

## A

## What a collocation is

A collocation is a pair or group of words that are often used together. You need to learn them in order to sound natural in English. For example, in computing we say 'attach a file', not 'enclose a file'.

New collocations are particularly common in ICT. Notice the combinations that are worth learning from these reviews.

With the Nokia 770 Internet Tablet you can **browse** your favourite sites and catch up on your email – from right where you are. Whether you're relaxing on the sofa or enjoying the moment at your favourite café, if you have **broadband access** over Wi-Fi, the Nokia 770 Internet Tablet gives you instant wireless access to the Web. You can also **stream**<sup>1</sup> files, **tune in to** Internet radio and News Reader, or **play** your favourite videos and music.



<sup>1</sup> Listen to audio or watch video directly from the Internet rather than downloading and saving it first

<sup>2</sup> Able to share data with older systems

A Blu-ray Disc is a new **optical disc** that provides five times more data storage than a DVD, with a capacity of 25 GB (single-layer), 50 GB (dual-layer) and 100 GB (four-layer). Unlike current DVDs, which use a red laser to **read and write data**, Blu-ray uses a blue laser (which is where the format gets its name). Blu-ray discs can record and play back **high-definition television** and digital audio, as well as computer data.



Blu-ray Disc players are **fully backward compatible**<sup>2</sup> with CD/DVD formats. They also let users **go online** and download subtitles.

## B

## Some types of collocations

## Verb + noun

The easiest way to **connect to the Internet** is by using a DSL modem.

A DSL modem can **transmit data** at high speed.

Your ISP will probably give you a CD with instructions on how to **install the software** on your PC.

Once you are online, you can **access the Web** or **send and receive emails**.

You may like to **burn CDs**, i.e. copy your favourite songs or important files onto CDs.

## Verbs with particles

Can you show me where the microphone **plugs into the computer**?

If you want to **log onto your account** you will need your user ID and password.

Computer criminals are getting better at **hacking into** other people's computers.

## Adjective + noun

**High-speed networks** and multimedia phones allow customers to view live TV.

To send **outgoing mail** and retrieve **incoming mail**, you need to configure the email settings.

Most teenagers use **instant messaging** to chat with friends.

**Electronic commerce** – from a PC, digital TV or mobile phone – offers competitive prices.

**Wireless hotspots** provide Wi-Fi Internet access in airports, hotels and other places.

Users can interact with a **virtual environment** through the use of VR displays and data gloves.

Typical **interactive TV** uses are voting in polls, video on demand and shopping from home.

## Adverb + adjective

Don't send **highly sensitive information** via email or fax unless it is encrypted.

This movie is **freely available** on the Internet, so it can be downloaded free of charge.

## Phrases

When you chat in a chat room, you are interacting in **real time** since it is immediate.

A USB device is a good example of **plug and play**; you install it and use it immediately.

To **drag and drop**, just click on the object and drag it to a different location.