

Using the BBI

A workbook with exercises

for the BBI Combinatory Dictionary of English

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Preface

This Workbook, USING THE BBI, introduces students, teachers, translators, and other interested people to the BBI Combinatory Dictionary of English. The Workbook explains how the BBI is constructed, demonstrates how collocations differ from free combinations and idioms, and shows how collocations of all types can be identified and found quickly. Users of the Workbook will become well acquainted with all parts of the BBI -which also includes Usage Notes giving extra information.

Explanatory material and illustrative exercises are organized into six basic Units. The seventh Unit consists of missing-word exercises, that is doze-type exercises, in which collocating words can be inserted, where appropriate, into larger texts. This Unit gives practice in using a whole range of BBI collocations in connected discourse. A Postscript offers a handy step-by-step procedure for finding collocations in the BBI. Answers to the exercises in all seven Units are included separately.

This *Workbook* is intended to complement the BBI's own Preface and detailed Introduction. The *Workbook* can be used for both classroom instruction and independent study.

How entries are structured in the BBI

A visual guide

appointment *n.* ["agreement to meet"] 1. a follow-up; outpatient ~ 2. to have; keep; give, make, schedule an ~ (with) (the hospital gave me a follow-up outpatient ~ with their cardiologist) 3. to break; cancel; miss an ~ 4. by ~ (she sees patients by ~ only) 5. an ~ to + inf. (she had an ~ to see the dean) ["selection"] 6. to confirm; make an ~ 7. to block an ~ 8. an ~ to (we announced her ~ to the committee) ["position"] 9. an ~ as 10. to offer an ~ (we offered her an ~ as treasurer) 11. to have, hold; receive an ~ 12. an interim; permanent; temporary ~ 13. a political ~ ["designation"] 14. by ~ to Her Majesty

Definition (of noun in square brackets, other typeface and double quotation marks), referring to 1. – 5.

Definition, referring to 6. – 8.

Definition, referring to 9. – 13.

Definition, referring to 14.

clock *I n.* 1. to regulate, set; wind (up) a ~ 2. to advance a ~; or: to put, set, turn a ~ ahead/forward ((by) one hour) 3. to put, set, turn a ~ back ((by) one hour) 4. a digital; cuckoo; electric; grandfather; wall ~ (by/according to my digital ~, it's ten thirty) 5. a time ~ (to punch a time ~ when starting or finishing work) 6. a biological ~ (her biological ~ keeps ticking away) 7. a ~ is fast; right; slow 8. a ~ gains time; goes, runs; keeps time; loses time; runs down; says the time, shows the time, tells the time (BE), tells time (AE); stops; ticks 9. a ~ strikes the hour 10. the dial; face; hands of a ~ 11. (misc.) to watch the ~ ("to wait impatiently for the end of the working day"); to work (a)round the ~ ("to work without rest"); to work against the ~ ("to strive to meet a deadline"); the ~ ran out ("the allotted time expired"); to stop the ~ ("to suspend play in a game so that the clock stops running") (see also **alarm clock**)

1. – 10. = Lexical collocations

11. = Idioms with paraphrases in double quotation marks

concerned *adj.* 1. deeply, gravely, greatly; very ~ 2. ~ about, for, over; with (~ about safety) 3. (esp. BE) ~ to + inf. (~ to know your decision) 4. ~ that + clause (she is ~ that there is still so much illiteracy; we are ~ that they might have missed the train) 5. (misc.) as far as I'm ~ USAGE NOTE: The phrases *concerned about*, *concerned over*, and, less frequently, *concerned for* mean "worried about" (concerned about your safety). The phrase *concerned with* means "interested in" (concerned with establishing the truth).

2. – 4. = Grammatical collocations

USAGE NOTE providing additional information

meat *n.* 1. to barbecue; ~~braise~~; broil (AE), grill; cook; cure; ~~fry~~; marinate; roast; sear; stew ~ 2. to carve, cut; slice ~ 3. dark; red; white ~ 4. fatty; lean ~ 5. raw; tender; tough ~ 6. halal; kosher ~ 7. canned (AE), tinned (BE); fresh; frozen ~ 8. boned; chopped (AE), ground (AE), ~~minced~~ (BE); soup ~ 9. ~ goes bad, spoils 10. a cut; joint; piece; slice of ~ (I'd like a couple of slices of your best cut of ~, please) 11. (misc.) ~ off the bone; ~ on the bone

Used only in American English

Used only in British English

excited *adj.* 1. ~ about, at, by, over (she got ~ about the news that they were coming) 2. ~ to + inf. (she was ~ to learn that they were coming) 3. ~ that + clause (she was ~ that they were coming)

Illustrative phrase

Compound verb

Definition (of verb in parentheses and double quotation marks)

Verb patterns

come out *v.* 1. (d; intr.) to ~ against (“to oppose”) (to ~ against a proposal) 2. (d; intr.) to ~ for, in favor of (“to support”) (to ~ for a proposal) 3. (d; intr.) to ~ for (“to try out for”) (are you ~ing out for the team?) 4. (d; intr.) to ~ with (“to make known; to publish”) (to ~ with a new book; to ~ with the truth) 5. (L) it came out that he had cheated 6. (P; intr.) (“to end up, result”) to ~ on top (“to be victorious”) 7. (S) the pictures came out fine 8. (misc.) to ~ in spots (“to be covered with spots as a result of illness”); they came out from behind the bushes; she meant it as a compliment, but it came out as an insult; she finally came out openly as a liberal

Abbreviations used in the BBI

Abbreviations

<i>adj.</i>	adjective	<i>med.</i>	medicine, medical
<i>adv.</i>	adverb	<i>mil.</i>	military
AE	American English	<i>misc.</i>	miscellaneous
Am.	American	<i>mus.</i>	music
<i>anat.</i>	anatomical	<i>n.</i>	noun
BE	British English	<i>neg.</i>	negative
Br.	British	<i>obsol.</i>	obsolete
CA	creation and/or activation	<i>occ.</i>	occasionally
CE	Common English	<i>pol.</i>	politics, political
<i>cf.</i>	compare	<i>pred.</i>	predicative
<i>colloq.</i>	colloquial	<i>prep.</i>	preposition
<i>comm.</i>	commercial	<i>refl.</i>	reflexive
<i>derog.</i>	derogatory	<i>rel.</i>	religion, religious
EN	eradication and/or nullification	RP	Received Pronunciation
<i>esp.</i>	especially	<i>smb.</i>	somebody
<i>fig.</i>	figurative	<i>smt.</i>	something
GA	General American	<i>subj.</i>	subjunctive
GB	Great Britain	(T)	Trademark
<i>imper.</i>	imperative	<i>tr.</i>	transitive
<i>inf.</i>	infinitive	<i>usu.</i>	usually
<i>intr.</i>	intransitive	US	United States
<i>ling.</i>	linguistics	<i>v.</i>	verb
<i>lit.</i>	literary	*	incorrect English
<i>math.</i>	mathematics		

Verb patterns

Pattern	Pattern	Pattern	Pattern
Designation		Designation	
A =	svo to o (or) svoo	K =	sv possessive v-ing
B =	svo to o	L =	sv(o) that-clause
C =	svo for o (or) svoo	M =	svo to be c
D, d =	sv prep. o (or) svo prep. o	N =	svoc
E =	sv to inf.	O =	svoo
F =	sv inf.	P =	sv(o)a
G =	svv-ing	Q =	sv(o) wh-word
H =	svo to inf.	R =	s(it)vo to inf. (or) s(it)vo that-clause
I =	svo inf.	S =	svc (adjective or noun)
J =	svov-ing	s =	svc (adjective)

UNIT 1

Using the BBI

Exercise 1-A

An entry in the BBI tells you what part of speech the headword is. You can tell whether the headword is a noun, a verb, an adjective, an adverb, or a preposition.

Example

v. means this word is a verb

begin v. 1. (D ; intr., tr.) to ~ as (to ~ as a clerk ; to ~ a new career as a teacher) 2. (d ; intr., tr.) to ~ at (prices ~ at five dollars ; they began the bidding at fifty dollars) 3. (D ; intr. ; tr.) to ~ by, with (they began (the meeting) by saying a prayer ; or : they began (the meeting) with a prayer ; let's ~ with you) 4. (d ; intr.) to ~ on (they began on a new case) 5. (E) she began to work 6. (G) she began working 7. (misc.) to ~ with (to ~ with, let's consider climate change) ; "To ~ at the beginning" – Dylan Thomas, *Under Milk Wood* (1954)

Find the part of speech for the following headwords in the BBI. Write noun, verb, adjective, adverb, or preposition in the space provided. If there is more than one entry for a word in the BBI, list the parts of speech for all the entries. (Note that the BBI lists 'homographs – different words with the same spelling – with the help of Roman numerals. For example, **count I** is a noun and **count II** is a verb. The order of homographs is *adjective, adverb, noun, verb*. If you find homographs in this exercise, list the parts of speech for all of them.)

