. 8 Floor-length skirts have gone out of fashion. 9 A big hat would come in handy – it's very hot there. 10 Life is very hard for us, but we are optimistic that a new government will bring about change.

3
1 brought 2 got 3 gone 4 came 5 drawn 6 ran

4
1 get off to sleep 2 run up debts 3 come into contact 4 bring about change 5 break into a run 6 put on weight 7 go out of fashion 8 draw up a list 9 come in handy

5
1 F 2 T 3 T 4 T 5 F 6 F 7 T 8 F 9 F 10 T

6
1 g 2 f 3 c 4 e 5 b 6 h 7 a 8 d

7
1 bottling up her feelings. 2 holds out hope that he will be found. 3 pour his heart out. 4 burst out laughing. 5 pluck up the courage to ask him. 6 work up the enthusiasm. 7 go to pieces. 8 bursts into tears.

8

Across: 2 hope 6 courage 7 feelings 8 enthusiasm
Down: 1 pieces 3 laughing 4 heart 5 tears

9

1 poured her heart out (to me). 2 went to pieces. 3 couldn't pluck up the courage 4 burst into tears. 5 work up the enthusiasm. 6 hold out (much/any) hope that they will succeed. 7 burst out laughing. 8 bottle up your feelings

Unit 12

1

1 b 2 a 3 b 4 a 5 c 6 a 7 c 8 b

2

1 g 2 b 3 h 4 f 5 a 6 e 7 c 8 d

3

having a catch-up, **catch** a film, **grab** a bite, **driving** me mad, didn't **have** the faintest idea, **give** you a hand, **put** my feet up, **have** any luck

4

1 T 2 F 3 F 4 F 5 T 6 F

5

1 We caught a film and then went for dinner. 2 It would be nice to have a catch-up with you sometime soon. 3 I grabbed a bite while I was in town so I'm not hungry now. 4 I don't have the faintest idea what she means. 5 Could you give me a hand with these boxes? 6 She used to talk non-stop and it drove me mad. 7 Did you have any luck getting hold of his mobile number? 8 Why don't you put your feet up for a while?

7

1 g 2 j 3 h 4 i 5 b 6 c 7 d 8 a 9 e 10 f

8

1 slips 2 vaguely 3 draw 4 mind 5 distinctly 6 dwell 7 earliest 8 vivid 9 filled with 10 bring back

9

1 dwell on the past 2 vivid memories 3 really brings back memories 4 completely slipped my mind 5 filled with nostalgia 6 distinctly remember 7 your earliest memory 8 your mind goes blank. 9 I vaguely remember 10 I drew a blank

Review Units 9-12

1

1 headache 2 back 3 mind 4 cough 5 picked 6 put 7 come 8 sick 9 enthusiasm 10 feet

2

1 low 2 bottle 3 drop 4 vivid 5 blistering 6 heated 7 thawed 8 develop 9 raging 10 blind

3

1 h 2 c 3 g 4 b 5 e 6 f 7 a 8 i 9 j 10 d

4

1 g 2 b 3 h 4 e 5 j 6 f 7 i 8 c 9 a 10 d

5

1 blank 2 idea 3 driving 4 up 5 burst 6 fuss 7 course 8 admitted 9 keep 10 hotly

6

1 anger boil up 2 vague memory 3 going down with the flu 4 drew a blank 5 referred, to a specialist 6 pluck up the courage 7 ran up debts 8 register, dissatisfaction 9 filled with nostalgia 10 frosty reception

Unit 13

1
1 receding hairline 2 heavily built 3 broad shoulders 4 flat stomach 5 bushy beard 6 bloodshot eyes 7 shoulder-length hair 8 bald patch 9 wiry frame 10 close-set eyes

2
1 No, he had shoulder-length hair. 2 Yes, he had a bald patch.
3 Yes, he had a receding hairline. 4 No, he had a bushy beard.
5 He had close-set eyes. 6 He had bloodshot eyes. 7 No, he had a wiry frame (like an athlete). 8 No, he had a flat stomach.
9 No, he was heavily built. 10 No, he had broad shoulders.

