

Vocabulary Development

COLLOCATIONS

A collocation is two or more words that often go together. Collocations tell us which words can come before or after other words. These combinations just sound 'right' to native speakers, who use them all the time. On the other hand, other combinations may be unnatural and just sound 'wrong'.

- *fast food* but *quick meal*. It would not be normal to say ~~quick food~~ or ~~fast meal~~.
- *strong wind* but *heavy rain*. It would not be normal to say ~~heavy wind~~ or ~~strong rain~~.
- *make a mistake* but *do exercise*. It would not be normal to say ~~do a mistake~~ or ~~make exercise~~.

Or in the *Reading*, you can see the following collocations:

- read a newspaper (NOT ~~study~~ a newspaper)
- sit on the sofa (NOT ~~sit at~~ the sofa)
- hard of hearing (NOT ~~difficult~~ of hearing)