- | | | | | | |
|---|------------|-------|----|-------------|-------|
| 1 | commercial | _____ | 7 | overboard | _____ |
| 2 | edgy | _____ | 8 | incongruous | _____ |
| 3 | lawsuit | _____ | 9 | fine | _____ |
| 4 | avail | _____ | 10 | likewise | _____ |
| 5 | possum | _____ | 11 | awry | _____ |
| 6 | tease | _____ | 12 | zipper | _____ |

Exercise 1-B

To save space, the swung dash (~) replaces the headword within entries in the BBI.

Example

pose II *v.* 1. (d ; intr.) to ~ as (“to pretend to be”) (to ~ as an expert) 2. (D ; intr.) to ~ for (“to serve as a model for”) (to ~ for an artist) (see also *to ~ a threat to smb. / smt. at threat*)

Replace the swung dash with the headword in the following entries. The first one is done for you.

- 1 **positive** *adj.* ~ about

positive about

- 2 **possum** *n.* (colloq.) to play ~

- 3 **restrict** *v.* (D; refl., tr.) ... the chair ~ed discussion to items on the official agenda

- 4 **go forward** *v.* (d; intr.) ('to proceed') ... to ~ with one's plans

- 5 **angle II** *v.* (d; intr.) to ~ for ('to try to obtain') (she was ~ing for an invitation)

- 6 **jet I** *n.* to fly, pilot a ~

- 7 **plunge I** *n.* ['risk'] (colloq.) to take the ~

- 8 **pneumonia** *n.* 1. to come down with, contract, develop ~ 2. bronchial, viral ~

- 9 **subversion** *n.* to engage in ~

- 10 **subject I** *adj.* (cannot stand alone) ~ to (~ to change)

11 **subpoena** | *n.* 1. to issue a ~ 2. to serve a ~ on 3. a ~ to + inf. (he received a ~ to appear in court in two weeks)

12 **cousin** | *n.* 1. a first; second ~; a first ~ once removed 2. a ~ to (she is a first ~ to the count) 3. (colloq.) kissing ('friendly') ~ s

Exercise 1-C

In the BBI, synonyms (or near synonyms) are listed in a series and separated by a comma (,). When non-synonymous collocations are given in the same series they are separated by a semicolon (;). (Note that the swung dash is not repeated in a series.)

Examples

resistance | *n.* 1. to offer, put up ~ 2. to break down, crush, overcome, overpower, put down, smash, wear down ~ 3. to arouse, come up against, give rise to, stir up ; encounter, face, meet, meet with, run into ~ 4. bitter, determined, fierce, stiff, strong, stubborn, unyielding, valiant ~ 5. armed ; nonviolent, passive ; sporadic ; spotty ; token ; weak ~ 6. ~ hardens, stiffens 7. ~ crumbles ; wanes, weakens 8. ~ to (~ to a disease ; to new taxes) 9. against, despite, in spite of (the) ~ (we adopted the resolution despite the ~ of the other party) 10. (misc.) a pocket of (isolated) ~ ; the line / path (AE) of least ~ ; her ~ was low and she came down with a severe cold

The comma means that *to offer resistance* and *to put up resistance* are synonyms.

answerable | *adj.* ~ for ; to (politicians are ~ to the voters for their actions)

The semicolon means that *answerable for* and *answerable to* are not synonyms.

In the following pairs of collocations, some pairs are synonymous and some are not. Look up the words IN CAPITALS in the BBI and determine which pairs are synonymous, then write Synonymous or Not synonymous in the space provided.

1 a brilliant **ACHIEVEMENT**

a magnificent **ACHIEVEMENT**

2 give **ADVICE**

offer **ADVICE**

- 3 manage a BAR
run a BAR _____
- 4 edit a MANUSCRIPT
revise a MANUSCRIPT _____
- 5 pay off a DEBT
write off a DEBT _____
- 6 nod one's HEAD
shake one's HEAD _____
- 7 CONCERNED about
CONCERNED with _____
- 8 She has DIFFICULTY in breathing
She has DIFFICULTY breathing _____
- 9 a FIGHT about
a FIGHT for _____
- 10 MADE of wood
MADE out of wood _____
- 11 fill in an application FORM
fill out an application FORM _____
- 12 service ENTRANCE
side ENTRANCE _____

Exercise 1-D

Consult the Introduction to the BBI to determine the meaning of the following abbreviations. Write the meaning of the abbreviation in the space provided. The first one is done for you (Remember that the BBI also uses *smb.* 'somebody' and *smt.* 'something!').

- 1 colloq. colloquial
- 2 esp. _____
- 3 inf. _____

- 4 intr. _____
- 5 math. _____
- 6 misc. _____
- 7 obsol. _____
- 8 occ. _____
- 9 refl. _____
- 10 subj. _____
- 11 tr. _____
- 12 usu. _____

Exercise 1-E

The differences between British English and American English are marked in the BBI by the labels (BE) and (AE). If a word or collocation is common to both British and American English, it either has no label at all or, occasionally, it is marked as Common English (CE).

Example

different *adj.* 1. basically, completely, entirely, totally, widely ; quite ; radically ; very ~ 2. ~ in (they are quite ~ in outlook (“their outlooks are quite different”)) 3. ~ from, than (esp. AE), to (BE) USAGE NOTE : Some purists consider only *different from* to be correct. Note that, as prepositions, *from, than, to* can all introduce full clauses (different from / than / to what we thought), but only *than* can, as a conjunction, become part of a clause (different than we thought).

This entry shows that *different than* is more characteristic of American English than of British English and *different to* is used in British English, but not in American English. However, *different from* is acceptable in both British and American English.

The following pairs of sentences have the same meaning. Look up the words IN CAPITALS in the BBI and determine which sentences are acceptable in British, American, or Common English, then write BE, AE, or CE in the space provided.

- 1 That **SOUNDS** a great idea. _____
 That **SOUNDS** like a great idea. _____
- 2 They are on **WELFARE**. _____
 They are on the **DOLE**. _____

- 3 He **WRITES** her every day. _____
He **WRITES** to her every day. _____
- 4 She was ill and has been in **HOSPITAL**. _____
She was ill and has been in the **HOSPITAL**. _____
- 5 They did a **DEAL**. _____
They made a **DEAL**. _____
- 6 Half our money **GOES** for food. _____
Half our money **GOES** on food. _____
- 7 She **RECOMMENDED** me a good dictionary. _____
She **RECOMMENDED** a good dictionary to me. _____
- 8 Let's go **SOMEPLACE** different. _____
Let's go **SOMEWHERE** different. _____
- 9 I'll **CATCH** up to you later. _____
I'll **CATCH** you up later. _____
- 10 Do you need a **RUBBER**? _____
Do you need an **ERASER**? _____
- 11 We had breakfast at a transport **CAFE**. _____
We had breakfast at a truck **STOP**. _____
- 12 The **OVERPASS** crosses the **TURNPIKE**. _____
The **FLYOVER** crosses the **MOTORWAY**. _____

UNIT 2

Collocations, free combinations, and idioms

Exercise 2-A

Collocations are phrases which are regularly repeated, come readily to mind, and are relatively fixed. Examples of collocations are *ride a bicycle*, *confirmed bachelor*, and *tall building*. The meaning of a collocation typically reflects the meanings of its individual words.

Free combinations are phrases such as *buy a bicycle*, *wealthy bachelor*, and *new building*. These combinations of words are not fixed and are not regularly repeated. The BBI does not normally show free combinations.

In each of the following pairs of sentences, the words in italics are a free combination in one sentence and are a collocation in the other. Look up the word IN CAPITALS in the BBI to determine which sentence contains the collocation. Write Collocation or Free combination in the space provided.

Examples

Can you give me a *concrete* **EXAMPLE**?

Collocation

That's a *good* **EXAMPLE**.

Free combination

The BBI contains the following entry for *example*:

example *n.* 1. to cite, give, provide an ~ 2. to be, serve as, set an ~ (for) 3. to make an ~ of 4. to follow smb.'s ~ 5. a classic ; concrete ; extreme ; glaring, striking ; illustrative ; impressive ; inspiring ; perfect ; prime, shining ; textbook ; typical ~ 6. an ~ for, to 7. for ~ 8. (misc.) to lead by (personal) ~

Note: the BBI entry contains *concrete example* but not *good example*. So *concrete example* is the collocation, while *good example* is a free combination.

- 1 We received *bitter* **COMPLAINTS** about the service.

We have had no *recent* **COMPLAINTS** about the service.

- 2 The first prize in our competition is an *expensive* **DICTIONARY**.

I need a *bilingual* **DICTIONARY** to help me with that translation.

3 Teachers are not allowed to *hit CHILDREN*.

Unfortunately, our plans have *hit a SNAG*.

4 The people *NEED* food *badly*.

They *NEED* the food *now*.

5 The programmers must *debug this PROGRAM* before we can use it on our computers.

We *bought* a new *PROGRAM* for the office computer.

6 The police *filed a REPORT* about the demonstration.

Unfortunately, the office has *lost your REPORT*.

7 She *committed SUICIDE*.

Most people in our country *detest SUICIDE*.

8 Do you need a license to *operate a TRACTOR*?

You don't need a license to *sell a TRACTOR*.

9 They never officially *declared WAR*.

Many people *hated the WAR* and tried to stop it.