3
A 3 (Henk) B 1 (John) C 2 (Marco)

4
John: *Accurate*: heavily built, broad shoulders *Inaccurate*: says neatly trimmed beard, but truth is bushy beard
Marco *Accurate:* wiry frame *Inaccurate:* says eyes are best feature, but truth is close-set eyes *Missing:* receding hairline
Henk *Accurate:* shoulder-length hair *Inaccurate:* says: flat stomach, but truth is: slight beer gut, says bright eyes, but truth is: bloodshot eyes *Missing*: bald patch

5
1 attractive 2 unattractive 3 unattractive 4 attractive

6
Positive: high cheekbones, full lips, flawless complexion, square jaw, even features, glossy hair
Negative: double chin, puffy eyes, greasy hair, sallow complexion

7
1 high 2 puffy 3 even 4 glossy 5 full 6 greasy 7 sallow 8 square 9 double 10 flawless

8
1 g 2 h 3 i 4 d 5 e 6 a 7 j 8 f 9 b 10 c

9
Across: 4 complexion 5 even 6 greasy 9 square
Down: 1 chin 2 hair 3 flawless 4 cheekbones 6 eyes 8 full

Unit 14

1
1 friend/s 2 acquaintance 3 family 4 relative

2
1 distant relative 2 close-knit family 3 mutual friend 4 wide circle of friends 5 stable family 6 casual acquaintance 7 dysfunctional family 8 immediate family 9 blood relative 10 old acquaintance

3
1 close-knit 2 family 3 acquaintance 4 wide 5 friend 6 family 7 casual 8 family 9 relative 10 relative

4
1 T 2 F 3 F 4 F 5 F 6 T 7 F 8 F

5
1 j 2 g 3 f 4 a 5 b 6 e 7 l 8 h 9 c 10 d

6
1 romance has blossomed 2 holiday romance 3 messy divorce 4 love at first sight 5 whirlwind romance 6 madly in love 7 quickie divorce 8 fallen in love

7
1 love at first sight 2 messy divorce 3 romance blossomed 4 whirlwind romance

8
1 I knew it was just a holiday romance and it was unlikely to last.
2 They had one of those Hollywood-style quickie divorces.
3 I met Simon at college and fell in love. 4 Alastair is madly in love with a woman he met while he was trekking in New Zealand.

9
1 c 2 d 3 f 4 a 5 h 6 g 7 b 8 e

Unit 15

1
1 painfully 2 way 3 sense 4 likes 5 fiery 6 tendency 7 impression 8 company 9 bored 10 speak

2
1 Chris was a lovely companion on the trip – he's good company. 2 I've noticed that Sam has a tendency to exaggerate. 3 Carine speaks her mind and that doesn't always make her very popular. 4 I think Melissa is fine living on her own – she likes her own company. 5 He's painfully shy – parties and other social situations are a nightmare for him. 6 I don't know him very well but he gives the impression that he is rather arrogant.
7 My older brother has a fiery temper – he flies into a rage over very little sometimes. 8 Paul is quite quiet but he has a good sense of humour. 9 My younger son has a way with words and writes marvellous stories. 10 Tom is easily bored – he never does one activity for any length of time.

3
1 Yolanda always speaks her mind. 2 She likes her own company. 3 Diana has a way with words. 4 Michael has a good sense of humour. 5 My husband has a fiery temper. 6 Lola is painfully shy. 7 She is easily bored. 8 Yan is good company.

4
1 good company 2 easily bored 3 fiery temper 4 has a tendency 5 speak her mind 6 gives the impression 7 sense of humour 8 way with words 9 painfully shy 10 likes his own company

5
1 supremely confident 2 shy and retiring 3 a strong personality 4 burning ambition 5 eye for detail 6 ruthless streak 7 risk taker 8 outgoing personality

6
1 F 2 T 3 T 4 F 5 T 6 F 7 F 8 F

8

1 strong personality 2 eye for detail 3 supremely confident 4 risk taker 5 ruthless streak

