

## Vocabulary: Collocations

- 1 Complete each of the gaps with one of the nouns from the box.

|           |         |            |
|-----------|---------|------------|
| challenge | success | motivation |
| ambition  | failure |            |

- a The film *Star Wars* **was an overnight** \_\_\_\_\_.
- b I **have a burning** \_\_\_\_\_ to travel to Australia.
- c When pupils tire of studying, a system of rewards can help **increase student** \_\_\_\_\_.
- d Sadly, my attempts to learn Japanese **met with complete** \_\_\_\_\_.
- e The government **faces the formidable** \_\_\_\_\_ of reducing unemployment.

- 2 In exercise 1, the words in **bold** are 'collocates' of the nouns you wrote. This means that they are often used together with those nouns. Write a new sentence for each noun, using the collocates in **bold**. The sentences must be true.

- 3  Compare and discuss your sentences with another student.

- 4 In sentence **e** in exercise 1, the verb *face* collocates with *challenge*. Which of the five nouns do each of the following pairs of verbs collocate with?

|         |            |           |       |
|---------|------------|-----------|-------|
| fulfil  | a/an _____ | end in    | _____ |
| realize |            | result in | _____ |
| achieve | _____      | improve   | _____ |
| enjoy   |            | lack      | _____ |
| take up | a/an _____ |           |       |
| rise to |            |           |       |

- 5 The adjective *formidable* also collocates with *challenge*. All three words in each of the groups below can be used in combination with one of the nouns from exercise 1. Write an appropriate noun in each of the spaces.

|   |                        |       |
|---|------------------------|-------|
| a | major/new/daunting     | _____ |
| b | secret/lifelong/main   | _____ |
| c | total/continued/dismal | _____ |
| d | huge/great/resounding  | _____ |
| e | high/strong/poor       | _____ |

- 6  Study the collocations in this section for two minutes, then close your book and write down as many as you can remember. Compare your results with your partner's.