10 May I borrow your *WATCH*?

Set your *WATCH* to the new time zone as soon as you board a transcontinental flight.

11 We took our children to the *amusement PARK*.

We went for a walk in the *big PARK* by the river.

12 The newspaper published some *interesting EVIDENCE*.

The newspaper published *conclusive EVIDENCE*.

Exercise 2-B

Idioms are phrases whose meaning does not reflect the meanings of the individual words. Examples of idioms are *buy a pig in a poke*, "accept or buy something without inspecting it," and *kick the bucket*, "die". Idioms are not usually included in the BBI; those common idioms that are included are listed under *misc*.

Look up the words IN CAPITALS in the following sentences in the BBI and decide which sentences contain collocations and which contain idioms. Write Collocation or Idiom in the space provided.

Examples

He really takes the *CAKE*.

Idiom

He really knows how to *bake a CAKE*.

Collocation

The BBI entry for *cake* contains the following:

cake *n.* 1. to bake, make ; cut ; frost (esp. AE), ice a ~ 2. a birthday ; wedding ~ 3. (a) chocolate ; Christmas (BE) ; coffee ~ ; fruitcake ; honey ; Madeira (BE), sponge ; marble ; pound ; white (AE) ~ 4. a layer ; upside-down ~) 5. a piece, slice of ~ 6. (misc.) a piece of ~ ("smt. very easy to do") ; to take the ~ ("to be the best or worst" ; BE has also to take the biscuit) ; to go / sell like hot cakes ("to be bought up very quickly")

The entry shows that *bake a cake* is a collocation (listed under 1.), but that *take the cake* is an idiom (listed under 6. misc.)

1 In this passage the writer *makes an ALLUSION* to his childhood.

2 We were ready to give up the plan but she *breathed new LIFE* into it.

3 People who object to this law *have an AX to grind*.

4 After the doctor *performed a CEASAREAN SECTION*, mother and baby were fine.

5 The U.N. has *imposed an EMBARGO* on arms sales.

6 Poor fellow! He *put his FOOT* in his mouth.

7 They *HAVE it in* for you.

8 The solution I propose will *do the TRICK*.

9 I *invest my MONEY* in stocks and bonds.

10 Is everything clear now? Do you *get the PICTURE*?

11 Are you calling our office to *place an ORDER*?

12 Our government wishes to *lodge a PROTEST*

UNIT 3

Noun collocations

Exercise 3-A

Noun collocations are types of collocations in which nouns appear. For example, *our ambassador to Rome*, *an effort to succeed*, *a vow that we would help*, *on his advice*, *put up resistance*, *a formidable challenge*, *an alarm goes off*, and *a herd of buffalo* are all noun collocations. Note that in some noun collocations the first word may be a noun used as an adjective. This construction is very common in English. *House arrest*, *dialect atlas*, *tennis club*, and *jet engine* are all examples of this type of noun collocation.

How do you find noun collocations in the BBI? When a collocation includes a noun, the collocation is given at the entry for that noun. When a collocation consists of two nouns, the collocation is given at the entry for the second noun. So you will find the collocation, *jet engine*, under **engine** and *herd of buffalo* under **buffalo**.

Use the BBI to find the noun collocation in each of the following sentences. Underline it and then, in the space provided, write the noun under which the collocation is listed.

Example

The crew prepared the space shuttle for launch.

shuttle

The noun collocation is space shuttle. This is given in the BBI under the second word, shuttle.

shuttle **I** *n.* [“vehicle used on an established route”] 1. to take a ~ 2. a space ~ 3. a ~ between

1 My friend and I met by accident.

2 The teacher asked several questions.

3 My brother drives an expensive car.

4 Her uncle was a chronic alcoholic.

5 Bees sometimes sting people.

6 The hikers came across a flock of sheep.

7 It was a pleasure to see my classmates again.

8 The story that he intends to resign is a hoax.

9 Professor Murray is an expert on folklore.

10 The students thought that the aptitude test was difficult.

11 The injured player was carried off on a stretcher.

12 The police solved the case.

Exercise 3-B

Each of the following sentences contains an incomplete noun collocation. Use the EBI to find the collocation and write the missing word in the space provided. If you add a verb, make sure that it is in the proper form.

Example

I don't know how to operate / run / work this machine. I'm afraid you'll have to teach me.

The entry for **machine** in the BBI gives the following list of collocations:

machine n. 1. to operate, run, use, work a ~ 2. to shut down a ~ 3. an adding, calculating ~ 4. an answering ; video-game ~ 5. a cash, money-access (AE) ; cigarette ; slot (BE), vending ~ 6. a composing, linotype, typesetting ; copy, copying, duplicating ; fax ~ 7. a heart-lung ; X-ray ~ 8. an earth-moving ; milking ; milling ; sanding ; sewing ; threshing ~ (see also **washing machine** ; **washing-up machine**) 9. a voting ~ 10. a mincing ~ (BE ; AE has *meat grinder*) 11. a fruit (BE), slot (AE) ; pinball ~ (to play a pinball ~) (BE also has *pintable*) 12. a party ; political ~ (I felt I was just a small cog in a well-oiled political ~) 13. a ~ functions, runs ; breaks down (see also *machine tool* at **tool**)

- 1 She was an adviser _____ the prime minister.
- 2 The photograph is too small. Can you _____ it?
- 3 The X-ray showed a fracture. The doctor had to _____ the bone.
- 4 We spotted a _____ of wild horses.
- 5 I cannot finish the payroll today. The computer has been _____ all morning.
- 6 They acquired fluency _____ three languages.
- 7 The ships were riding _____ anchor.
- 8 He was feeling better. His new regimen of diet and exercise had finally _____ effect.
- 9 This letter is a follow-up _____ my telephone call.
- 10 He lost the key. He had to _____ the door.
- 11 If an American president vetoes legislation, the Congress can _____ the veto.
- 12 The problems are similar. We can _____ a parallel between them.

Exercise 3-C

Of the following 12 sentences, five contain incorrect noun collocations. Use the BBI to identify the incorrect collocations. Then write the correct collocation in the space provided.

Examples

- 1 He drove his bicycle down the road.

He rode his bicycle down the road

The BBI entry for **bicycle** lists *ride a bicycle*, but not *drive a bicycle*:

bicycle *n.* 1. to pedal, ride a ~ 2. to get on, mount ; get off ; push, walk, wheel a ~ 3. an exercise, stationary ; racing ~ 4. by ~ (to go somewhere by ~)

- 2 The pilot flew the helicopter very skillfully.

Correct

The BBI entry for **helicopter** lists the collocation *fly a helicopter*, so this sentence is correct.

- 1 Our publisher brought out 30 new books last year.

- 2 My friends sent hot greetings.

3 The pupils made their homework.

4 Our party put up several good candidates.

5 She was a great comfort to her parents.

6 The campers were rowing a canoe.

7 The government pursued a new policy.

8 Bill never cracks jokes.

9 The children pitched their tent near the river.

10 The actor did his bow.

11 We boarded the train in Vladivostok.

12 After ten days we got down from the train in Moscow.

Exercise 3-D

The phrase in *italics* in each of the following sentences is a free combination that can be replaced by a noun collocation with a similar meaning. Use the BBI to rewrite the sentences using collocations.

Example

The newspaper *printed a bombshell*.

The newspaper dropped a bombshell

The BBI entry for **bombshell** lists *drop a bombshell* as a collocation:

bombshell *n.* [“sensation”] to come as ; drop a ~ (the news she told us came as a ~ that she hadn’t intended to drop)

Thus the sentence with the collocation is *The newspaper dropped a bombshell*.

1 The story was printed in *big headlines*.

2 The government's proposal has *caused antagonism*.

3 They lived in great *poverty*.

4 The argument *ended our friendship*.

5 The *epidemic started* about ten years ago.

6 Our university *gave the mayor an honorary degree*.

7 The fortune-teller *interpreted my horoscope*.

8 You shouldn't *have a dog* in a small apartment.

9 I'm willing to *accept a cut* in salary if the new job is interesting.

10 We will *have the conference* in Tokyo.

11 The judge *took away my hunting license* for 12 months.

12 He *produced a bibliography* of articles relating to computer-assisted instruction.

UNIT 4

Adjective collocations

The BBI includes several types of collocations in which adjectives appear. *Fond of, ready to go, I'm glad that we finally met,* and *sound asleep* are all examples of adjective collocations.

How do you find an adjective collocation? When a collocation includes an adjective but no noun, the collocation is given in the BBI at the entry for the adjective. When a collocation includes a noun and an adjective, the collocation is given at the entry for the noun. For example, to find the collocation *fond of* look under the entry for **fond**; *ready to go* is found under **ready**; *I'm glad that we finally met* is under **glad**; and *sound asleep* is under **asleep**. However, *a rough estimate* is found under the entry for the noun **estimate**.

Exercise 4-A

Complete each sentence by selecting one of the two prepositions listed in parentheses.