Unit 16

1

1 off-road parking 2 recycling facilities 3 within easily reach of 4 overflowing bins 5 dimly lit streets 6 tree-lined streets 7 green spaces 8 residential areas 9 local amenities 10 friendly neighbourhood

2

Tiane: 1 green spaces 2 within easy reach of the town centre 3 tree-lined streets 4 off-road parking 5 no dimly lit streets
Jonathan: 1 friendly neighbourhood 2 local amenities 3 residential area 4 no overflowing bins 5 recycling facilities

3

1 c 2 h 3 a 4 e 5 d 6 f 7 g 8 j 9 b 10 i

4

1 residential 2 lined 3 amenities 4 spaces 5 neighbourhood 6 reach 7 overflowing 8 facilities 9 off-road 10 dimly lit

5

1 winding 2 heart 3 way 4 cobbled 5 ancient 6 breathtaking 7 picturesque 8 rolling

6

1 picturesque village 2 in the heart of the countryside 3 winding lanes 4 cobbled street 5 rolling hills 6 breathtaking scenery 7 ancient woodland 8 way of life

7

1 She looked out of her hotel room onto rolling hills. 2 It took me a long time to get used to the way of life here. 3 This is a beautiful little village right in the heart of the Oxfordshire countryside. 4 We walked along winding lanes till we reached the village. 5 This must be the most picturesque village I've ever seen. 6 I could hear the sound of the horses' hooves on the cobbled streets. 7 If you visit the area you will see some absolutely breathtaking scenery. 8 Forest fires have almost destroyed this area of ancient woodland.

8

1 picturesque 2 heart 3 hills 4 scenery 5 cobbled 6 woodland 7 way 8 winding

9

picturesque village, **rolling** hills, **winding** country lanes, **ancient** woodland, **breathtaking** scenery, **cobbled** streets

Review Units 13–16

1

1 beard 2 woodland 3 patch 4 love 5 hair 6 streets 7 hairline 8 family 9 romance 10 friend

2

1 burning 2 eye 3 heavily 4 blood 5 full 6 close-set 7 messy 8 dysfunctional 9 double 10 overflowing

3

1 e 2 b 3 f 4 a 5 g 6 h 7 i 8 j 9 d 10 c

4

1 f 2 b 3 d 4 c 5 e 6 g 7 j 8 h 9 i 10 a

5

1 scenery 2 way 3 rolling 4 circle 5 heart 6 easy 7 streak 8 local 9 mind 10 area

6

1 easily bored 2 picturesque villages 3 recycling facilities 4 good company 5 winding lanes 6 off-road parking 7 green spaces 8 outgoing personality 9 friendly neighbourhood 10 broad shoulders

Unit 17

1

1 c 2 b 3 c 4 c 5 a 6 b 7 a 8 b 9 a 10 b

2

1 went 2 long 3 annual 4 staff 5 gone under 6 career 7 business 8 stress 9 labour 10 business

3

1 g 2 a 3 j 4 h 5 i 6 b 7 c 8 d 9 e 10 f

4

1 from work-related stress recently. 2 long hours. 3 annual turnover. 4 The collection launched her career 5 His company went under last 6 set up your own business? 7 we're taking on more staff. 8 doing manual labour. 9 her business has suddenly taken off. 10 into business with my sister.

5

1 dead-end jobs 2 steady job 3 relevant experience 4 high-powered job 5 demanding work 6 job satisfaction 7 realised my ambitions 8 pursue a career 9 brilliant career 10 heavy workload

6

1 In his work, Charles realised his ambition. 2 The work gave Claudia (great) job satisfaction. 3 He has a steady job. 4 It's a dead-end job. 5 He has a high-powered job. 6 Daniel decided to pursue a career as a lawyer. 7 It's demanding work. 8 She has a heavy workload in her new job. 9 He has lots of relevant experience. 10 Maria had a brilliant career.

