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Verb collocations

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

- 1 a They have made a lot of progress in improving working conditions.
b They have achieved a lot of progress in improving working conditions.
- 2 a Poor diet in childhood can have a long-term effect on health.
b Poor diet in childhood can leave a long-term effect on health.

There are many common verb + noun combinations (*collocations*) in English:
make progress: *I think the team have made progress this season.*

make an impression: *It is important to make a good first impression.*

make a difference: *We believe we can make a difference to children's lives.*

make someone/something happy/comfortable/effective, etc.: *The system can be improved to make it more effective.*

have an effect: *This incident will have a negative effect on tourism.*

have time: *Retired people have more time to spend on their hobbies.*

have a(n) advantage/benefit: *Tea is believed to have health benefits.*

give a(n) reason/explanation: *He didn't give any explanation.*

give someone a(n) chance/opportunity: *Give her a chance to explain first.*

deal with a problem/situation: *There are several problems we need to deal with.*

commit a crime: *She proved that he didn't commit the crime.*

2 Correct the mistake below.



3 Complete the sentences with an appropriate form of one of the verbs above.

- 1 His manager agreed to him one final chance.
- 2 The police are trained to such emergency situations.
- 3 I tried restarting the computer, but it didn't any difference.
- 4 There was a rise in the number of violent crimes in the city last year.
- 5 Working mothers often don't time to cook fresh meals.
- 6 Both plans their advantages and disadvantages.
- 7 This new treatment will life easier for asthma sufferers.
- 8 His mother's death a profound effect on him.