Example

You are very good at statistics (with, at)

The BBI lists several prepositions which collocate with *good*:

good I adj. 1. any ; no ; very ~ (“is he any ~ at chess ?” “I’m afraid he’s no ~ at chess at all !” ; it’s no ~ (you / your) protesting your innocence : no one believes you !) 2. ~ **at, in** (**she is ~ at / in mathematics**) 3. ~ for (exercise is ~ for you ; this ticket is ~ for a month) 4. ~ to (he is ~ to his parents) 5. ~ with (he is ~ with his hands) 6. ~ to + inf. (it’s no ~ (for you) to protest your innocence : no one believes you ! ; it’s ~ to be home again ; it was ~ of you to come) 7. ~ that + clause (it’s ~ that we’re home again ; it was that you came) 8. (misc.) for ~ (“for ever”) ; she is ~ about baby-sitting (“she doesn’t mind baby-sitting”) ; they made ~ their escape (“they succeeded in escaping”) ; so far so ~ ; as ~ as gold (“very good and esp. very obedient”) (the baby’s been as ~ as gold !) ; would you be ~ enough to help us ? = would you be so ~ as to help us ? ; she said she’d help us and she was as ~ as her word (“...and she kept her word”)

The structure of the example is closest to 2. in the BBI entry, so *at* (or *in*) is the correct preposition.

- 1 We are aware _____ his interest. (about, of)
- 2 He was infatuated _____ her. (to, with)
- 3 She was proud _____ her accomplishments. (for, of)

- 4 They were vague _____ their plans. (about, of)
- 5 The camp was remote _____ civilization. (from, to)
- 6 The pioneers were imbued _____ lofty ideals. (by, with)
- 7 That judge is tough _____ drunk drivers. (on, to)
- 8 She's eager _____ success. (for, with)
- 9 When they got home, their father was furious _____ them. (to, with)
- 10 This medication is effective _____ the common cold. (against, for)
- 11 We felt sad _____ his illness. (about, for)
- 12 It's been a long day. I'm ready _____ bed. (for, to)

Exercise 4-B

Use the BBI to find the correct prepositions that will complete the collocations in the following sentences.

Example

I am fond *of* her.

The entry for **fond** in the BBI shows that it is always followed by *of*:

fond *adj.* (cannot stand alone) ~ of (she is very ~ of him)

- 1 My sister is allergic _____ wool.
- 2 The textbook was intended _____ beginners.
- 3 The students were well schooled _____ classical languages.
- 4 Her dissertation was replete _____ footnotes and statistics.
- 5 Our country is rich _____ natural resources.
- 6 The officials were deaf _____ our pleas for help.
- 7 Are you familiar _____ the details?
- 8 The boys were bent _____ doing mischief.
- 9 Political leaders should be sensitive _____ the needs of the people.
- 10 You should be conscious _____ the danger.

11 She's very well qualified _____ the job.

12 Collocations are different _____ idioms.

Exercise 4-C

Some adjectives can be followed by *to* + infinitive, some by a *that*-clause, and others by either construction. Use the BBI to find which constructions can follow the adjectives below. Then write complete sentences beginning with the phrases given, adding the construction or constructions that can follow the given adjective.

Examples

1 We are ready ... to begin

ready I *adj.* 1. ~ for (~ for any emergency ; we are ~ for you to start) 2. ~ with (she is always ~ with an answer) 3. ~ to + inf. (we are ~ to start) 4. (misc.) to get (smb.) ~ for ; we made ~ to repel the attack ; we stand ~ to do whatever we must ; Ready, Aim, Fire ! ; ~ or not, here I come ! ; ~ when you are ! ; I'm ~ , willing, and able to do it ! USAGE NOTE : At the start of a race, the set phrases *Ready, set, go !* or *Get ready, get set, go !* or *On your mark (AE) = marks (BE), get set, go !* are used to competitors ; the BE phrase *Ready, steady, go !* is fig.

2 It was clear ... that they would not come

clear I *adj.* 1. abundantly, perfectly ; fairly ; painfully ~ 2. (cannot stand alone) ~ about (are you ~ about the situation ? ; let's get ~ about a few things) 3. ~ from (the answer is ~ from these facts) 4. ~ of (the roads were ~ of snow ; to keep ~ of trouble) 5. ~ to (the situation is ~ to everyone ; it was ~ to everyone that they would not come) 6. ~ that + clause (it was ~ that they would not come ; the teacher made it ~ that discipline would be maintained) 7. (misc.) as ~ as crystal = crystal-clear ("perfectly clear") ; as clear as mud (colloq.) ("not clear at all") ; it is ~ why she came ; it is not ~ how he was able to do it ; it is not ~ whether they will attend ; (as adv) the ball went ~ over my head (see also *see one's way (clear) at way*)

3 she was proud ... to serve

proud *adj.* 1. justly ~ 2. ~ of (~ of one's children) 3. ~ to + inf. (will they be ~ enough to defend their principles ?) 4. ~ that + clause (they are ~ that they defended their principles) 5. (misc.) to do smb. ~ ; as ~ as a peacock

1 I am aware...

2 It was sad...

3 She was happy...

4 He was bound...

5 We were furious...

6 I was not able...

7 We were prepared...

8 It was frustrating...

9 The plan was doomed...

10 My father is apt...

11 It is arguable...

12 We were satisfied...

Exercise 4-D

Use the BBI to find an adverb that collocates with the adjectives in the following sentences.

Example

To be brutally / perfectly frank, I don't think you're the right person to do the job.

The entry for **frank** lists two adverbs, *brutally* and *perfectly*, that collocate with *frank*:

frank *adj.* 1. brutally, perfectly ~ (let's be perfectly ~, to be perfectly ~; to be ~ with you, I don't think your plan will work) 2. ~ about; with (she was ~ with us about everything)

- 1 These companies are _____ competitive with each other.
- 2 The Tokyo area is _____ populated.
- 3 They were _____ addicted to drugs. They needed help.
- 4 With her training and experience, she was _____ qualified for the position.
- 5 It is _____ cold this morning.
- 6 The ground was frozen _____.
- 7 When he came out of the shower, he was _____ wet.
- 8 We will do everything that is _____ possible.
- 9 Your discovery is a _____ interesting one.
- 10 He ran across the stage _____ naked.
- 11 My mother is a _____ educated woman.
- 12 You should be _____ ashamed of yourself.

Exercise 4-E

Of the following 12 sentences, five contain incorrect adjective collocations. Use the BBI to identify the incorrect collocations. Then write the correct collocation in the space provided.

Examples

- 1 We are highly aware of the dangers.

We are keenly / painfully / very much aware of the problem

The BBI entry for **aware** lists *keenly aware*, *painfully aware*, and *very much aware*, but not **highly aware*:

aware *adj.* (usu. cannot stand alone) 1. acutely, all too, keenly, only too, painfully, very (much), well ~ 2. dimly, hardly ~ 3. ~ of (they were only too well ~ of the harmfulness of smoking) 4. ~ that + clause (they were only too well ~ that smoking is harmful) USAGE NOTE : The adjective *aware* can be used without a following *of* or *that*-clause when it is preceded by *such* an adverb as *politically* : a *politically aware* person who knows what all the candidates stand for.

- 2 Don't be cruel to animals.

Correct

The BBI entry for **cruel** lists the collocation *cruel to*, so this sentence is correct.

- 1 You should not be pessimistic about your prospects.

- 2 Bob was easy to please.

- 3 Sally was easy pleasing.

- 4 It was great to see everyone again.

- 5 It was great seeing all of you again.

- 6 Their behavior was greatly provocative.

7 Remaining silent was tantamount of giving consent.

8 He was incapable of giving an intelligent answer.

9 They are eligible voting.

10 They are busy cleaning their room.

11 He got himself all worked up over a trifle.

12 She was angry againts everyone.

UNIT 5

Verb collocations

The treatment of verb collocations in the BBI is based on the 19 verb patterns described in the Introduction. In addition to these 19 verb patterns, the BBI also shows lexical collocations consisting of a verb + adverb of manner such as *argue heatedly* and *struggle desperately*.

How do you find verb collocations? Lexical verb collocations consist of an adverb and a verb: *they argued heatedly, the incident affected him deeply*. Grammatical verb collocations consist of a verb and preposition or of a verb and grammatical construction: *the bill came to twenty pounds, she bought a book for me, she bought me a book, he began to write, they continued working, I consider him (to be) competent, we bet him ten dollars, etc.*

Some collocations are given in the BBI at two different entries. An example is the collocation *break the news (to somebody)*. It is given as a noun collocation at the entry for the noun **news** 1 and also at the entry for the verb **break** II 1.

Exercise 5-A

In each of the following pairs of sentences, one sentence contains a verb collocation and the other sentence contains a noun collocation. Use the BBI to determine which is the noun collocation and which is the verb collocation. Underline the collocation and then, in the space provided, write Noun or Verb.