7

Across: 4 high-powered 9 realised 10 dead-end
Down: 1 brilliant 2 workload 3 job 5 demanding 6 relevant 7 steady 8 pursue

Unit 18

1

1 The baby .... 2 Feel better ... 3 It was lovely ... 4 Oh dear, ... 5 A walk...

2

1 caught up on some sleep. 2 hit the shops. 3 taken up a couple of/some hobbies 4 stayed up late 5 having a lie-in 6 went for a stroll 7 caught up with some friends 8 had Lisa and Andrew over for dinner

3

1 had a lie-in 2 went for a stroll 3 hit the shops 4 had ... over for dinner 5 taken up ... hobbies 6 catch up with friends 7 stayed up late 8 catch up on some sleep

4

1 stayed 2 catch 3 hit 4 catch 5 had 6 go 7 have 8 take

5

1 adventure 2 people 3 limit 4 activities 5 idyllic 6 lifetime 7 soaking up 8 atmosphere 9 inspiration 10 book

6

1 engrossed in your book 2 like-minded people 3 an idyllic setting 4 a sense of adventure 5 soak up the sun 6 the holiday of a lifetime 7 push yourself to the limit 8 a relaxed atmosphere 9 find inspiration 10 an outdoor activity

7

1 for people with a sense of adventure. 2 will meet like-minded people. 3 push yourself to the limit. 4 a wide range of outdoor activities. 5 are in idyllic settings. 6 have the holiday of a lifetime. 7 soak up the sun. 8 will have a relaxed atmosphere. 9 find inspiration (for your paintings). 10 you're engrossed in a book.

8

1 idyllic setting 2 like-minded people 3 find inspiration 4 push yourself to the limit 5 sense of adventure 6 the holiday of a lifetime 7 outdoor activities 8 engrossed in my book 9 relaxed atmosphere 10 soaking up the sun

9

1 Where do you find inspiration for the extraordinary characters in your films? 2 There was a very relaxed atmosphere at the meeting which surprised me. 3 It's good to do a lot of outdoor activities with young children. 4 Even as a small child he had a sense of adventure and was always climbing or jumping off high places. 5 Maya was so engrossed in her book that she didn't notice them leave. 6 I sat in the garden soaking up the sun. 7 She had the holiday of a lifetime touring South-East Asia. 8 I couldn't imagine a more idyllic setting for a wedding. 9 I started a club for other like-minded people. 10 Athletics at this high level demands that you push yourself to the limit.

Unit 19

1

1 subject 2 conversation 3 chat 4 gossip

2

1 sensitive subject 2 piece of gossip 3 brief chat 4 strike up a conversation 5 cosy chat 6 juicy gossip 7 lull in the conversation 8 drop the subject 9 snatches of conversation 10 broach the subject

3

1 g 2 e 3 h 4 i 5 j 6 b 7 c 8 a 9 d 10 f

4

1 greetings 2 details 3 talk 4 apologised 5 discussion 6 dropping 7 paid 8 skills

5

1 exchanged greetings 2 lengthy discussion 3 conversational skills 4 made small talk 5 paying you a compliment 6 apologising profusely 7 go into details 8 dropping hints

6

1 T 2 F (a lengthy discussion) 3 F 4 T 5 F 6 T

7

Across: 4 talk 5 exchanged 6 apologised 8 lengthy
Down: 1 conversational 2 paid 3 went 7 drop

8

1 go into details 2 pays you a compliment 3 conversational skills 4 make small talk 5 dropped a hint 6 apologised profusely 7 lengthy discussion 8 exchange greetings

Unit 20

1

1 restaurant menu 2 restaurant menu 3 restaurant menu 4 supermarket leaflet/restaurant menu/advertisement 5 restaurant menu 6 supermarket leaflet/restaurant menu 7 supermarket leaflet/restaurant menu/advertisement 8 supermarket leaflet/restaurant menu/advertisement 9 supermarket leaflet/restaurant menu 10 supermarket leaflet/restaurant menu

2

1 crunchy salad 2 rich sauce 3 delicate flavour 4 tender meat 5 locally sourced 6 lightly steamed 7 freshly prepared 8 lightly seasoned 9 seasonal fruit 10 light snack

3

1 light 2 freshly 3 sourced 4 lightly 5 rich 6 crunchy 7 steamed 8 tender 9 fruit 10 delicate

4

1 No, it also serves light snacks. 2 No, the meals are freshly prepared. 3 Most of it is locally sourced. 4 No, it was lightly seasoned. 5 Because they are lightly steamed. 6 No, he described it as 'tender meat'. 7 its delicate flavours 8 No, it serves seasonal fruit.

