

decision

1 Verb + decision

Use the correct form of these verbs:

influence
abide by

justify
reverse

1. Nobody knows how the headmaster can his decision to spend £3,000 on computers when there is an acute shortage of books in the school.
2. Our boss is a very honest and fair man. No matter what you say or what you offer him, you will not his decision in any way.
3. All competitors must the judges' decision. No appeals will be allowed.
4. I'm sorry, but we can't our decision without having another board meeting. The next one isn't for four months.

face
question

regret
put off

5. I don't my decision to leave school at 16. I think it was the right choice for me at the time.
6. They've decided to wait a few years before having children. I hope they realise that they can't the decision indefinitely!
7. Newchester United have lost their last four games and lots of us are beginning to the manager's decision to leave the team's star player out of the team.
8. Now that you've been promoted, you'll difficult decisions on a daily basis. Good luck!

2 Useful expressions

Match the two halves to make sentences:

1. Don't try to force me to choose. I refuse to be hurried
2. Mike's so annoying. He always leaves important decisions to
3. I hope I've made
4. There may come a time when you'll regret
5. I'm not altogether happy about the decision, but
 - a. I think I can live with it.
 - b. into a decision.
 - c. the last possible moment.
 - d. that decision.
 - e. the right decision.

Go back and underline all the collocations with decision.

3 Common adjective collocations

Complete the sentences with these adjectives:

informed
tough

joint
wise

1. In order to make an decision about which course to take, you should read the college prospectus. It contains facts and details for every course that the college runs.
 2. Both candidates are ideal for the job. There's so little to choose between them that it's going to be a decision to reach.
 3. Just look at that rain! I think our decision not to go to the beach today was a one.
 4. I heard your wife wasn't keen on moving house.
> That's just not true! It was a decision.
- final rash courageous controversial
5. My father warned me against making decisions. He advised me to take plenty of time to think things over.
 6. After many hours of heated discussion the government arrived at the decision to bring back the death penalty for murder.
 7. Beatrice Wzylo, the famous actress, took the decision to tell the world about her addiction to sleeping pills.
 8. As yet, no decision has been taken about the future of the company, but we're all afraid it may have to close.

Which three verbs in the sentences above can replace *make* in 'make a decision'?

Notes

1. In 1-3 'abide by a decision' is a very formal expression. In speech you might use 'stick to':
So, are you sticking to your decision not to come?
2. In 3-5 you can also say a 'snap decision'.
3. There are a number of adjectives used to talk about important decisions:
This is a crucial decision.
I hope you realise this decision is irreversible. There's no going back now!
This is a momentous decision in the history of our nation.