Examples

We will all benefit from your success. verb

Does your employer provide benefits with your job? noun

benefit from is listed in the BBI as a verb collocation:

benefit II v. (D ; intr. ; tr.) to ~ by, from (she ~ed from a good education, which ~ed her in many ways in later life ; will the rich ~ by / from the new tax laws ? = will the new tax laws ~ the rich ?)

while *provide benefits* is listed as a noun collocation:

benefits n. 1. to provide ~ 2. to collect ; reap ~ 3. to withhold ~ 4. disability ; health-care ; old-age ; retirement ; social-security ; strike ; survivors' (AE) ; unemployment ; veterans' ; welfare ; workers' ~ (see also **fringe benefits**)

- 1 The demonstrators circulated a petition. _____
They petitioned for a reduction of taxes. _____

- 2 They filed a protest. _____
They protested against the lockout. _____
- 3 The governor will release her from prison. _____
Her release from prison was delayed. _____
- 4 People often spread gossip. _____
One should not gossip about one's colleagues. _____
- 5 They can revoke our permit. _____
They will not permit us to leave. _____
- 6 Bees swarm. _____
They always swarm around me. _____
- 7 The new proposal raised doubts. _____
We doubt that they will attend. _____
- 8 They had to pay a fine at customs. _____
They were fined for not declaring the perfume. _____
- 9 We must answer for the loss. _____
They will never give us an answer. _____
- 10 Our query did not evoke a response. _____
They responded by walking out. _____
- 11 The meeting resulted in agreement. _____
The meeting produced very positive results. _____
- 12 It angered me that they didn't come. _____
We didn't show our anger. _____

Exercise 5-B

Of the following 12 sentences, six contain incorrect verb constructions. Use the BBI to identify the incorrect constructions. Then write the correct collocation in the space provided. Hint: Check which verbs do not accept the Dative Movement Transformation (Type B verbs).

Examples

1 The neighbors brought us some food.

Correct

The BBI entry for **bring** lists it as a Type A verb which accepts the Dative Movement Transformation, so this sentence is correct.

2 Mrs. Jones said us hello.

Mrs. Jones said hello to us

The BBI entry for **say** lists it as a Type B verb which does *not* accept the Dative Movement Transformation.

1 He addressed us his comments.

2 They advanced us a month's salary.

3 She sent him a book.

4 She revealed me a secret.

5 I lent them money.

6 The children handed her their work.

7 We offered his brother a great deal of money.

8 The doctor described us the facts.

9 The engineer presented them the plan.

10 You must submit us your application.

11 The commission reported the President their findings.

12 They awarded her the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Exercise 5-C

Of the following 12 sentences, only six are correct. The other six are incomplete and require the addition of prepositional phrases. Use the BBI to find the incorrect sentences and then complete them with an appropriate prepositional phrase. Hint: Check in the BBI which verbs are normally followed by a prepositional phrase (Type d verbs).

Examples

1 We will adhere to our plan

The BBI entry for **adhere** 2. shows that it is coded with d. Thus, this verb must be followed by a prepositional phrase beginning with *to*.

2 They concurred correct

The BBI entry for **concur** 2.,3. shows that it is coded with D. This means that this verb may stand alone without a prepositional phrase.

1 I referred the problem

2 They kept the book

3 We had to abide

4 Her remark meant nothing

5 The teacher frowned

- 6 Her eyes flashed _____
- 7 The facts pertained _____
- 8 They inveigled me _____
- 9 They promoted the captain _____
- 10 They based their argument _____
- 11 The committee consists _____
- 12 Our lawyers agreed _____

Exercise 5-D

Use the BBI to complete the following sentences with the correct form of the verb in parentheses. If two versions are possible, give both. Hint: Check in the BBI which verbs are followed by *to* + infinitive (Type E verbs), which are followed by *-ing* (Type G verbs), and which are followed by a bare infinitive without *to* (Type F verbs).

Examples

1 She decided to return . (return)

The BBI lists **decide** in this sense as a Type E verb, so it must be followed by *to* + infinitive.

2 A famous person cannot escape being recognized . (be recognized)

The BBI lists **escape** in this sense as a Type G verb, so it must be followed by *-ing*.

3 They must work harder. (work)

The BBI lists **must** as a Type F verb, so it must be followed by the infinitive without *to*.

- 1 We choose _____ at home. (remain)
- 2 Their representatives offered _____ . (negotiate)
- 3 We dare not _____ . (complain)
- 4 The children kept _____ . (talk)
- 5 He risked _____ . (be punished)
- 6 These workers expect _____ soon. (retire)
- 7 Her husband faced _____ to prison (go)
- 8 She plans _____ her family. (visit)

- 9 I prefer _____ in my office. (wait)
- 10 They enjoy _____. (walk)
- 11 The house needs _____. (paint)
- 12 You needn't _____ to work tomorrow. (come)

Exercise 5-E

Use the BBI to complete the following sentences with the correct form of the verb. If two versions are possible, give both. Hint: Check in the BBI which verbs are followed by an object and *to* + infinitive (Type H verbs); by an object and a bare infinitive (Type I verbs); by an object and *-ing* (Type J verbs); or by an object/possessive pronoun and *-ing* (Type K verbs).

Examples

- 1 I wanted him to go. (go)

The BBI lists **want** in this sense as a Type H verb, so it must be followed by an object and *to* + infinitive.

- 2 I watched him go / going. (go)

The BBI lists **watch** in this sense as both a Type I and a Type J verb, so both bare infinitive and *-ing* forms are possible.

- 3 I remembered him singing / his singing that song. (sing)

The BBI lists **remember** in this sense as both a Type J and a Type K verb, so both object and *-ing* and possessive pronoun and *-ing* are possible.

- 1 We saw them _____ the house. (leave)
- 2 I kept her _____ outside. (wait)
- 3 They advised her _____. (resign)
- 4 He forced us _____. (get up)
- 5 He made us _____. (get up)
- 6 Can you imagine him _____ that? (do)
- 7 They urged me _____. (apply)
- 8 She expects you _____. (help)

- 9 He could feel his heart _____ . (beat)
- 10 We found them _____ . (rehearse)
- 11 Let the people _____ the bus first. (get off)
- 12 I don't recall you _____ the computer. (turn off)

Exercise 5-F

Of the following 12 sentences, only seven are correct. The other five require the addition of an object. Use the BBI to identify the incorrect sentences and then rewrite them with an appropriate object. Hint: Check in the BBI to see which of these Type L verbs *may* have an object and which *must* have an object.

Examples

- 1 You assured that there would be no trouble.

You assured us that there would be no problem.

The BBI entry for **assure** states that this verb must have an object:

assure v. 1. (d ; tr.) to ~ about, of (the contractor assured us of the work's completion on time) 2. (L ; must have an object) (the contractor assured us that the work would be completed on time) 3. let me ~ you (despite all rumors to the contrary, let me ~ you that he's not dead)

- 2 He cabled that he would be arriving on the 20th.

Correct

The BBI entry for **cable** states that this verb *may* have an object:

cable II v. 1. (A) we ~d the message to them ; or : we ~d them the message 2. (d ; intr., tr.) to ~ for (they ~d for immediate delivery) 3. (H) we ~d them to return home immediately 4. (L ; may have an object) she ~d (us) that the manuscript had arrived 5. (Q ; may have an object) they ~d (us) where to meet

- 1 I bet that our team will win.

- 2 My friend said that she would attend.

- 3 My friend told that she would attend

4 The dean informed that the examination had been postponed.

5 The experiment showed that our theory was correct.

6 The principal promised that a fire drill would be conducted.

7 They decided that they would remain at home.

8 I reminded that he would have to pay the bill.

9 We convinced that they should leave at once.

10 The government warned that it would take severe measures.

11 Their religion teaches that the way to overcome suffering is through understanding its causes.

12 The captain reassured that there was no damage to the plane.

UNIT 6

Verb collocations (*continued*)

Exercise 6-A

In each of the following pairs of sentences, one sentence contains a verb that can be followed by an indirect object preceded by *to*. Use the BBI to identify the verbs which may be followed by an indirect object and add an appropriate phrase with *to*. Hint: Look for the verb pattern (**L;to**) in the BBI.

Examples

- 1 He confessed that he had lied.

He confessed to us that he had lied.

The BBI entry for **confess** contains the verb pattern (L;to), so an indirect object is possible here.

confess v. 1. to ~ frankly, honestly ; publicly ; voluntarily, willingly 2. (B) he ~ed his crime to the police 3. (D ; intr.) to ~ to (to ~ to a crime ; to ~ to the police ; he ~ed to cheating on the exam ; he ~ed to having been bored by the opera) 4. (L ; to) he ~ed (to the police) that he had committed a crime ; I must ~ I was bored by the opera

- 2 We demanded that he help us.

No change

The BBI entry for **demand** shows that it is a Type L verb, but one which does not take an indirect object.

demand II v. 1. (D ; tr.) to ~ from, of (to ~ an apology from smb.) 2. (E) she ~s to be kept informed of everything 3. (L ; subj.) she ~s that she be / should be kept informed of everything

- 1 They admitted that I was right.

They agreed that I was right.

- 2 She believed that he would return.

She hinted that he would return.

3 He boasted that he had committed a crime.

He realized that he had committed a crime.

4 She mentioned that she would be late.

She thought that she would be late.

5 The witnesses knew that they would tell the truth.

The witnesses swore that they would tell the truth.

6 He foresaw that prices would drop.

He said that prices would drop.