5

1 c 2 d 3 b 4 a 5 e 6 f 7 g 8 h 9 i 10 j

6

1 Lightly steamed vegetables are healthy and help you to lose weight. 2 You should have your main meal in the middle of the day and a light snack in the evening. 3 Freshly prepared food is generally healthier than pre-prepared food. 4 To preserve the delicate flavour of the herbs, cook for as little time as possible. 5 You should avoid rich sauces if you are trying to lose weight. 6 Using locally sourced food is better for the environment. 7 For really tender meat, cook for five hours at a low heat. 8 Lightly seasoned vegetables are healthier and tastier. 9 A crunchy salad is a healthy addition to any meal. 10 Try to buy seasonal fruits and vegetables rather than produce that is out of season.

8

1 greasy chips 2 lean meat 3 savoury snack 4 processed food 5 balanced diet 6 cook from scratch 7 leafy vegetables 8 health food shop 9 ready meal 10 fatty foods

9

1 scratch 2 processed 3 leafy 4 health 5 balanced 6 snacks 7 fatty 8 lean 9 ready 10 greasy

10

1 T 2 T 3 F 4 T 5 T 6 F 7 F 8 F

Review Units 17–20

1

1 long 2 conversation 3 go 4 locally 5 flavours 6 diet 7 sleep 8 exchange 9 went 10 small

2

1 relevant 2 soak up 3 paid 4 engrossed 5 greasy 6 leafy 7 juicy 8 light 9 over 10 like-minded

3

1 h 2 j 3 a 4 g 5 d 6 b 7 f 8 c 9 i 10 e

4

1 i 2 a 3 b 4 g 5 j 6 d 7 h 8 c 9 e 10 f

5

1 lightly 2 heavy 3 tender 4 dropping 5 taken 6 had 7 profusely 8 off 9 conversation 10 high

6

1 steady job 2 sensitive subject 3 ready meals 4 lightly seasoned 5 catch up with friends 6 fatty foods 7 job satisfaction 8 launched his/her career 9 crunchy salad 10 stayed up late

Unit 21

1

1 g 2 b 3 d 4 f 5 h 6 e 7 j 8 i 9 a 10 c

3

1 I was perfectly honest 2 seem to have missed the point 3 I strongly suspect 4 I have a sneaking suspicion 5 in a highly suspicious way 6 I had to hazard a guess 7 make accusations 8 it's a matter of opinion 9 I take his point 10 stark reality

4

d, b, f, c, a, e

5

Agree: Carla, Richard, Jill, Jacob, Otto, Andre, Isabel
Disagree: Bruno, Tom, Elizabeth, Gita, Hugo, Michael

6

1 d 2 g 3 a 4 c 5 h 6 e 7 j 8 i 9 f 10 b

7

1 exchange, views 2 remain sceptical 3 take issue 4 conflicting views 5 difference, opinion 6 gain acceptance 7 strong convictions 8 first impression 9 deeply sceptical 10 shake, belief

8

first impression, /exchange of **views**, **take** issue, **gain** acceptance, difference of **opinion**, **strong** convictions, **conflicting** views, **shake** Christina's belief, **remain** sceptical, **deeply** sceptical

9

1 F 2 F 3 F 4 T 5 T 6 F

Unit 22

1

highly: unlikely, delighted, successful, popular, critical, effective
seriously: ill, injured
violently: sick, opposed
hugely: successful, important, popular
bitterly: cold, disappointed, opposed
blindingly: obvious
absolutely: delighted, obvious

2

1 His career as an art dealer has been hugely/highly successful.
2 They were violently/bitterly opposed to the new road.
3 Having a big house and a nice car is hugely important to her.
4 I was bitterly disappointed that I couldn't get back from the US in time for her party. 5 He was absolutely/highly delighted with his exam results. 6 She is seriously ill. 7 His novels are hugely popular in his native country. 8 I think it's highly unlikely that she will win the competition. 9 Although she tried to hide it, it was blindingly/absolutely obvious that she was disappointed.
10 It's bitterly cold outside today.

