

Cambridge Proficiency Use of English collocations list dictation

Student A

Choose one list below. Without saying the key word at the beginning of that row, say words that go together with it from the list of example collocations until your partner guesses what one word goes before or after all of those examples. They can only guess once per hint, and must guess exactly the word that is there, even when other words might be correct. If they don't guess exactly that word, say another word that collocates with it from the same list. Continue with one hint then one guess until they guess the missing word. If you run out of examples before they guess correctly, make up more expressions with the same word missing. When they guess correctly, read the examples that they got wrong, and then switch roles. Take turns doing the same until the teacher stops you. You can go back to the same list again later if you still have unused examples left. If you are scoring, you get one point for each hint that results in a wrong guess.

Collocations with C2 Proficiency answers to guess the answers from

- **to** – gives someone free rein, a large extent, commits, attention, attributes something, attaches something, reacts well, admits, preferable, desirable, advisable, resorts, resigns herself, applies something, gets through, no reason, better, difficult, restricted, no choice but, the best of my knowledge, under no obligation, bothers, decision, the answers, bore no resemblance, her opposition, instructed, owing, due, was not open, gives rise, according, brings recognition, the first, self-evident, when it comes, sophisticated enough, what degree, gives rise, however alien it might seem, gave him the ability
- **in** – featured, rooted, embedded, called, the end, total, particular, any case, turned, no changes, took her, touch with, contact with, the habit of, there has been growth, involved, charge of, question, danger of, mind, close formation, vain, society, mind
- **as** – billed, established yourself, dismisses it, deployed something, a result, a last resort, a result of, far back as, saw us, as long, a consequence of
- **with** – dealt, associated the small, came up, the care which was taken, engages, puts up, good reason
- **into** – launching yourself, crumbles, shatters, got, the care that went, account, looked, unconsciously sucked, pops
- **at** – fault, no time, a complete loss, ease, worst, all
- **call** – on, up, for, in, to mind, round
- **make** – no mention of, the same mistake, it difficult, use of, journeys quicker
- **up** – shrivels, set, call, stand, had given
- **by** – transfixed, founded, taken in, the time I get home
- **keep** – an eye on, in touch, in contact, away from
- **under** – no obligation, threat, suspicion, surveillance
- **catch** – sight of, your attention, a taxi, a cold, up with your competitors, a glimpse
- **falls** – until darkness, back, into his orbit
- **see** – the light of day, what I can do, your way to

Exchange sheets and play the same game, making sure you start with the hardest ones.

Ask about any phrases you don't understand or don't understand why they collocate. Then take turns choosing a key word and helping your partner make suitable collocations.

Student B

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Collocations with C2 Proficiency answers to guess the answers from

- **of** – a shining example, within striking distance, deadly perils, the dawn, extreme disapproval, waiting for the prototype, new patterns, will capture the imagination, disapprove, get into the habit, no intention, a very good chance, took notice, a severe lack, calculate the chances, very little prospect, make no mention, have no intention, a marked dislike, still no sign, large numbers, in charge, there is no hope, this is because, catch a glimpse, caught sight, happens as a result, benefits include ease, forms part, makes good use, almost incapable, as a consequence
- **for** – this calls, suitable, interpret it, start to stand up, the last thing I want is, good preparation, give an explanation, no good reason, our capacity, this fully accounts, all we know, holds great appeal
- **on** – camera, fully focussed, embarking, keep tabs, regularly check, keep an eye, invite comments, had to call, fall back, no account, the other hand, the horizon, looks back
- **give** – someone free rein, someone a new lease of life, out, an explanation for, rise to, no sign of, up hope of, me the ability to
- **put** – the children to sleep, across your message, it off until next week, the fire out, up with his behaviour, his ideas forward, in charge of the project
- **from** – try to shield us, ultimately stems, continue to suffer, suddenly emerged, derived
- **come** – within striking distance, over well, as a complete surprise, up with the answers, to fruition
- **take** – in the stray cats, absolutely no notice of, sides in the debate, care with, into account
- **have** – a serious flaw, no intention of, every confidence that, exactly that in mind
- **change** – of fortune, in, to, from, sides
- **off** – ease, cool, has been put
- **become** – standard, the norm, what he imagined
- **down** – calm, quieten, slow
- **all** – after, briefly if at, over the world
- **than** – nothing I'd like more, need little more
- **within** – striking distance, our grasp, his lifetime, the confines of

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