7 This document proves that you are telling the truth.

This document shows that you are telling the truth.

8 We move that an apology be printed on the front page.

We propose that an apology be printed on the front page.

9 She implied that she knew more than she was saying.

We inferred that she knew more than she was saying.

10 They are assuming that the bill will be defeated in the Senate.

They are suggesting that the bill will be defeated in the Senate.

- 11 He intimated that the manager would resign.

He hoped that the manager would resign.

- 12 I promise that my English will improve.

I vow that my English will improve.

Exercise 6-B

In six of the following 12 sentences, the infinitive *to be* may be inserted. Use the BBI to find which verbs collocate with *to be*, then rewrite those sentences with *to be*. Hint: Check the BBI to see whether the verbs are of TypeM.

Examples

- 1 We consider her very well qualified.

We consider her to be very well qualified.

In the BBI, **consider** is listed as a Type M verb.

- 2 She dyed her hair red.

No change

However, **dye** is listed as a Type N verb, which does not allow *to be*. It is not listed as a Type M verb.

- 1 The children nicknamed her Tiny.
-

- 2 They found London a fascinating city.
-

- 3 We must presume her innocent.
-

4 Have you heard the aria sung in Italian?

5 The evidence proved him guilty.

6 We saw the play performed in New York.

7 They buried her alive.

8 The child licked the plate clean.

9 The medical board officially pronounced him unfit for service.

10 The patrol reported the fire burning out of control.

11 The Supreme Court declared the law unconstitutional.

12 Call me Terry.

Exercise 6-C

In seven of the following sentences, constructions with the prepositions *to* or *for* are possible. In the other five sentences, no such constructions are possible. Rewrite the sentences containing verbs that can take *to* or *for*. Hint: Check in the BBI for Type O verbs; they take two or more objects and cannot be followed by *to* or *for*. Type A verbs can be followed by *to* and Type C verbs can be followed by *for*.

Examples

- 1 She tipped the waiter five dollars.

No change

The BBI lists **tip** as a Type O verb, which cannot be followed by *to* or *for*.

tip II v. 1. to ~ generously, handsomely, liberally 2. (O) I ~ped the waitress (five dollars)

- 2 She sent her mother two hundred dollars.

She sent two hundred dollars to her mother.

However, the BBI lists **send** in this sense as a Type A verb, which may be followed by *to*.

send v. 1. (A) we sent the manuscript to her ; or : we sent her the manuscript ...

- 1 The children asked us a question.

- 2 The children sang us a song.

- 3 He owed his brother ten pounds.

- 4 He bet his brother ten pounds.

- 5 They envied us our new house.

- 6 They sold us our new house.

- 7 The police fined her twenty dollars.

8 The police offered her twenty dollars.

9 She baked me a cake.

10 He bought her a book.

11 I whacked him one on the nose.

12 I called him a taxi.

Exercise 6-D

In each of the following pairs of sentences, one sentence is incomplete. Use the BBI to identify the incomplete sentence and complete it by adding an adverbial. Hint: Check in the BBI for Type P verbs; they must be followed by an adverbial. Adverbials (including prepositional phrases) must also follow Type d verbs.

Examples

1 The enemy sneaked through our lines

According to the BBI, **sneak** is a Type P verb, which *must* be followed by an adverbial:

sneak v. (P ; intr., tr.) they ~ed into the theater ; they ~ed their friends into the theater ; to ~ around in the bushes (see also *sneak a glance* at **glance** I n.)

2 The workers struck No change

However, **strike** in the sense of 'refuse to work' is listed as a Type D intransitive verb, which does not need to be followed by an adverbial.

1 He carried himself

He hated himself

2 She is doing

She is succeeding

- 3 I stopped the car _____
I backed the car _____
- 4 The child dropped the books _____
The child put the books _____
- 5 The soldiers were advancing _____
The soldiers were inching _____
- 6 She bore herself _____
She deceived herself _____
- 7 I will lay the book _____
I will read the book _____
- 8 The thief lurked _____
The thief ran _____
- 9 The trunk fell _____
The trunk weighed _____
- 10 He scratched his head _____
He poked his head _____
- 11 The hikers tramped _____
The hikers marched _____
- 12 They saddled the horse _____
They saddled us _____

Exercise 6-E

In each of the following pairs of verb + adverb phrases, only one of the phrases is an acceptable collocation. Use the BBI to identify the acceptable collocations, then underline them. Note that the other phrase in each pair is generally unacceptable in ordinary usage.

Example

thank heavily

thank profusely

The BBI entry for **thank** cites *thank profusely* but not *thank heavily*:

thank v. 1. to ~ **profusely** ; **sincerely** 2. (D ; tr.) to ~ for (she ~ed me profusely for my help) 3. (H ; no passive) I'll ~ you to make less noise in the future ! 4. (L ; must have an object) we can ~ you that we got there on time = we have you to ~ that we got there on time 5. (misc.) ~ you very much !

1 anchor firmly

anchor potently

2 appreciate forcefully

appreciate sincerely

3 argue heatedly

argue mightily

4 protest highly

protest vigorously

5 recommend highly

recommend deeply

6 apologize highly

apologize humbly

7 arrange tastefully

arrange strongly

8 forbid categorically

forbid highly

9 invite vehemently

invite cordially

10 resent bitterly

resent wonderfully

11 turn sharply

turn deeply

12 appreciate highly

appreciate deeply

Exercise 6-F

Use the BBI to fill in the blanks in this passage. If no word is needed, do not write anything.

When Mary decided to give a party, she invited us to come. We dropped her a line to let her know that we could accept her invitation. We looked forward (1) *to* to the party very much, and we put off our work (2) _____ the next week. When the first guests arrived, Mary was looking (3) _____ the window. The guests walked (4) _____ the living room. A few of them began (5) _____ look (6) _____ cold drinks. Several guests wanted (7) _____ dance; some knew (8) _____ to dance very well. At dinner, some of the guests gossiped (9) _____ people who were not there. It upsets me (10) _____ hear people gossip. Other guests spoke (11) politics. I spoke (12) _____ nobody; I was very hungry and was busy eating. Mary asked us (13) _____ come again next month. We assured (14) _____ that we would do so. We thanked Mary (15) _____ her hospitality and went home. We recommend Mary's parties (16) _____ everyone very (17) _____.

Relaxing with friends at a party can help us (18) _____ forget our problems.

UNIT 7

Supplementary exercises

Fill in the blanks in the following four exercises. If a verb is to be added, put it in the past tense. If no insertion is necessary, do not write anything.

Exercise 7-A

A Day in Court

Yesterday I attended a trial. The accused had been indicted (1) for larceny. Several years earlier he had been convicted (2) _____ fraud. He had two accomplices. One was charged (3) _____ possession of stolen goods. The other was accused (4) _____ obstructing justice. The trial was (5) _____ in a municipal court. An experienced judge (6) _____ the case. Six people served (7) _____ the jury. Citing lack of evidence, the defendant's lawyer asked the judge to (8) _____ the case. When the judge refused, the lawyer (9) _____ a plea of not guilty. Several defense witnesses (10) _____ testimony. Witnesses must (11) _____ an oath to (12) _____ the truth. When witnesses lie (13) _____ oath, they (14) _____ perjury. The witnesses tried to (15) _____ a(n) (16) _____ alibi for the accused. The prosecutor then (17) _____ the same witnesses, trying to disprove the defendant's alibi. Because of the (18) _____ publicity concerning the case, the judge decided to isolate, that is, to (19) _____ the jury. However, the jury very quickly (20) _____ a verdict of not guilty and filed back (21) _____ the courtroom. When the foreman of the jury (22) _____ the verdict, the accused shook hands (23) _____ his lawyer and congratulated him (24) _____ his successful defense. In our country juries often (25) _____ verdicts of not guilty.

Exercise 7-B

A Visit to the Doctor

I did not feel well and went to see the doctor. She asked me what was wrong. I explained

(1) *to* her that I (2) _____ a cold. The doctor did a physical examination, (3) _____ a diagnosis, and (4) _____ (a) medication. A pharmacist had to (5) _____ the prescription. This medication is sold (6) _____ prescription (7) _____. She told me to (8) _____ the medication twice a day. The medication is reported to be very effective (9) _____ the common cold. The doctor also (10) _____ me some advice. She said that I was allergic (11) _____ certain types of meat and should not eat them. She suggested that I (12) _____ a warm bath once a day in order to relax. She also urged me to (13) _____ calisthenics every morning and (14) _____ a long walk every afternoon.

Last year one of my friends was (15) _____ hospital. The doctor decided to (16) _____ an X-ray of his back. The nurses (17) _____ him an injection every day. The nurses were always friendly (18) _____ the patients. When my friend did not respond (19) _____ treatment, the doctor decided to (20) _____ several tests (21) _____ him. It was discovered that my friend had (22) _____ blood pressure or hypertension. He would have to (23) _____ a pill once a day and (24) _____ a low-salt diet. The doctor (25) _____ rounds every morning. She often (26) _____ jokes in order to make the patients laugh. When my friend recovered, he went back (27) _____ work. He wrote a letter (28) _____ the doctor in order to (29) _____ his gratitude (30) _____ her help.

