



COLLOCATIONS

Certain words go with certain others to convey a distinct meaning. This is called collocation. The combination of words lends language a rich and native-speaker-like quality.

ability	- exceptional, outstanding, uncanny, inherent, innate	cake	- moist, rich, sticky
accent	- marked, pronounced, strong	camouflage	- effective, excellent, protective
access	- direct, unlimited	campaign	- sustained, vicious, concerted
acquisition	- latest, new, recent	career	- brilliant, distinguished, promising
addition	- valuable, useful, worthy	casualty	- heavy, light
adjustment	- minor, fine, appropriate	charade	- clever, pathetic
adversary	- formidable, worthy	charm	- considerable, immense
advice	- constructive, practical, sound	choice	- informed, difficult
advocate	- ardent, outspoken, staunch	cliché	- worn-out, popular
affair	- glittering, grand, sordid	clout	- enormous, considerable
affinity	- strong, natural	cluster	- compact, dense
affront	- personal	coincidence	- sheer, pure
agenda	- agreed, clear	comedy	- slapstick, romantic
aggression	- intense, controlled, naked	community	- close-knit, tight-knit
alibi	- cast-iron, solid	conception	- clear, distinct, traditional
amateur	- competent, gifted, talented	contradiction	- flagrant, manifest, fundamental
amenity	- basic, excellent	contrast	- stark, complete
ammunition	- live, blank	corruption	- endemic, rampant, rife
antipathy	- profound, deep, violent	cuisine	- haute, nouvelle, local
aroma	- pungent, rich, strong, lingering, subtle	debt	- enormous, crippling
array	- dazzling, stunning, diverse	decline	- precipitous, steep, steady
assumption	- shared, widespread, underlying	defiance	- blatant, flagrant
assurance	- categorical	discretion	- unfettered, utmost
atmosphere	- congenial, convivial, heady, oppressive, stifling	ecstasy	- pure, sheer
aura	- magical, faint	egg	- beat, fresh, boiled
aversion	- strong	encounter	- chance, brief
awareness	- heightened, political, acute	entertainment	- popular, lavish, free
bachelor	- confirmed	epitaph	- fitting, perfect
backfire	- disastrously	evaluation	- comprehensive, objective
bearing	- direct, significant	exaggeration	- gross, slight
beast	- savage, ferocious, mythical, legendary	examination	- stiff, competitive
background	- privileged, disadvantaged	expression	- coherent, concrete
backing	- unanimous, whole-hearted	fate	- grim, tragic
baggage	- excess	finale	- rousing, grand
barrage	- intense, heavy	fish	- fillet, sea, tank
baritone	- lusty, melodious	fluctuation	- rapid, periodic, minor
battle	- fierce, pitched	force	- brute, lethal
behaviour	- exemplary, undesirable	foreboding	- deep, gloomy
bend	- hairpin, sharp	fury	- controlled, pent-up
bias	- clear, marked	futility	- utter
blaze	- fierce	gambler	- compulsive, inveterate
blizzard	- fierce, howling	generalization	- broad, sweeping, valid
bloom	- exquisite, fragrant	gesture	- flamboyant, sweeping, theatrical, dismissive, placatory
blush	- deep, fiery, faint	glimpse	- fleeting, merest, quick
bombing	- indiscriminate, precision	gossip	- idle, malicious
brand	- leading, major, popular	grounding	- solid, basic
bravado	- sheer, false	guess	- calculated, inspired, intelligent
breach	- grave, serious, flagrant	hole	- gaping, massive, yawning
briefing	- clear, detailed	honour	- signal, dubious
brilliance	- sheer, academic	hostility	- implacable, outright, bitter
bruise	- livid, purple, swollen	hunger	- insatiable, alleviate
budget	- shoestring, tight, government	hypothesis	- plausible, speculative
building	- derelict, ramshackle, historic	ideology	- dominant, coherent
burden	- onerous, crippling, financial	illustration	- graphic, vivid
buyer	- potential, prospective	imagery	- powerful, resonant
buzz	- angry, low	impatience	- growing, mounting
		impression	- overriding, overwhelming, fleeting, distinct
		imprint	- indelible, unmistakable
		indictment	- damning, scathing
		indulgence	- excessive

