



VOCABULARY

B1 Collocations Worksheet

The English words that go together — 50+ essential collocations

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What Are Collocations?

Collocations are words that naturally go together in English. For example, we say "make a decision" (not "do a decision"), "heavy rain" (not "strong rain"), and "take a photo" (not "make a photo"). Using correct collocations makes you sound fluent and natural.

Why Collocations Matter for IELTS and Daily English

Using natural collocations: - Boosts your IELTS Speaking and Writing scores (Lexical Resource) - Makes your English sound more fluent and less textbook-like - Helps you express ideas more precisely and confidently - Shows examiners and listeners that you understand real English

Verb + Noun Collocations

Verb	Collocations
make	a decision, a mistake, progress, an effort, a plan
take	a photo, a break, action, responsibility, notes
do	research, homework, exercise, business, a favor
have	a look, a chat, an effect, an experience, a preference
give	advice, a presentation, feedback, permission, a speech
pay	attention, a visit, a compliment, respect, the price
keep	a promise, a secret, in touch, a record, calm
run	a business, an errand, a risk, out of, a marathon
break	a rule, a habit, the ice, the news, a record
catch	a cold, someone's eye, a bus, fire, a glimpse

Adjective + Noun Collocations

Adjective	Noun Collocations
big	deal, difference, mistake
heavy	rain, traffic, workload
strong	wind, opinion, coffee, accent
deep	sleep, thought, concern, impact
bright	idea, future, colors
total	failure, success, silence
real	issue, problem, challenge

Common Business Collocations

Verb	Collocations
meet	a deadline, a target, expectations
achieve	a goal, success, results
improve	performance, skills, productivity
generate	revenue, ideas, interest
build	relationships, confidence, a team
set	a goal, an example, a standard
reach	an agreement, a conclusion, a level
gain	experience, knowledge, confidence
develop	skills, strategies, partnerships
face	a challenge, the consequences, reality

Common Mistakes Indian Speakers Make

X Incorrect	Correct
I did a mistake	I made a mistake
I did a photo	I took a photo
Make homework	Do homework
Strong rain	Heavy rain
Make a business	Run a business
Do attention	Pay attention

Note: "Give a presentation" is correct (not "do a presentation").

Note: "Keep a secret" is correct (very natural collocation).

Practice Exercises

Exercise 1: Choose the correct collocation

- Let us (make / do) a plan for the weekend.
- She always (takes / makes) good notes in class.
- Can you (give / make) me some advice?
- He needs to (pay / take) more attention in class.



- 5 We should (build / make) stronger relationships with our clients.
- 6 The company plans to (reach / achieve) its sales targets this quarter.
- 7 She (made / did) a great presentation at the meeting.
- 8 I need to (take / have) a break before continuing.

Exercise 2: Complete with the correct verb

make	take	do	give	pay
1. _____ a decision	2. _____ an effort	3. _____ homework	4. _____ feedback	5. _____ attention

Exercise 3: Fix the mistakes

1. "I did a big mistake on the project." -> _____
2. "She made homework all night." -> _____
3. "We need to take a decision quickly." -> _____
4. "He gives a good advice to his friends." -> _____

ANSWER KEY

Exercise 1: 1. make 2. takes 3. give 4. pay 5. build 6. reach 7. made 8. take

Exercise 2: 1. make 2. take 3. do 4. give 5. pay

Exercise 3:

1. "I made a big mistake on the project."
2. "She did homework all night."
3. "We need to make a decision quickly."
4. "He gives good advice to his friends." (remove "a")