luck

1 Verb + luck

Use the correct form of these verbs:

believe	*bring*
hold	*push*
run out of	*trust*
wish	*have*

1. So far I haven't ..... any luck finding a job. I haven't had one interview yet.
2. She wears some kind of charm around her neck. She thinks it'll ..... her luck.
3. I could hardly ..... my luck when I found my wallet still lying in the middle of the road where I dropped it.
4. The prisoner evaded police for four days, but he eventually ..... luck when he was caught on video stealing food from a small store.
5. However hard you prepare for an exam, you still have to ..... to luck to a certain extent. Last year I was in luck when one of the essay titles I had prepared came up in the final examination.
6. At my leaving party my boss shook my hand and ..... me luck in my new career.
7. The team are playing well and if their luck ..... they could win the cup and the championship.
8. You didn't get caught last time, but don't ..... your luck! You might not be so lucky next time.

2 Common adjective collocations

Choose the more natural collocation in the sentences below:

1. Superstitious people believe that if you walk under a ladder, it brings you ..... luck. *(bad / poor)*
2. ..... luck with your driving test tomorrow! *(great / good)*
3. You say 'Oh, ... luck' to somebody to express sympathy with them when something unlucky has happened to them. *(hard / terrible)*
4. It was ..... luck that we met. I wasn't even supposed to be in London that day. *(complete / sheer)*
5. ..... luck next time! I'm sure with a little extra practice you'll be able to beat him. *(better / greater)*

3 Useful expressions

Use these expressions in the sentences below:

for luck *in luck* *out of luck*

1. You're .....! We've got one pair of these shoes left in your size in black.
2. I always wear this cross round my neck ..... .
3. I'm sorry, you seem to be ..... .We don't have this model in stock at the moment.

by a stroke of luck *a run of luck*
with a bit of luck *your lucky day*

4. This is .....! We've just had a cancellation. The dentist can see you this morning.
5. ..... someone was passing, heard my mother shouting for help and called the police.
6. I had ..... at the casino last night, but in the end I lost more than I won.
7. Come on, this isn't a difficult climb. We'll be back in time for dinner ..... .

"I think I'll risk the bad luck!"



Notes

1. In 2-3 'bad' or 'tough' luck are also possible. In 2-4 'pure luck' is also possible.
2. Note how we ask if somebody has been successful:
   Have you had any luck with your job-hunting?
   Any luck with your flat-hunting?
3. If you're 'down on your luck', you are in need of money after a period of bad luck:
   I bought the car from a friend who was down on his luck.
4. We often reassure people that life will get better:
   Perhaps your luck will change. You never know!
5. When we say 'Some people have all the luck!', we wish we had what they had:
   I've just won £10,000 on the lottery!
   > Some people have all the luck!

LIVEWORKSHEETS