

(I) Match the words in **Column A** with their strongest collocates in **Column B**.

Column A	Answer	Column B
(a) trade		(i) trade
(b) free		(ii) debt
(c) fiscal		(iii) aid
(d) welfare		(iv) ombudsman
(e) national		(v) service
(f) state		(vi) company
(g) semi-state		(vii) state
(h) civil		(viii) year
(i) attorney		(ix) general
(j) excise		(x) duty
(k) tertiary		(xi) partnership
(l) public-private		(xii) sector
(m) financial		(xiii) surplus

(J) Now use your answers to (I) above to complete these sentences. You should use each phrase once only.

- The _____ is a state-appointed individual tasked with ensuring that banks and other financial institutions behave ethically and adhere to legislation.
- The _____ scheme that has led to the building of three new schools in the London borough of Croydon must be applauded. This is a model other local councils should look to copy as not only does it result in improved educational facilities being made available to local students, it also encourages businesses to give something back to the community and play a more active role in community affairs.
- Last year's deficit has been transformed into a significant _____ this year, reflecting the improved performance of indigenous companies in the export market.
- The _____ in Ireland runs from the start of January until the end of December.
- The _____ is still underperforming compared to agriculture, the fisheries industry and manufacturing, all three of which are experiencing somewhat of a boom.
- The _____ will cripple this country for generations unless it is radically restructured.
- _____ within the European Union ensures that all companies operate on a level playing field and that exporters in particular are not handicapped by restrictive customs regulations and prohibitive import tariffs.
- The _____ on cigarettes looks set to rise again in the upcoming budget.
- The government is to consult the _____ on whether the enacting of such a law would be in breach of the constitution.
- Government intervention in the form of _____ looks set to save the country's national carrier from being forced out of business - that is assuming the European Union approves the rescue package.
- The _____ is still largely male-dominated despite a recruitment drive by the present government aimed at attracting more female workers into the employment of state bodies.
- The Electricity Supply Board looks set to be the latest _____ to be privatised as the government tries to raise funds to finance its ambitious programme of infrastructural development.
- Britain risks becoming a _____ if it continues to compensate those out of work so generously; at present, there are few incentives to encourage the unemployed back into the job market.

(K) Use the clue-word in brackets to help you find the missing word in 1 - 5 below.

The lack of an 1. _____ (extradite) treaty has caused an 2. _____ (nation) incident between the Argentinean and British governments, the latter of which is demanding the return of a British national charged in a London court with several counts of murder. Argentina has thus far refused to comply with the request. As relations between the two countries continue to 3. _____ (integral), Britain has taken the unusual step of ordering its 4. _____ (consult) staff in Buenos Aires home. Meanwhile the key witness in the case has been put in 5. _____ (protect) custody amid fears that he may be targeted by gang lords linked to the accused, James Bloom. Bloom, it appears, intends to remain on the run in Argentina and has no intention of returning to the UK to launch his defence.