



Sample Collocations

There are several different types of collocation. Collocations can be adjective + adverb, noun + noun, verb + noun and so on. Below you can see seven main types of collocation in sample sentences.

1. adverb + adjective

- Invading that country was an **utterly stupid** thing to do.
- We entered a **richly decorated** room.
- Are you **fully aware** of the implications of your action?

2. adjective + noun

- The doctor ordered him to take **regular exercise**.
- The Titanic sank on its **maiden voyage**.
- He was writhing on the ground in **excruciating pain**.

3. noun + noun

- Let's give Mr Jones a **round of applause**.
- The **ceasefire agreement** came into effect at 11am.
- I'd like to buy two **bars of soap** please.

4. noun + verb

- The **lion** started **to roar** when it heard the **dog barking**.
- **Snow was falling** as our **plane took off**.
- The **bomb went off** when he started the car engine.

5. verb + noun

- The prisoner was hanged for **committing murder**.
- I always try to **do my homework** in the morning, after **making my bed**.

- He has been asked to **give a presentation** about his work.
6. verb + expression with preposition
- We had to return home because we **had run out of money**.
 - At first her eyes **filled with horror**, and then she **burst into tears**.
 - Their behaviour was enough to **drive anybody to crime**.
7. verb + adverb
- She **placed** her keys **gently** on the table and sat down.
 - Mary **whispered softly** in John's ear.
 - I **vaguely remember** that it was growing dark when we left.