Exercise 7-C

A Flight to London

We had to fly from New York to London. We bought the tickets (1) *from* our travel agent. The tickets were sold (2) _____ a discount. When we got (3) _____ the airport, we checked our suitcases (4) _____ to London. When we boarded the plane, we (5) _____ our seats and began to read some newspapers. They were full (6) _____ interesting news (7) _____ the

latest happenings in Europe. After the plane took off and (8) _____ its cruising altitude, a meal was (9) _____ by the flight attendants. Then an excellent film was (10) _____. After the film, we (11) _____ breakfast. When the plane (12) _____ in London, all passengers had to (13) _____ customs. We had nothing to declare (14) _____ customs. Then we (15) _____ a taxi to our hotel. We checked (16) _____ the hotel, went to our room, and (17) _____ our bags. Then we went to the restaurant, sat down, and asked the waiter to (18) _____ the menu. After some discussion, we (19) _____ our choice and (20) _____ our order. The food was delicious, and we (21) _____ the meal very much. When paying (22) _____ the dinner, we (23) _____ a generous tip for the waiter. I would recommend that restaurant (24) _____ anyone. We went back to our room, turned on the TV, and (25), _____ the news.

Exercise 7-D

My University Education

I first earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics. As a student, I (1) *took* several courses (2) _____ calculus and did research (3) _____ number theory. I (4) _____ several papers at conferences and succeeded (5) _____ publishing a paper in a well-known journal. The editor of the journal showed keen interest (6) _____ my research. (7) _____ the strength of the published paper I was encouraged (8) _____ write up a longer report.

The report (9) _____ a profound impression on several specialists (10) _____ my field who urged me to apply for a scholarship leading (11) _____ the Ph.D degree (12) _____ computer science. I hoped (13) _____ my published research could serve (14) _____ a basis for my future doctoral dissertation. After I complete my studies, I plan to marry the man (15) _____ whom I'm engaged.

Postscript

Having completed the *Workbook*, you can now identify the various types of English collocations. Keep in mind that collocations can be found in the BBI in accordance with the following algorithm, that is, step-by-step procedure:

If there is a noun in the collocation, look under the noun; if there are two nouns; look under the second; if there is no noun, look under the adjective; if there is no adjective, look under the verb.

Answers to exercises

Unit 1: Using the BBI

Exercise 1-A

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| (1) noun | (7) adverb |
| (2) adjective | (8) adjective |
| (3) noun | (9) adjective, noun, verb |
| (4) noun, verb | (10) adverb |
| (5) noun | (11) adjective, noun |
| (6) verb | (12) noun |

Exercise 1-B

- (2) to play possum
- (3) the chair restricted discussion to items on the official agenda
- (4) to go forward with one's plans
- (5) to angle for ... (she was angling for an invitation)
- (6) to fly, pilot a jet
- (7) to take the plunge
- (8) 1. to come down with, contract, develop pneumonia 2. bronchial; viral pneumonia
- (9) to engage in subversion
- (10) subject to (subject to change)
- (11) 1. to issue a subpoena 2. to serve a subpoena on 3. a subpoena to + info (he received a subpoena to appear in court in two weeks)
- (12) 1. a first; second cousin; a first cousin once removed 2. a cousin to (she is a first cousin to the count)
3. kissing cousins

Exercise 1-C

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| (1) Synonymous | (7) Not synonymous |
| (2) Synonymous | (8) Synonymous |
| (3) Synonymous | (9) Not synonymous |
| (4) Not synonymous | (10) Synonymous |
| (5) Not synonymous | (11) Synonymous |
| (6) Not synonymous | (12) Not synonymous |

Exercise 1-D

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------|------|--------------|
| (2) | especially | (8) | occasionally |
| (3) | infinitive | (9) | reflexive |
| (4) | intransitive | (10) | Subjunctive |
| (5) | mathematics | (11) | transitive |
| (6) | miscellaneous | (12) | usually |
| (7) | obsolete | | |

Exercise 1-E

- | | | | |
|-----|-------------|------|------------|
| (1) | BE,CE | (7) | BE,CE |
| (2) | AE,BE | (8) | AE,CE |
| (3) | AE,CE | (9) | AE,BE |
| (4) | BE,AE | (10) | BE,esp. AE |
| (5) | BE,AE | (11) | BE,AE |
| (6) | CE, esp. BE | (12) | AE,BE |

Unit 2: Collocations, Free combinations, and Idioms

Exercise 2-A

- | | | | |
|------|----------------------|----|------------------|
| (1) | bitter complains | -- | Collocation |
| | recent complaints | -- | Free combination |
| (2) | expensive dictionary | -- | Free combination |
| | bilingual dictionary | -- | Collocation |
| (3) | hit children | -- | Free combination |
| | hit a snag | -- | Collocation |
| (4) | need ... badly | -- | Collocation |
| | need ... now | -- | Free combination |
| (5) | debug this program | -- | Collocation |
| | bought a program | -- | Free combination |
| (6) | filed a report | -- | Collocation |
| | lost your report | -- | Free combination |
| (7) | committed suicide | -- | Collocation |
| | detest suicide | -- | Free combination |
| (8) | operate a tractor | -- | Collocation |
| | sell a tractor | -- | Free combination |
| (9) | declared war | -- | Collocation |
| | hated the war | -- | Free combination |
| (10) | borrow your watch | -- | Free combination |
| | set your watch | -- | Collocation |
| (11) | amusement park | -- | Collocation |

	big park	--	Free combination
(12)	interesting evidence	--	Free combination
	conclusive evidence	--	Collocation

Exercise 2-B

(1)	Collocation	(7)	Idiom
(2)	Idiom	(8)	Idiom
(3)	Idiom	(9)	Collocation
(4)	Collocation	(10)	Idiom
(5)	Collocation	(11)	Collocation
(6)	Idiom	(12)	Collocation

Unit 3: Noun collocations

Exercise 3-A

(1)	<u>by accident</u> , accident	(7)	<u>a pleasure to ...</u> , pleasure
(2)	<u>asked ... questions</u> , question I	(8)	<u>the story that ...</u> , story I
(3)	<u>drives an ... car</u> , car	(9)	<u>an expert on</u> , expert II
(4)	<u>chronic alcoholic</u> , alcoholic	(10)	<u>aptitude test</u> , test I
(5)	<u>bees ... sting</u> , bee I	(11)	<u>on a stretcher</u> , stretcher
(6)	<u>flock of sheep</u> , sheep	(12)	<u>solved the case</u> , case I

Exercise 3-B

(1)	to	(7)	at
(2)	enlarge	(8)	taken
(3)	set	(9)	to
(4)	herd	(10)	break down, force
(5)	down	(11)	override
(6)	in	(12)	draw

Exercise 3-C

(1)	CORRECT	(8)	CORRECT
(2)	My friends sent <i>warm greetings</i> .	(9)	CORRECT
(3)	The pupils <i>did their homework</i> .	(10)	The actor <i>took his bow</i> .
(4)	CORRECT	(11)	CORRECT
(5)	CORRECT	(12)	After ten days we <i>got off the train</i> in Moscow.

- (6) The campers were *paddling a canoe*.
 (7) CORRECT

Exercise 3-D

- (1) The story was printed in *screaming headlines*.
 (2) The government's proposal has *aroused/stirred up antagonism*.
 (3) They lived in *abject/dire/extreme/grindirig/severe poverty*.
 (4) The argument *broke up/destroyed our friendship*.
 (5) The *epidemic broke out* about ten years ago.
 (6) Our university *awarded an honorary degree* to the mayor; ... *conferred an honorary degree on* the mayor.
 (7) The fortune-teller *read my horoscope*.
 (8) You shouldn't *keep a dog* in a small apartment.
 (9) I'm willing to *take a cut* in salary if the new job is interesting.
 (10) We win *hold the conference* in Tokyo.
 (11) The judge *suspended my hunting license* for 12 months.
 (12) He *compiled/made up a bibliography* of articles relating to computer-assisted instruction.

