

COLLOCATIONS with COMMON VERBS

do	make	have	take	give
a crossword	an appointment	an accident	action	sb an answer
damage	an attempt	an argument	a bath	sb a chance
a degree	the bed	a bath	a bite	a cry of pain
the dishes	a cake	a break	a break	sb a headache
an exam	changes	breakfast	the bus	sb help
the food for a party	a decision	cancer	a decision	sb an idea
French at school	dinner	a chat	a deep breath	the impression that...
the garden	an effort	a cold	sb's details	sb a kiss
your hair	a film	difficulty	a dislike to sb	sb lessons
'Hamlet'	a fuss	a drink	an exam	sb a lift
your homework	a guess	a feeling	a guess	your opinion
judo	an impression	fun	a holiday	a party
miles per hour	a mark	a guess	an interest in sth	a performance
nothing	a mess	a heart attack	a look	sth a polish
Paris	a mistake	a holiday	a nap	sb a present
a photocopy	money	an idea	notes	priority to sth
research	a noise	an interest	a photo	sb a push
a sketch	peace	a look	size 10	sb a shock
a translation	a photocopy	a meeting	a tablet	a sigh
the washing	progress	a party	sb's temperature	a speech
some writing	a promise	a nap	a walk	some thought to sth
	a sketch	an operation		a welcome to sb
	a speech	patience		
	a suggestion	problems		
	your will	a shock		
	FRIEND	a snack		
	PIZZA	time		

- Find the nouns in the lists for tasks and duties (for example *do the dishes*). Which verb is the most often used? Which tasks are exceptions?
- Find expressions in each column that can be substituted by a single verb. (For example you can *do damage* to something or just *damage* something.) Which column has the most?
- Find expressions connected with the following:

speaking

make/give a speech

experiencing something

have an accident

producing something using your hands, your mind or your skill

make dinner

physical actions

have/take a bath

Can you see any patterns emerging? Are there any exceptions?

- 4 How many items can you find that collocate with more than one of the verbs (for example you can *have* or *take* a bath)?
- 5 Complete each of the following sentences using *do*, *make*, *have*, *take* or *give* (more than one answer may be possible). If the noun in the example is not in the table above, look for a similar noun. For example, *fortune* is not in the list but *money* is. You can check your answers by looking up the entries for the nouns, but try to predict what the verbs will be before you do this.

<p>a Make sure you <u>have/take</u> a look at the engine before you buy the car.</p> <p>b After the interview I had to _____ a test.</p> <p>c They always _____ us a welcome when we go there.</p> <p>d I sometimes _____ a siesta in the afternoon.</p> <p>e Saturday's my day for _____ jobs around the house.</p> <p>f The housing committee are _____ priority to the elderly. <u>ANZIANI</u></p> <p>g Let's _____ one more swim before we go back to the hotel.</p> <p>h He _____ a short laugh when he realized his mistake.</p> <p>i The moment we met we _____ a dislike to each other.</p> <p>j I told her I'd run in the marathon—I'm not going to _____ any promises like that again.</p>	<p>k She's always _____ an interest in current affairs.</p> <p>l She _____ her fortune on the stock market.</p> <p>m _____ a picture of me and your dad together.</p> <p>n The kids are _____ a terrible racket.</p> <p>o Her singing _____ an impression on me.</p> <p>p _____ the handle a twist and the door should open.</p> <p>q I don't know the answer, so I'll _____ a guess.</p> <p>r How often do you have to _____ the medicine?</p> <p>s Everyone else <u>was</u> _____ notes in the lecture, but I had forgotten my pen.</p> <p>t The BBC are visiting our school to _____ a programme about teaching!</p>
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- 6 Put each of the following adjectives into one of the sentences in exercise 5, before a noun that it collocates with. If you want to check in the dictionary you will need to look up the entries for the nouns.

~~close~~ ~~capious~~ ~~instant~~ ~~keen~~ ~~long~~ ~~odd~~ ~~rust~~ ~~sharp~~ ~~top~~ ~~warm~~ ~~wild~~

For example: Make sure you have a close look at the engine before you buy the car.

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