

10 Everyday English Collocations

B1–B2 Vocabulary & Speaking Practice

Practise the 10 collocations from the lesson and learn how to use them naturally in your own conversations.

The goal is to move from **recognising the expressions** to **using them when you speak**.

1. BUILD THE COLLOCATIONS

Match the words to make the 10 collocations from the lesson.

1. make
2. take
3. have
4. make
5. make
6. keep
7. deal
8. make
9. get
10. make

- a. a good chance
 - b. the most of
 - c. a difference
 - d. something into account
 - e. an effort
 - f. a point
 - g. in mind
 - h. with a problem
 - i. the chance
 - j. sure
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2. CHOOSE THE RIGHT COLLOCATION

Complete the sentences with a collocation from the box. Change the form if necessary.

make a difference • take something into account • have a good chance • make an effort • make a point • keep in mind • deal with a problem • make the most of • get the chance • make sure

1. Even a few minutes of speaking practice every day can _____.
2. When choosing where to live, you need to _____ things like the cost of living and transport.

3. If you prepare properly for the interview, you _____ of getting the job.
 4. I'm trying to _____ to speak English more regularly.
 5. During the discussion, Anna _____ about the importance of having a good work-life balance.
 6. _____ that public transport may be less frequent on Sundays.
 7. When something goes wrong at work, I usually try to _____ immediately.
 8. We only have three days in Rome, so let's _____ our time there.
 9. I finally _____ to visit Scotland last year.
 10. Before I leave the house, I always _____ I have my phone, keys and wallet.
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3. NOTICE THE PATTERN

Complete the patterns with the missing words.

of • to • into • with • that • of

1. take something _____ account
2. have a good chance _____ doing something
3. make an effort _____ do something
4. keep in mind _____ + sentence
5. deal _____ a problem
6. make the most _____ something
7. get the chance _____ do something

Now complete the examples.

I need to take _____ into account.

I have a good chance of _____.

I'm making an effort to _____.

Keep in mind that _____.

I sometimes have to deal with _____.

I want to make the most of _____.

I recently got the chance to _____.

4. WHICH COLLOCATION FITS THE SITUATION?

Read each situation and write the most appropriate collocation.

1.

Your friend is applying for a job and has excellent qualifications and plenty of experience.

You could say:

You _____ getting the job.

2.

You're planning a holiday, but you need to consider how much you can spend.

You need to:

_____ *the cost* _____.

3.

You only have one free afternoon in a city you're visiting and want to enjoy it as much as possible.

You want to:

_____ your afternoon.

4.

Someone says something interesting during a discussion and you agree with their argument.

You could say:

You _____.

5.

A colleague has a difficult situation at work and needs to handle it.

They need to:

_____.

6.

You're giving someone an important piece of information that they should remember before making a decision.

You could say:

____ **that** ____.

5. MAKE IT PERSONAL

Now connect the collocations to your own life.

Complete the sentences with **true information about yourself**.

1. ____ makes a big difference to my day.
 2. When making an important decision, I usually take ____ into account.
 3. I think I have a good chance of ____.
 4. At the moment, I'm making an effort to ____.
 5. Someone recently made a good point about ____.
 6. One thing I always try to keep in mind is that ____.
 7. I sometimes find it difficult to deal with ____.
 8. I'd like to make the most of ____.
 9. I recently got the chance to ____.
 10. I always make sure ____.
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6. GO BEYOND ONE SENTENCE

Choose **three** of your answers from Exercise 5.

For each one, add one more sentence explaining **why, when, how or what happened**.

Example

I'm making an effort to use English every day.

I've started listening to English podcasts while I'm driving to work.

Your turn

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

7. 60-SECOND SPEAKING CHALLENGE

Choose **three collocations**:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Now talk for **60–90 seconds** about something connected to your real life.

You could talk about:

a decision you're making • your work or studies • a current goal • an upcoming trip • a problem • an opportunity • something you're trying to improve

Try to use all three collocations naturally.

When you've finished, try again **without looking at your notes**.

YOUR COLLOCATION HABIT

When you learn a new word, start by asking:

What does this word mean?

Then go one step further:

What words does it normally go with?

For example, instead of learning only:

decision

notice:

make a decision
an important decision
a difficult decision
the right decision

Instead of collecting isolated words, start building **ready-to-use pieces of English** that you can bring into your conversations.