Unit 4: Adjective collocations

Exercise 4-A

- | | |
|-----------|--------------|
| (1) of | (7) on |
| (2) with | (8) for |
| (3) of | (9) with |
| (4) about | (10) against |
| (5) from | (11) about |
| (6) with | (12) for |

Exercise 4-B

- | | |
|----------|-------------------------------|
| (1) to | (7) with |
| (2) for | (8) on |
| (3) in | (9) to |
| (4) with | (10) of |
| (5) in | (11) for |
| (6) to | (12) from, than (AE), to (BE) |

Exercise 4-C

- | | | | |
|-----|--|------|--|
| (1) | I am aware that ... | (7) | We were prepared to ... |
| (2) | It was sad to ...
It was sad that ... | (8) | It is frustrating to ...
It is frustrating that ... |
| (3) | She was happy to
She was happy that ... | (9) | The plan is doomed to ... |
| (4) | He was bound to ... | (10) | My father is apt to ... |
| (5) | We were furious to ...
We were furious that ... | (11) | It is arguable that ... |
| (6) | I was not able to ... | (12) | We were satisfied to ...
We were satisfied that ... |

Exercise 4-D

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------|------|-----------------------|
| (1) | fiercely, keenly | (7) | dripping, soaking |
| (2) | densely, heavily | (8) | humanly |
| (3) | chronically, hopelessly | (9) | highly |
| (4) | eminently, fully, highly, well- | (10) | stark |
| (5) | bitter, bitterly | (11) | highly, well-; poorly |
| (6) | hard, solid | (12) | thoroughly |

Exercise 4-E

- | | | | |
|-----|--|------|--|
| (1) | CORRECT | (7) | Remaining silent was tantamount to giving consent. |
| (2) | CORRECT | (8) | CORRECT |
| (3) | Sally was easy to please. | (9) | They are eligible to vote |
| (4) | CORRECT | (10) | CORRECT |
| (5) | CORRECT | (11) | CORRECT |
| (6) | Their behavior was highly provocative. | (12) | she was angry at/with everyone |

Unit 5: Verb collocations

Exercise 5-A

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|----|------------------|
| (1) | circulated a petition | -- | Noun collocation |
| | petitioned for | -- | Verb collocation |
| (2) | filed a protest | -- | Noun collocation |
| | protested against | -- | Verb collocation |
| (3) | release ... from | -- | Verb collocation |
| | Her release from | -- | Noun collocation |

(4)	spread gossip	--	Noun collocation
	gossip about	--	Verb collocation
(5)	revoke our permit	--	Noun collocation
	permit us to leave	--	Verb collocation
(6)	Bees swarm	--	Noun collocation
	swarm around	--	Verb collocation
(7)	raised doubts	--	Noun collocation
	doubt that	--	Verb collocation
(8)	pay a fine	--	Noun collocation
	fined for	--	Verb collocation
(9)	answer for	--	Verb collocation
	give an answer	--	Noun collocation
(10)	evoke a response	--	Noun collocation
	responded by	--	Verb collocation
(11)	resulted in	--	Verb collocation
	produced ... results	--	Noun collocation
(12)	It angered me that	--	Verb collocation
	... show ... anger	--	Noun collocation

Exercise 5-B

(1)	He addressed his comments to us	(7)	CORRECT
(2)	CORRECT	(8)	The doctor described the facts to us
(3)	CORRECT	(9)	The engineer presented the plan to them
(4)	She revealed a secret to me	(10)	You must submit your application to us
(5)	CORRECT	(11)	The commission reported their findings to the President
(6)	CORRECT	(12)	CORRECT

Exercise 5-C

(1)	I referred the problem to ...	(7)	The facts pertained to ...
(2)	CORRECT	(8)	They inveigled me into ...
(3)	We had to abide by ...	(9)	CORRECT
(4)	CORRECT	(10)	They based their argument on/upon...
(5)	CORRECT	(11)	The committee consists of ...
(6)	CORRECT	(12)	CORRECT

Exercise 5-D

(1)	to remain	(7)	going
-----	-----------	-----	-------

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| (2) to negotiate | (8) to visit |
| (3) complain | (9) to wait, waiting |
| (4) talking | (10) walking |
| (5) being punished | (11) painting, (also: to be painted) |
| (6) to retire | (12) come |

Exercise 5-E

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| (1) leave, leaving | (7) to apply |
| (2) waiting | (8) to help |
| (3) to resign | (9) beat, beating |
| (4) to get up | (10) rehearsing |
| (5) get up | (11) get off |
| (6) him doing, his doing | (12) you turning off, your turning off |

Exercise 5-F

- (1) CORRECT
- (2) CORRECT
- (3) My friend told me/us that she would attend.
- (4) The dean informed us/the students that the examination had been postponed.
- (5) CORRECT
- (6) CORRECT
- (7) CORRECT
- (8) I reminded him that he would have to pay the bill.
- (9) We convinced them that they should leave at once.
- (10) CORRECT
- (11) CORRECT
- (12) The captain reassured us that there was no damage to the plane.

Unit 6: Verb collocations (continued)

Exercise 6-A

- (1) They admitted *to ...* that I was right.
- (2) She hinted *to ...* that he would return.
- (3) He boasted *to ...* that he had committed a crime.
- (4) She mentioned *to ...* that she would be late.
- (5) The witnesses swore *to ...* that they would tell the truth.
- (6) He said *to ...* that prices would drop.
- (7) This document proves *to ...* that you are telling the truth.
- (8) We propose *to ...* that an apology be printed on the front page.

- (9) She implied *to ...* that she knew more than she was saying.
- (10) They are suggesting *to ...* that the bill will be defeated in the Senate.
- (11) He intimated *to ...* that the manager would resign.
- (12) I vow *to ...* that my English will improve.

Exercise 6-B

- (1) NO CHANGE
- (2) They found London to be a fascinating city.
- (3) We must presume her to be innocent.
- (4) NO CHANGE
- (5) The evidence proved him to be guilty.
- (6) NO CHANGE
- (7) NO CHANGE
- (8) NO CHANGE
- (9) The medical board officially pronounced him to be unfit for service.
- (10) The patrol reported the fire to be burning out of control.
- (11) The Supreme Court declared the law to be unconstitutional.
- (12) NO CHANGE

Exercise 6-C

- (1) NO CHANGE
- (2) The children sang a song *to*for us.
- (3) He owed ten pounds to his brother.
- (4) NO CHANGE
- (5) NO CHANGE
- (6) They sold our new house to us.
- (7) NO CHANGE
- (8) The police offered twenty dollars to her.
- (9) She baked a cake for me.
- (10) He bought a book for her.
- (11) NO CHANGE
- (12) I called a taxi for him.

Exercise 6-D

The following sentences are incomplete:

- (1) He carried himself (with dignity).
- (2) She is doing (well).
- (3) I backed the car (into the garage).

- (4) The child put the books (on the shelf).
- (5) The soldiers were inching (forward).
- (6) She bore herself (proudly).
- (7) I will lay the book (down).
- (8) The thief lurked (in the darkness).
- (9) The trunk weighed (200 pounds).
- (10) He poked his head (round the corner).
- (11) The hikers tramped (through the woods).
- (12) They saddled us (with an unpleasant task).

Exercise 6-E

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (1) <u>anchor firmly</u> | (7) <u>arrange tastefully</u> |
| (2) <u>appreciate sincerely</u> | (8) <u>forbid categorically</u> |
| (3) <u>argue heatedly</u> | (9) <u>invite cordially</u> |
| (4) <u>protest vigorously</u> | (10) <u>resent bitterly</u> |
| (5) <u>recommend highly</u> | (11) <u>turn sharply</u> |
| (6) <u>apologize humbly</u> | (12) <u>appreciate deeply</u> |

Exercise 6-F

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| (2) until, till | (11) about |
| (3) out (AE), out of | (12) to, with |
| (4) into | (13) to |
| (5) to | (14) her |
| (6) for | (15) for |
| (7) to | (16) to |
| (8) how | (17) enthusiastically, highly, strongly |
| (9) about | (18) to, <i>no addition</i> |
| (10) to | |

Unit 7: Supplementary exercises

Exercise 7-A

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| (2) of | (15) establish; provide |
| (3) with | (16) airtight, foolproof, unassailable,
<i>no addition</i> |
| (4) of | (17) cross-examined |
| (5) held | (18) extensive, wide, <i>no addition</i> |
| (6) heard, tried | (19) sequester |
| (7) on | (20) arrived at, reached |
| (8) dismiss, throw out | |

- (9) entered
- (10) gave, offered
- (11) take
- (12) tell
- (13) under
- (14) commit render, return

- (21) into
- (22) announ.ced
- (23) with
- (24) on
- (25) bring in, deliver, hand down

Exercise 7-B

- (2) had
- (3) made
- (4) prescribed
- (5) fill (AE), make up
- (6) by
- (7) only, no addition
- (8) take
- (9) against
- (10) gave
- (11) to
- (12) (should) have (BE), take
- (13) do
- (14) take
- (15) in (BE), in the (AE)
- (16) do (colloq.), make, take

- (17) gave
- (18) towards, with
- (19) to
- (20) carry out, conduct, do, run
- (21) on
- (22) high
- (23) take
- (24) be on, follow, stick to; go on
- (25) made
- (26) cracked, told
- (27) to
- (28) to
- (29) express
- (30) for

Exercise 7-C

- (2) at
- (3) to
- (4) through
- (5) took
- (6) of
- (7) about
- (8) reached
- (9) served
- (10) shown
- (11) ate, had
- (12) landed
- (13) clear, get through, gp through
pass through

- (14) at
- (15) took
- (16) into
- (17) unpacked
- (18) bring
- (19) made
- (20) gave, placed
- (21) enjoyed
- (22) for
- (23) left
- (24) to
- (25) watched

Exercise 7-D

- | | | | |
|-----|--|------|--------------------------|
| (2) | in, on | (9) | made |
| (3) | on | (10) | in |
| (4) | delivered, gave, offered,
presented, read | (11) | to |
| (5) | in | (12) | in |
| (6) | in | (13) | that, <i>no addition</i> |
| (7) | On | (14) | as |
| (8) | to | (15) | to |