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; 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 – (we announced her – to the committee) [position] 9. an – to 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.

Usage note providing additional information

11. = Idioms with paraphrases in double quotation marks

1. – 10. = Lexical collocations

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
**meat**  
*n.*  
1. to barbecue; braise; broil (AE); grill; cook; cure; freeze; 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

**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 + claim (she was ~ that they were coming)

**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. (d) it came out that he had cheated 6. (P; intr.) (“to end up, result”) to ~ on top (“to be victorious”) 7. (§) 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

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<td>Am.</td>
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#### Verb patterns

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<td>K = sv possessive v-ing</td>
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<td>B = svo to o</td>
<td>L = sv(o) that-clause</td>
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<td>C = svo for o (or) svo</td>
<td>M = svo to be c</td>
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<td>D, d = sv prep. o (or) svo prep. o</td>
<td>N = svoc</td>
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<td>E = sv to inf.</td>
<td>O = svoo</td>
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<td>F = sv inf.</td>
<td>P = sv(o)a</td>
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<tr>
<td>G = ssv-ing</td>
<td>Q = sv(o) wh-word</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H = svo to inf.</td>
<td>R = s(i)/yo to inf. (or) s(i)/yo that-clause</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I = svo inf.</td>
<td>S = svc (adjective or noun)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J = svov-ing</td>
<td>s = svc (adjective)</td>
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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’) ~ 5

_________________________________________________________________________________

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.
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; ~ 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. ________________________

Exercise 1-E
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 ~ (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 1 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 ________________________________ 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 5. (to go somewhere by 6)

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 apartament.

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 ___________ 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 ___________ 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 is 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** 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, 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** 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 against 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. ____________
Does your employer provide benefits with your job? _________
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 __________________

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 ___________ . (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 ___________ . (be recognized)

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

3 They must ___________ 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 ___________________. (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.

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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 ___________________

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 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) **had** a cold. The doctor did a physical examination, (3) **made** a
diagnosis, and (4) **prescribed** (a) medication. A pharmacist had to (5) **write** the prescription.

This medication is sold (6) **over** prescription (7) **without**. She told me to (8) **take** the
medication twice a day. The medication is reported to be very effective (9) **against** the common cold.
The doctor also (10) **gave** me some advice. She said that I was allergic (11) **to** certain types
of meat and should not eat them. She suggested that I (12) **take** a warm bath once a day in order
to relax. She also urged me to (13) **do** calisthenics every morning and (14) **take** a long
walk every afternoon.

Last year one of my friends was (15) **in** hospital. The doctor decided to (16) **order** an X-ray
of his back. The nurses (17) **gave** him an injection every day. The nurses were always friendly (18)
**to** the patients. When my friend did not respond (19) **to** treatment, the doctor decided
to (20) **perform** several tests (21) **for** him. It was discovered that my friend had (22) **high** blood pressure or hypertension. He would have to (23) **take** a pill once a day and (24) **eat** a
low-salt diet. The doctor (25) **did** rounds every morning. She often (26) **told** jokes in order
to make the patients laugh. When my friend recovered, he went back (27) **to** work. He wrote a
letter (28) **to** the doctor in order to (29) **thank** her for 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) **at** a discount. When we got (3) **to** the airport, we checked our
suitcases (4) **for** London. When we boarded the plane, we (5) **took** our seats and
began to read some newspapers. They were full (6) **of** interesting news (7) **about** 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) _______ 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
(2) adjective
(3) noun
(4) noun, verb
(5) noun
(6) verb
(7) adverb
(8) adjective
(9) adjective, noun, verb
(10) adverb
(11) adjective, noun
(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
(2) Synonymous
(3) Synonymous
(4) Not synonymous
(5) Not synonymous
(6) Not synonymous
(7) Not synonymous
(8) Synonymous
(9) Not synonymous
(10) Synonymous
(11) Synonymous
(12) Not synonymous
Exercise 1-D

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

Exercise 1-E

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

Unit 2: Collocations, Free combinations, and Idioms

Exercise 2-A

(1) bitter complains
recent complaints
-- Collocation
-- Free combination
(2) expensive dictionary
bilingual dictionary
-- Free combination
-- Collocation
(3) hit children
hit a snag
-- Free combination
-- Collocation
(4) need ... badly
need ... now
-- Free combination
-- Free combination
(5) debug this program
bought a program
-- Collocation
-- Free combination
(6) filed a report
lost your report
-- Collocation
-- Free combination
(7) committed suicide
detest suicide
-- Collocation
-- Free combination
(8) operate a tractor
sell a tractor
-- Collocation
-- Free combination
(9) declared war
hated the war
-- Collocation
-- Free combination
(10) borrow your watch
set your watch
-- Free combination
-- 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) by accident, accident  (7) a pleasure to ... pleasure
(2) asked ... questions, question I  (8) the story that ..., story I
(3) drives an ... car, car  (9) an expert on, expert II
(4) chronic alcoholic, alcoholic  (10) aptitude test, test I
(5) bees ... sting, bee I  (11) on a stretcher, stretcher
(6) flock of sheep, sheep  (12) solved the case, 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 warm greetings.  (9) CORRECT
(3) The pupils did their homework.  (10) The actor took his bow.
(4) CORRECT  (11) CORRECT
(5) CORRECT  (12) After ten days we got off the train 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/grinding/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 ...
(2) It was sad to ...
(3) She was happy to ...
(4) He was bound to ...
(5) We were furious to ...
(6) I was not able to ...
(7) We were prepared to ...
(8) It is frustrating to ...
(9) The plan is doomed to ...
(10) My father is apt to ...
(11) It is arguable that ...
(12) We were satisfied to ...
(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) CORRECT (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 ... 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 thieflurked (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) anchor firmly  (7) arrange tastefully
(2) appreciate sincerely  (8) forbid categorically
(3) argue heatedly  (9) invite cordially
(4) protest vigorously  (10) resent bitterly
(5) recommend highly  (11) turn sharply
(6) apologize humbly  (12) appreciate deeply

**Exercise 6-F**

(2) until, till
(3) out (AE), out of
(4) into
(5) to
(6) for
(7) to
(8) how
(9) about
(10) to

**Unit 7: Supplementary exercises**

**Exercise 7-A**

(2) of
(3) with
(4) of
(5) held
(6) heard, tried
(7) on
(8) dismiss, throw out

(15) establish; provide
(16) airtight, foolproof, unassailable, no addition
(17) cross-examined
(18) extensive, wide, no addition
(19) sequester
(20) arrived at, reached
(9) entered (21) into
(10) gave, offered (22) announced
(11) take (23) with
(12) tell (24) on
(13) under (25) bring in, deliver, hand down
(14) commit render, return

Exercise 7-B

(2) had (17) gave
(3) made (18) towards, with
(4) prescribed (19) to
(5) fill (AE), make up (20) carry out, conduct, do, run
(6) by (21) on
(7) only, no addition (22) high
(8) take (23) take
(9) against (24) be on, follow, stick to; go on
(10) gave (25) made
(11) to (26) cracked, told
(12) (should) have (BE), take (27) to
(13) do (28) to
(14) take (29) express
(15) in (BE), in the (AE) (30) for
(16) do (colloq.), make, take

Exercise 7-C

(2) at (14) at
(3) to (15) took
(4) through (16) into
(5) took (17) unpacked
(6) of (18) bring
(7) about (19) made
(8) reached (20) gave, placed
(9) served (21) enjoyed
(10) shown (22) for
(11) ate, had (23) left
(12) landed (24) to
(13) clear, get through, go through (25) watched
pass through
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<td>(2) in, on</td>
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