

# Collocations:

*Adjective and noun, verb and adverb,  
adverb and adjective, verb and object*

# Collocations

A collocation is a pair or group of words that are often used together.

WE SAY	WE DON'T SAY
fast cars	<del>quick</del> cars
fast food	<del>quick</del> food
a quick glance	a <del>fast</del> glance
a quick meal	a <del>fast</del> meal

## Arbitrary restriction on the substitution of the elements of a collocation

we can say *highly sophisticated*, and we can say *extremely happy*. Both adverbs have the same lexical functions, that is adding the degree, or magnifying the impact of the adjectives (*sophisticated*, *extremely*). However, they are not interchangeable. Still, other adverbs, such as *very* can replace both *highly* and *extremely*.

# Syntactic modifiability

Unlike the majority of idioms, collocations are subject to syntactic modification. For example, we can say *effective writing* and *write effectively*.

# Types of Collocation

## 1. adverb + adjective

We entered a **richly decorated** room.  
Are you **fully aware** of the implications of your action?

## 2. adjective + noun

The doctor ordered him to take **regular exercise**.  
He was writhing on the ground in **excruciating pain**.

## 3. noun + noun

Let's give Mr Jones a **round of applause**.  
I'd like to buy two **bars of soap** please.

## 4. noun + verb

The **lion** started to **roar** when it heard the **dog barking**.  
**Snow** was **falling** as our plane took off.

## 5. verb + noun

I always try to **do my homework** in the morning, after **making my bed**.  
He has been asked to **give a presentation** about his work.

## 6. verb + expression with preposition

We had to return home because we **had run out of money**.  
At first her eyes **filled with horror**, and then she **burst into tears**.

## 7. verb + adverb

She **placed** her keys **gently** on the table and sat down.  
Mary **whispered softly** in John's ear.

## Choose the correct collocation DO or MAKE.

---

- 1) Did the fire *do / make* much damage to the factory?
- 2) I hate *doing / making* my homework at the last minute.
- 3) You must *do / make* an effort to work harder.
- 4) Did you *do / make* any work at the weekend?
- 5) We are trying to *do / make* improvements to the system for registering.
- 6) Do you think it would *do / make* any harm if I cut some leaves off this plant?

# Choose the correct collocation

- 1) She *had / took / paid* attention to what I told her and started working harder.
- 2) I *had / make / took* over a hundred photographs on my trip to Antarctica.
- 3) She *made / paid / brought* me a nice commpliment yesterday.
- 4) I *got / made / had* a bad dream last night and woke up sweating.
- 5) The President *made / gave / paid* tribute to all the people who had supported him.
- 6) I *got / took / had* liking to our new teacher the moment I met her.

- THE END -

---

*Thank you for your attention*