

Collocations 1

Introduction

This worksheet practices using a variety of common collocations in simple sentences.

Before the Lesson

Print (A4 size) the two page worksheet as many times as you need for the amount of students you have.

In the Lesson

Provide each student with a copy of the two-page worksheet.

In exercise 1, students match the verb with an appropriate counterpart to create a collocation. There could be more than one collocation for each verb, so if students create ones that aren't in the answer key, write a list on the board for all to see (bonus collocations) and see if they know the meaning of them.

In exercise 2, students complete the sentences with collocations from the box.

Students circle the correct word to make the right collocation in exercise 3.

For exercise 4, students read a short text and circle the right verb to make the correct collocation.

In exercise 5, students match collocations that have the same meaning. Take this as an opportunity to expand on the exercise and write on the board other collocations the students might know and if those have the same meaning as other collocations.

Exercise 1 answer key

1. take *responsibility*
2. make *a decision*
3. break *a promise*
4. keep *an eye on*
5. catch *the train*
6. give *a presentation*
7. pay *attention*
8. have *a conversation*

Exercise 2 answer key

1. pay attention
2. take a break
3. make progress
4. catch a cold
5. break a record
6. gives advice
7. had fun
8. keep in touch

Exercise 3 answer key

1. make 4. keeps
2. give 5. catch
3. have 6. pay

Exercise 4 answer key

1. make 4. pay
2. give 5. make
3. keep

Exercise 5 answer key

1. f 5. g
2. h 6. a
3. b 7. e
4. d 8. c

Focus	Aim	Level	Time
Collocations	Engage in exercises focused on utilizing collocations.	B2	35 minutes

COLLOCATIONS 1

Collocations enhance the naturalness and fluency of your writing and speaking by pairing words that frequently occur together.



1 Match the verbs to their appropriate counterpart to make some common collocations. Draw a line to connect them.

- | | |
|----------|------------------|
| 1. take | • a decision |
| 2. make | • the train |
| 3. break | • a conversation |
| 4. keep | • responsibility |
| 5. catch | • an eye on |
| 6. give | • attention |
| 7. pay | • a promise |
| 8. have | • a presentation |

2 Complete the sentences using the correct collocation from the box below.

have fun give advice make progress break a record
catch a cold take a break pay attention keep in touch

1. It's important to _____ during class so you understand the lesson.
2. You should _____ if you feel tired after working for hours.
3. She is working hard to _____ in her English skills.
4. If you don't wear a jacket in winter, you might _____.
5. The athlete trained hard to _____ in the competition.
6. My teacher always _____ when I have a problem.
7. We had a great time at the party; we really _____!
8. Even though we live far away, we try to _____ by calling each other often.



3 Circle the correct word in each sentence.

1. I need to (**take/make**) a decision about my future career.
2. Could you (**give/say**) me some advice on learning English?
3. We should (**have/do**) a meeting to discuss the project.
4. She always (**breaks/keeps**) her promises, so you can trust her.
5. Let's (**catch/get**) a taxi to the airport.
6. You should (**pay/give**) attention to the teacher.

4 Read the short text below and circle the correct word in each pair.

Yesterday, I had to 1(**take/make**) a difficult decision at work. My manager asked me to 2(**give/take**) a presentation in front of the entire team. I was very nervous, but I decided to 3(**keep/break**) my promise and do my best. Before the presentation, I tried to 4(**pay/have**) attention to my breathing and stay calm. Fortunately, everything went well, and my colleagues even said I managed to 5(**make/do**) a great impression. After the meeting, my manager told me I was making excellent progress and should be proud of myself!

5 Discover the collocations that share the same meaning below. Draw a line to match them together.

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. take a break ● | ●a) offer suggestions |
| 2. make a decision ● | ●b) set a new best |
| 3. break a record ● | ●c) enjoy yourself |
| 4. keep in touch ● | ●d) stay in contact |
| 5. catch a cold ● | ●e) focus on something |
| 6. give advice ● | ●f) rest for a while |
| 7. pay attention ● | ●g) get sick |
| 8. have fun ● | ●h) reach a conclusion |