

risk

1 Verb + risk

Use the correct form of these verbs:

carry	consider
pose	outweigh
reduce	take

1. A fatty diet increases the risk of heart disease whereas a low fat diet the risk.
2. We cannot afford to risks when people's lives are involved.
3. Boxing is a contact sport which a high risk of injury. However, wearing protective headgear can help minimise the risk of head injury.
4. The chemicals in food are not dangerous. They little risk to health.
5. I've all the risks of having the operation and I've decided to go ahead.
6. All things considered, the benefits of this treatment the risks.

2 Common adjective collocations

Use the following adjectives in these sentences:

calculated	potential
real	unnecessary

1. I must warn you that there is a small, but risk that something could go wrong.
2. The director took a risk, giving the film's main role to an unknown actor, but it paid off. The film was a great success.
3. The information in this leaflet warns young people of the risks to health associated with drug use.
4. You are exposing yourself to risks by walking through the park alone at night.

3 Common expressions

Use these words to complete the sentences:

aware	own	prepared
small	worth	

1. I want to take no risks, however
2. That's a risk I'm not to take.
3. If we buy these shares, we might lose all our money! It's just not the risk.
4. It's OK. I'm fully of the risks involved.
5. You leave your bike here at your risk.

4 How big a risk?

Mark the following sentences (B) if they describe a big risk and (S) if they describe a small risk:

1. Hygiene is so bad in this hospital that there is a serious risk of infection.
2. There is a slight risk of side-effects with this drug. You may feel a little sick or dizzy at times.
3. Please remember that any financial investment contains an element of risk, but it's only a minimal risk as far as we are concerned.
4. He sold his house and invested the money in the stock market. It was a huge risk to take, but it proved worthwhile in the end. He's now a millionaire.
5. You've got to wear protective goggles as the light is very strong and there's a high risk of damage to your eyesight.
6. Lots of war correspondents carry out their work at great risk to themselves.



"At great risk!"

Notes

1. If people's lives have been 'put at risk', they have been put into a dangerous situation.
2. Note the common expression: run the risk of -ing:
If you don't put a coat on, you'll run the risk of catching a cold.
Unless his performance improves, he runs the risk of losing his job.
3. We talk of a health, fire, and security risk:
Some people think red meat is a serious health risk.
Campers and picnickers pose the biggest fire risk in the forests in the summer.
The Pope decided to travel in an open car – despite the security risk.