inference	- logical, reasonable, obvious	rage	- pent up, suppressed, blind
influx	- vast, steady	rapport	- instant, tremendous
intonation	- flat, rising	rebuff	- stinging, humiliating
intrusion	- unwarranted, unnecessary	rebuke	- sharp, public
irony	- final, supreme, ultimate	reception	- rousing, frosty, enthusiastic
joy	- sheer, overwhelming	recollection	- vivid, faint, hazy
jurisdiction	- limited, exclusive	recording	- accurate, detailed
leaflet	- promotional, useful	reflection	- blurred, clear
leap	- prodigious, big	regard	- due, scant, proper
lecture	- impromptu, interesting	regimen	- strict, dietary
leniency	- excessive, undue	rejection	- blanket, outright
lifestyle	- sedentary, healthy, affluent	reputation	- enviable, formidable
likeness	- strong, good, superficial	retribution	- fair, just, divine
majority	- overwhelming, substantial	reverence	- profound, deep
malice	- pure, sheer	rumour	- scurrilous, vicious, false
mandate	- clear, legal, popular	schedule	- gruelling, punishing, tight
manner	- conventional, time-honoured, haphazard, arbitrary	scheme	- grandiose, hare-brained
manoeuvre	- complex, complicated, skilful	sense	- acute, keen, poor
mansion	- imposing, palatial	sentiment	- lofty, strong
matter	- pressing, serious	serenity	- absolute
menace	- serious, growing	shadow	- sinister, dark
modesty	- characteristic, becoming	shiver	- cold, delicious, involuntary
need	- compelling, paramount, crying, perceived	shout	- muffled, raucous, triumphant
negligence	- gross, criminal	sign	- definite, telltale, outward
niche	- distinctive, suitable	similarity	- marked, significant, striking
norm	- accepted, established,	skill	- consummate, remarkable
nuance	- delicate, fine, subtle	skyscraper	- towering
nudge	- affectionate, gentle	sleep	- fitful, uneasy, deep
obligation	- contractual, statutory, mutual, moral	slogan	- catchy, snappy, popular
obscenity	- string (of), scream	slope	- precipitous, steep, gradual
observation	- empirical, careful, direct	smile	- enigmatic, rueful, sardonic, wry
odds	- insuperable, overwhelming	smirk	- patronizing, self-satisfied
omission	- inadvertent, glaring	spectacle	- unedifying, gold-rimmed
opposition	- considerable, determined, bitter	speculation	- intense, considerable
optimist	- incurable, eternal	spice	- exotic
organisation	- umbrella, professional, voluntary	status	- privileged, relative, marital
origin	- obscure, ancient	strategy	- effective, coherent, comprehensive, viable
orthodoxy	- rigid, prevailing	submission	- complete, total
oversight	- unfortunate	subsistence	- bare, basic
paradox	- curious, apparent	subtlety	- extreme, great, real
paranoia	- increasing, mounting	suggestion	- constructive, practical, outrageous, preposterous, tentative
parody	- brilliant, cruel	summons	- peremptory, royal
passport	- valid, forged	superiority	- inherent, innate, overwhelming
pastime	- rewarding, popular	supervision	- close, minimal
patience	- infinite, great	suspense	- heart-pounding, nail-biting
peace	- fragile, uneasy	suspicion	- nagging, sneaking
penalty	- harsh, heavy, severe, stiff	symmetry	- perfect, pleasing
peril	- dire, grave	sympathy	- genuine, heartfelt
persistence	- dogged, remarkable, sheer	taboo	- rigid, deep-seated
perspective	- right, distorted	talent	- inborn, innate, prodigious, remarkable
poison	- strong, virulent	technician	- skilled, inexperienced
popularity	- massive, dwindling	technology	- current, existing, emerging
praise	- lavish, unstinting	timing	- exact, precise
prediction	- accurate, reliable	toil	- relentless, unceasing, unrelenting
price	- exorbitant, prohibitive	torrent	- raging, roaring
pride	- fierce, great	transition	- abrupt, rapid, phased
proof	- conclusive, incontrovertible, irrefutable, tangible	trappings	- outward, visible
proximity	- close, geographical	treason	- high
pursuit	- relentless	trend	- apparent, consistent, discernable, prevailing
quest	- eternal, spiritual	tribute	- glowing, handsome, silent
question	- probing, embarrassing	trick	- cheap, dirty, nasty
quirk	- odd, strange	trickle	- thin, steady
		triumph	- final, latest, ultimate
		trophy	- coveted, prestigious, prized

truth - absolute, gospel, harsh
turning point - crucial, major, significant
turnout - high, low
turnover - large, low, total

undergrowth - deep, dense, tangled
understanding - profound, basic, proper
undertaking - hazardous, worthwhile
understatement - gross
undertone - sinister, racist
unemployment - large-scale, widespread
unrest - serious, violent, widespread
upbringing - conventional, sheltered
uproar - great, mild, emotional
upheaval - massive, violent
utility - high, low, public

values - conservative, conventional, dominant
vandalism - mindless, wanton

variation - dramatic, extreme
vegetation - lush, sparse
vicinity - close, immediate
victim - hapless, unwilling
vitality - renewed, sheer
vocabulary - passive, rich, wide
void - aching, massive
vow - solemn
vulnerability - extreme
wage - decent, fair, meagre
warning - dire, grim, ominous, stark
waste - absolute, utter
win - emphatic, decisive, convincing
wind - fierce, stiff
windfall - unexpected
wish - fervent, dying
withdrawal - imminent, strategic, ignominious

