



Read the story. Try to guess the meanings of the words in bold.  
Then look them up in the dictionary.

Up until a week ago, John's life was simple and practical. He had always lived in a **no-frills** apartment, worked as a **money manager**, and never wore anything fancier than a pair of jeans and a t-shirt. Life was easy for him.

But one day, he made a **monumental decision**. He decided to attend a black-tie event, something he had never done before. He went to a fancy store to buy a suit and was surprised when the salesperson handed him a **bow-tie**.

"**FYI**," the salesperson said, "a bow-tie is a must for such events."

John agreed, paid for the suit, and left the store. He had no idea how to tie a bow-tie, so he watched a YouTube video to learn. After many attempts, he finally managed to get it right.

On the night of the event, he nervously drove to the venue. As he turned the key in the **ignition**, the car roared to life, and he felt excited. It was the first time he had ever driven such a fancy car.

At the event, he dropped into the world of high society, where people wore elegant dresses and tuxedos. He was greeted with smiles and handshakes, which made him feel **rough** around the edges. He couldn't help but notice how everyone seemed important and successful.

As he took his seat, he carefully **folded** the **napkin** and placed it on his lap. He ordered the lobster, steak, and crème brûlée, just like the others. During dinner, he struck up a conversation with a friendly couple who shared stories of their travels and success.

By the end of the night, John had made new friends and learned that fitting into this world wasn't as difficult as he had imagined. As he left the event, he smiled, realizing that sometimes, making a **monumental decision** and stepping out of his comfort zone could be **easier than** expected.

He drove back to his simple apartment, took off his suit, and put it away in the closet. It was a night he'd always remember, and he had discovered a new side of life he had never known before.

**Make collocations.**

fold	shrimp cakes
monumental	the napkins
ignition	decision
no-frills	a week ago,
money	manager
rough	world
there were	key
up until	hotel

Read the extracts from the episode.  
Then match the underlined actions with the descriptions below (1-7)

Do you remember the way Grace used to fold the napkins to the bow-tie?

I've made a monumental life decision.

I've been thinking a lot about it lately...

I took a competent, no-frills money manager and threw her to the rough world of beauty products.

You retired. We had a party. There were shrimp cakes and speeches. Margaret cried.

What did you think was gonna happen tonight?

Would you be cool with it if they'd been cheating with women for the last 20 years?

1. The speaker is explaining an event that happened at a specific time in the past.
2. An informal way of expressing the past expectation of an event happening now.
3. It indicates things that were part of an event.
4. The action has been happening over a period of time leading up to the present moment, and it is still ongoing.
5. A part of someone's routine or behavior in the past, but the implication is that the action is no longer ongoing.
6. The speaker is emphasizing that they have recently made something that is of great importance and that the effects or consequences of it are still relevant in their current life.
7. It describes an action that began in the past and continued for a specific duration, till it ended at a specific moment in the past.

**Read the sentences, make your own examples with the words in bold.**

FYI, childbirth was **easier than** getting out of that chair.

BRB, finding my lost keys was **harder than** solving that tricky puzzle.

IDK, understanding advanced calculus is **more challenging than** solving basic algebra equations.

We use them for WhatsApp

and other messengers:

FYI - For Your Information

BRB - Be Right Back

IDK - I Don't Know

**Put in the correct preposition.**

Do you remember the way Grace used to fold the napkins to the bow-tie?