idea

1 Verb + idea

Use the correct form of these verbs:

consider	*come up with*	*get across*
reject	*go along with*	*sell*

1. He's a really good speaker. He has that rare ability to ..... complex ideas in the kind of language everybody can understand.
2. We've been ..... the idea of moving to a smaller flat now that the children have left home. We've actually been toying with the idea for a year or so.
3. The committee needs to ..... some ideas for raising funds for the new church. Does anybody have any good ideas?
4. She's always ..... the idea of getting married. She says she prefers the freedom of being single.
5. I think my proposal would help improve the company, but I'm having a lot of trouble ..... the idea to my boss. He's not convinced that it would work.
6. She'll never ..... the idea, so it's not worth mentioning it to her.

2 Liking and disliking ideas

Study the seven expressions in colour:

1. I want to become a racing driver but my father is dead against the idea.
2. She has an open mind and she is always receptive to new ideas.
3. In the UK there is a lot of resistance to the idea of a common currency. Many people remain bitterly opposed to this idea.
4. I'm not wild about the idea of going to boarding school, but I have no choice in the matter.
5. On the whole, I'm in favour of the idea.
   >Yes. We're also sold on the idea. We think it can only improve the quality of the service.
6. Some politicians were extremely hostile to the idea of giving free needles to drug addicts.

Now fill in the prepositions. Then mark them: (L) = like or (D) = dislike:

a. dead .....
b. receptive .....
c. a lot of resistance .....
d. bitterly opposed .....
e. not wild .....
f. in favour .....
g. sold .....
h. hostile .....

3 Common adjective collocations

Use these adjectives in the sentences below:

brilliant	*faintest*
half-baked	*fixed*
funny	*original*
vague	*fair*

1. The company is looking for a creative person with fresh and ..... ideas.
2. You'll never get my mother to change her mind on anything! She has very ..... ideas on almost every subject.
3. What a ..... idea! Why didn't I think of that! How do you always manage to come up with the bright ideas?
4. He's got some strange ideas on bringing up kids.
   >Yes, Frank does have some ..... ideas at times, doesn't he?
5. I think I've got a ..... idea of what to do, but I'll get back to you if I have any problems.
6. I haven't the ..... idea what you're talking about. I don't know anything about your missing bag!
7. I wish they would tell me what I'm meant to be doing in more detail. At the moment I only have a very ..... idea what my job is.
8. I wish Terry would work out his ideas properly. He keeps coming up with ..... ideas – which nobody takes seriously.

Notes

1. In 3-6 'foggiest' is also possible.
2. 'A rough idea' is not precise.
   Can you give me a rough idea of the cost involved?
3. Note the verbs in the following expressions:
   Don't worry. You'll soon get the idea how this program works. It's very user-friendly.
   Fiona is very enthusiastic and is always bursting with ideas.
   I got the idea from an article in a magazine.
4. Note these collocations using 'have':
   You must have some idea of who did this!
   I have no idea where Lucan has gone.
5. Note the following expression:
   Sitting in the rain watching two men hit a ball for hours is not my idea of fun.

LIVEWORKSHEETS