

## IDENTIFYING COLLOCATIONS

1  Circle the four correct collocations in the following sets.

- 1 make a difference / sense / some research / an exception / trouble / damage
- 2 do your best / the shopping / some changes / a reservation / someone a favour / harm
- 3 have an experience / an effect / patience / a row / harm / place
- 4 take word with someone / notice / something for granted / pleasure / a choice / turns
- 5 put pressure on someone / something into practice / a mess / foot on something / an end to something / your mind to something
- 6 give a talk / your word / something for granted / credit to someone / use of / someone a chance
- 7 set an example / a record / an alarm / an excuse / a fuss / fire to something
- 8 keep a promise / pity on someone / a diary / a secret / in touch / an impact on something

2  Choose one of the collocations from Exercise 1 to complete each sentence.

- 1 Last year, Amy ..... for the fastest-ever 1500 metres run by a student at her school.
- 2 'Will you ..... that you won't tell anyone else about this?' Sarah asked Philip.
- 3 After Sachiko moved back to Japan from Los Angeles, she ..... with her friend Ana by email.
- 4 Last year, I ..... with my neighbour because his motorbike was blocking my front gate, and we didn't speak to each other again for ages.
- 5 Maria and Pawel ..... to cook the dinner; Maria does it one day and Pawel does it the next.
- 6 Whenever Jim really ..... learning something new, he usually succeeds.
- 7 'Robbie, could you ....., please? Could you help me fix my bike?' asked Michael.
- 8 Kate ..... to get her students to work hard but some of them didn't pay much attention to her.

TIP

3 Choose the correct adverb (A, B, C or D) to complete each gap.

- 1 Camille was ..... *disappointed* when she only came third in the 800 metre race.  
A sharply      B bitterly      C fiercely      D crossly
- 2 Cliff was ..... *moved* by the sad story that his grandmother told him.  
A soundly      B heavily      C widely      D deeply
- 3 The decision to build a new bridge across the river was ..... *controversial*.  
A solidly      B firmly      C highly      D strongly
- 4 The local newspaper played a ..... *important* role in the campaign against poor air quality.  
A vitally      B chiefly      C completely      D principally
- 5 House prices in the capital city are ..... *high*.  
A vastly      B hugely      C extremely      D greatly
- 6 Public transport in the region is ..... *subsidised* by the government, so fares are low.  
A firmly      B heavily      C thickly      D solidly
- 7 Advice on how to invest your savings is much more ..... *available* than it used to be.  
A thoroughly      B largely      C widely      D highly
- 8 Research suggests that regular exercise and a feeling of being happy are ..... *linked*.  
A nearly      B finely      C exactly      D closely

Choose the correct option (A, B, C or D) to complete each gap.

- 1 Young people in my region used to feel cut off from other young people, but this changed with the ..... of social media.  
A design      B issue      C arrival      D result
- 2 Environmental research shows that much more should be done to ..... certain species in the local area which are regarded as endangered.  
A overcome      B protect      C expose      D control
- 3 It's ..... what the key is to achieving success in this type of business. No one seems to know.  
A unbelievable      B unfair      C unclear      D undeniable
- 4 I took part in a very interesting psychological experiment. I was one of about 100 ..... of various ages and backgrounds.  
A members      B participants      C players      D entrants
- 5 My brother was on the ..... of joining the police force, but then he changed his mind.  
A edge      B border      C line      D point

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## Would you rather win a silver or bronze medal?

Try to (0) ..... yourself as an athlete in an Olympic event. We can (1) ..... assume you'd want to win, and, if that wasn't possible, you'd prefer to (2) ..... up second rather than third. However, research (3) ..... that the reality may be different.

In one study, volunteers assessed athletes' faces as they waited for their medals. In particular, they looked out for athletes with a 'Duchenne smile', which is thought to show happiness and is (4) ..... by a raising of the mouth and a crinkling round the eyes. Gold medal winners were rated as happiest, but those in second place seemed less happy than bronze medallists. Researchers also found that the (5) ..... by which a medal was won or lost appeared important: silver medallists who (6) ..... lost out on gold were significantly less happy than those who only just beat the third-placed athlete.

Do silver medallists (7) ..... on how they might have won gold, whereas bronze medallists just feel lucky to win something? We can't be sure, but researchers think comparative performance may greatly affect the (8) ..... of happiness.

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|---|-----------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| 1 | A soundly       | B steadily   | C safely      | D strongly  |
| 2 | A take          | B come       | C make        | D end       |
| 3 | A exposes       | B suggests   | C notifies    | D admits    |
| 4 | A characterised | B featured   | C constituted | D specified |
| 5 | A distance      | B area       | C size        | D limit     |
| 6 | A tightly       | B finely     | C closely     | D narrowly  |
| 7 | A wonder        | B reflect    | C consider    | D evaluate  |
| 8 | A impact        | B conclusion | C feeling     | D search    |

### Complete the gaps in the sentences with the correct preposition.

- 1 Helen has always been very good ..... solving problems.
- 2 Historically, the region has always been associated ..... rice-growing.
- 3 Portugal is renowned ..... the quality and beauty of its tiles.
- 4 Eliana's experiences are very typical ..... young people doing internships these days.
- 5 Local businesses were strongly opposed ..... the introduction of a new property tax.
- 6 My father will soon be eligible ..... a pension.
- 7 The band have received some negative reviews, so they're rather wary ..... journalists now.
- 8 We're very grateful ..... all the support we've been given.
- 9 Faiza was exposed ..... lots of different types of music as she was growing up.
- 10 Gavin has doubts about the project and wasn't convinced ..... the latest reports.