

reaction

1 Verb collocations

Use the correct form of these verbs:

affect give predict get
be require vary watch

1. I always loved to the reactions of my children when they opened their Christmas presents.
2. Driving after drinking even a small amount of alcohol is difficult as it your reactions.
3. It is often difficult to people's reactions to a new idea in advance.
4. What sort of reaction did you when you told them you were the new inspector?
5. The President his reaction to the crisis in a carefully-worded press statement.
6. Table tennis is a sport that very fast reactions.
7. I understand there's no reaction to my letter.
8. People's reaction to the film a lot. Some loved it, while others simply hated it.

2 Common adjective collocations

Use these adjectives in the sentences:

angry delayed favourable immediate
violent instinctive mixed natural

1. The proposal has received a generally reaction. Most people seem to accept the need for change.
2. There has been a very reaction to the plans to cut benefits to single mothers.
3. When I heard the news of my friend's death, my reaction was one of utter shock.
4. There has been a reaction to the new timetable. Some people like it, but others don't.
5. Don't worry. Everyone feels lonely when they first leave home. It's a perfectly reaction.
6. I fainted twenty minutes after leaving the doctor's surgery. I suffered a reaction to the injection the doctor had given me.
7. When things go wrong the reaction of most people is to look for somebody to blame.
8. As soon as he took the medicine, he had a reaction to it, and died within hours. It was tragic.

3 Types of reaction

Match up the meanings with these different types of reaction:

1. an allergic reaction
 2. a chain reaction
 3. a gut reaction
 4. a knee-jerk reaction
 5. a subconscious reaction
- a. one event which sets off lots of linked reactions
b. a reaction in yourself which you are not aware of
c. an instinctive reaction
d. a negative medical reaction eg a rash
e. an immediate and automatic reaction

Now use the collocations in 1–5 in these sentences:

6. Whenever there is a report of some particularly brutal attack on children or old people, there is the usual reaction, demanding the return of the death penalty.
7. I don't know what your reaction to all this malicious gossip is, but my reaction is to ignore it completely and hope it will go away.
8. Drinking milk can cause an reaction such as a running nose or coughing in children, while eating peanuts can trigger a very violent and even fatal reaction.
9. There is a danger that this local dispute could set off a reaction that would endanger the whole of the world.
10. I am sure that all these headaches I've been having are just a reaction to all the stress I've been under recently.

Notes

1. In 2-3 'first' and 'initial' are also possible.
2. Note the following:
You can imagine my reaction when I met my mother for the first time in 30 years.
A relief fund was set up in reaction to the disaster in order to help the victims and their families.
3. A 'chemical reaction' is a natural process that takes place between chemicals:
The energy is generated by a chemical reaction between hydrogen and oxygen.