

4E

Word Skills

Binomial pairs

I can use a two-part set phrase correctly.

1 Complete the binomial expressions with the words below.

aches born by hard here high ins make more pick
short sooner thick touch trial wear

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1 _____ and large | 9 _____ and choose |
| 2 _____ and sweet | 10 _____ and dry |
| 3 _____ and go | 11 _____ and thin |
| 4 _____ and fast | 12 _____ and tear |
| 5 _____ or break | 13 _____ and there |
| 6 _____ and bred | 14 _____ or less |
| 7 _____ and error | 15 _____ and pains |
| 8 _____ and outs | 16 _____ or later |

2 Complete the text with nine of the expressions from exercise 1. Choose expressions which have a similar meaning to the words in brackets.



THE YEAR WAS 1944. World War II had been raging for five years. _____ (at some point) it had to end, but the outcome was still _____ (uncertain). The British were preparing a _____ (crucial) invasion of northern France, but wanted the Germans to believe they were planning to invade from the south instead. Their plan to deceive the Germans involved an Australian-born soldier called ME Clifton James, who looked _____ (almost) identical to Bernard Montgomery, one of the most senior officers in the British Army. James spent a few days with Montgomery learning the _____ (details) of his behaviour. He then travelled to Algeria, where, acting as Montgomery, he toured the region, appearing _____ (in various places) with senior officers. A few days later, the Allied invasion of northern France began. _____ (in general), the mission was a success, in that nobody guessed James was an impostor. However, it seems that James's starring role in the war was _____ (brief). When the invasion began, he was apparently left _____ (abandoned) in an Algerian hotel and never received the credit he deserved.

3 Complete the sentences with the expressions below.

rant and rave dos and don'ts peace and quiet
through and through neat and tidy fair and square
sick and tired live and learn

- My grandfather has a tendency to _____ whenever somebody mentions the local council.
- I'm _____ of finding litter in our garden.
- I didn't realise you could reserve seats on this train. Oh well, you _____.
- Unlike her brother, Milly always keeps her bedroom _____.
- You can't complain – I won _____.
- He may live in Spain but he's Irish _____.
- Before we were allowed into the cave, we had to read a list of _____.
- After a week in New York, I'm ready for some _____ in the mountains.

4 What part of speech are the expressions from exercise 3: noun, verb, adjective or adverb? There are two of each part of speech.

	noun	verb	adjective	adverb
1 rant and rave	☐	☐	☐	☐
2 dos and don'ts	☐	☐	☐	☐
3 peace and quiet	☐	☐	☐	☐
4 through and through	☐	☐	☐	☐
5 neat and tidy	☐	☐	☐	☐
6 fair and square	☐	☐	☐	☐
7 sick and tired	☐	☐	☐	☐
8 live and learn	☐	☐	☐	☐

VOCAB BOOST!

When you come across new binomial expressions, write them as part of a sentence, not on their own. It is easier to understand and learn these phrases in context. Make sure the sentences help to show the meaning of the phrases.

*Mistakes are **part and parcel** of learning languages.
We used some old bricks to make a **rough and ready** barbecue.*

5 Read the **Vocab Boost!** box. Then write sentences that include the expressions below.

cut and dried hit and miss safe and sound ups and downs

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____