3

absolutely/highly delighted, **highly** effective, **bitterly** disappointed, **highly** critical, **absolutely/blindingly** obvious, **violently** sick, **hugely/highly** popular, **bitterly** cold

4

1 blindingly/absolutely obvious 2 highly unlikely 3 bitterly cold 4 seriously injured 5 highly critical 6 violently sick 7 hugely important 8 bitterly disappointed 9 highly successful 10 violently/bitterly opposed 11 seriously ill 12 absolutely/highly delighted

5

1 widely 2 bitterly 3 dismally 4 thoroughly 5 categorically

6

1 d 2 c 3 e 4 a 5 b

7

1 varies widely 2 categorically denied 3 dramatic improvement 4 bitterly resents 5 breakneck speed 6 acute shortage 7 thoroughly enjoyed 8 sharp increase 9 failed dismally 10 roaring success

8

1 Apparently, there has been a sharp increase in the number of viewers tuning in to watch Michael Rook in the police drama serial *Unmarked Cars* recently. It seems that the roaring success of his latest movie has encouraged people to watch him on the small screen too. I watched the latest episode myself, and I thoroughly enjoyed it. 2 I hate living in this street. The traffic is terrible, and lorries come round this corner at breakneck speed. It's a wonder nobody has been killed. I've written to the council many times, but my attempts to get them to introduce a speed limit have failed dismally. Despite all the evidence, they categorically deny that there is problem. 3 Strikes among drivers of large fuel lorries have led to an acute shortage of petrol in this country. Because of this, there has been a sharp increase in prices. Of course, many people really need to drive, especially if they live in rural areas, and they bitterly resent having to pay so much.

9

1 The car was coming towards us at breakneck speed. 2 There has been a dramatic improvement in the weather this week.
3 Her organic food company has been a roaring success.
4 We thoroughly enjoyed her party. 5 There is an acute shortage of food. 6 He bitterly resents having to stay at home while his brothergoes out.

Unit 23

1

1 seek 2 carry out 3 provide 4 pick 5 offer 6 additional 7 make 8 helpful 9 professional 10 informed

2

[...] you need to **carry out** some basic **research** first. [...] There are thousands of sites **providing** a wealth of **information** [...] you will find all sorts of **helpful hints** [...] buy them a coffee and **pick their brains**! They may be able to **make** interesting **recommendations** [...] it is best to **seek advice** [...] If you need any **additional information**, [...] travel agents can **offer guidance** [...] to make an **informed decision**
[...] it is always best to get **professional advice**

3
1 e 2 j 3 f 4 a 5 i 6 d 7 g 8 c 9 h 10 b

4
1 provide information 2 helpful hints 3 carrying out research 4 pick your brains 5 makes several recommendations 6 additional information

5
1 b 2 c 3 c 4 c 5 a 6 b 7 c 8 a 9 b 10 a

6
1 grappling 2 hit 3 toyed 4 had 5 springs 6 bearing 7 reached 8 crossed 9 entertain 10 racking

7
1 e 2 i 3 f 4 c 5 j 6 a 7 b 8 h 9 g 10 d

8
1 We've been grappling with the problem of how to accommodate 500 people in temporary shelters. 2 After much discussion, we reached a decision to sell the land. 3 Didn't it cross your mind that I would be worried about you? 4 When I saw him, the word that sprang to mind was 'eccentric'. 5 We wanted to raise some money, and Dad hit upon the idea of organising a quiz night. 6 We all racked our brains to think of the best places for them to visit. 7 I'm toying with the idea of re-training to become a physiotherapist. 8 I think they'd enjoy a walk, but you need to bear in mind that none of them is particularly fit. 9 Three weeks before the wedding he told his mother he was having second thoughts about getting married. 10 Since the age of ten, my daughter has refused to entertain the idea of eating meat.

