

# Using the dictionary

## Collecting vocabulary about a topic

- A** Look up the keyword **art** in the dictionary. There is a **COLLOCATIONS** box related to art which can help you decide how to use the following verbs to complete the sentences. (You may need to change the form of the verbs to fit grammatically.)

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- 1 This work \_\_\_\_\_ a Dutch interior with a woman reading a letter.
- 2 Michelangelo's early drawings \_\_\_\_\_ exhibition at the Central Gallery until Friday.
- 3 You can see that the pattern has been \_\_\_\_\_ into the glass.
- 4 The artist was paid to \_\_\_\_\_ busts of wealthy patrons.
- 5 She has \_\_\_\_\_ the painting in the hall so that everyone sees it as soon as they arrive.
- 6 Before starting on any painting, most artists \_\_\_\_\_ a series of rough sketches in preparation.
- 7 I love the way the artist has \_\_\_\_\_ acrylics in vibrant colours to paint this market scene.
- 8 When he \_\_\_\_\_ this altarpiece, Gibbons used just one piece of wood.

- B** There may be different verbs which collocate with a noun and have a similar meaning.

- 1 In the 'Showing and selling art' section of the Collocations box, find another verb that collocates with the noun **painting** which could complete sentence number 5 in **A** above.
- 2 Look again at sentence number 6 in **A** above. In the 'Creating art' section, find three other verbs that collocate with the noun **sketch**.

- C** Sometimes different verbs collocate with a noun and we have to be careful to select the one with the correct meaning. Look up individual entries to help you choose the best word in the following sentences.

- 1 The painting was badly damaged but a team of six specialists have **restored** / **preserved** it and it looks exactly as it did before the fire.
- 2 The mayor gave a short speech saying he was proud to **erect** / **unveil** the new statue.
- 3 The curator decided to **hang** / **display** the sculpture in the entrance hall.

- D** The collocations at the entry **art** relate to fine arts. There is also a Collocations box for one of the performing arts – music – at the entry **music**. Before you look up this entry, try questions 1 and 2.

- 1 How many verbs can you think of which collocate with **music**? Make a list. For example, *listen to music*, *turn down the music*, etc.
- 2 Choose the best word in the following sentences.
  - a When they were at college they wanted to **form** / **do** a band.
  - b They **played** / **gave** a great performance last night.
  - c Their latest release went **straight** / **top** in at number one.

Now look up **music** and use the Collocations box to check your answers to questions 1 and 2. Remember, the aim is to collect vocabulary about a topic, so make a note of any collocations which are new to you and look up individual entries to check what they mean.

- 3 Use the Collocations box to complete the following sentences. (You may need to change the form of the verbs.)
  - a Jenny sang and I \_\_\_\_\_ her on the piano.
  - b There was free Wi-Fi so we put our headphones on and \_\_\_\_\_ music on our phones.
  - c Coldplay are \_\_\_\_\_ a gig at Wembley next year.
  - d I can't sing it because I don't know the words but I can \_\_\_\_\_ the tune.
  - e Beethoven \_\_\_\_\_ the *Moonlight Sonata* in 1801.