Unit 24

1
1 happiness 2 guilt 3 admiration 4 fear 5 sadness

2
1 thrilled 2 dislike 3 happy 4 admiration 5 scared

3
1 I have profound admiration for people who work for charities. 2 I have a high regard for Woody Allen's films. 3 I think I would be blissfully happy living on a desert island. 4 If I had to give a speech at a wedding, I'd be scared stiff. 5 If I'm expecting a call from someone I love, my heart leaps every time the phone rings. 6 If I found a wallet full of money lying in the street and kept it, it would weigh on my conscience. 7 If I knew my friend had been stealing, I'd tell the police, but I'd do it with a heavy heart. 8 If someone offered me a million pounds, I'd be thrilled to bits. 9 When you climb to the top, there's a zip wire to come down. But if your courage fails you, there's always a ladder. 10 I have an intense dislike of modern technology like mobile phones.

4
1 She was thrilled to bits. 2 It's weighing on my conscience. 3 I was scared stiff. 4 She did it with a heavy heart. 5 His courage failed him. 6 They were blissfully happy.

5
1 profound admiration, courage failed me 2 heart leaped, blissfully happy 3 high regard, heavy heart 4 thrilled to bits, weighed on my conscience 5 intense dislike, scared stiff

6
1 no 2 no 3 happy 4 no 5 disappointed 6 no 7 no 8 nasty

7
came as a shock, **throws** a tantrum, tempers to **fray**, **contain** your anger, **bearing** a grudge, **hurling** abuse, **derive** very much pleasure, hopes … have been **dashed**

8
1 grudges 2 shock 3 tempers 4 abuse 5 tantrum 6 hopes 7 pleasure 8 anger

10
1 from 2 at 3 to 4 against

Review Units 21–24

1
1 weighing 2 made 3 suspicion 4 vary 5 breakneck 6 arrangements 7 heart 8 heart 9 shock 10 fray

2
1 highly 2 highly 3 strongly 4 seriously 5 bitterly 6 pick 7 gaining 8 categorically 9 violently 10 seriously

3
1 f 2 b 3 e 4 h 5 c 6 a 7 j 8 i 9 g 10 d

4
1 d 2 e 3 i 4 a 5 j 6 h 7 g 8 b 9 f 10 c

5
1 perfectly 2 remain 3 highly 4 blindingly 5 bitterly 6 dismally 7 hazard 8 stark 9 bear 10 bitterly

6
1 racking my brains 2 threw a tantrum 3 contain my anger 4 hurling abuse 5 make recommendations 6 high regard 7 courage failed me 8 scared stiff 9 dashed, hopes 10 toying with the idea

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Using Collocations for Natural English

Elizabeth Walter and Kate Woodford

DELTA Natural English is a series of language practice books for students who aspire to use natural, fluent English.

Collocations are the key to fluent English. Learning words on their own may enable students to communicate, but to sound natural, students must learn which words typically go together.

Using Collocations helps students to improve the way they use the words they already know. Common English collocations are first presented in simple exercises. Students go on to understand and use the collocations with confidence in a wide variety of contexts.

Using Collocations puts an emphasis on learning to use collocations *appropriately*. Collocations are always presented in typical contexts and information on formality or informality is included. Exercises include working on a range of text types from tweets to e-mails, postcards to letters, and adverts to newspaper articles. Examples of conversational English are also included with texts recorded on audio CD, which allows students to notice and practise aspects of stress and intonation.

Key features

- Intermediate (B1) to Upper intermediate (B2) level
- Suitable for classroom or self-study use
- Includes answer key
- Includes free audio CD
- Index for easy reference

About the authors



Elizabeth Walter has a background in ELT, lexicography and dictionary publishing. She is based in Cambridge where she runs a small lexicography and language company with Kate Woodford.



Kate Woodford taught ELT in Spain and the UK before becoming a lexicographer. After 16 years working for a large publisher, she and Elizabeth now use their combined extensive vocabulary knowledge to write lexicography and non-dictionary ELT titles.