

It's great here. Have had unbroken sunshine1 ever since we arrived. We're having a wonderful time - though in the middle of the day it's just too scorching hot2 to do anything but lie on the beach soaking up the sunshine3. This is the life!

Anna

It's been pouring with rain all day. In fact I've never seen such torrential rain4! It's freezing cold in the tent - we all got soaked. Every half hour we look out of the tent hoping for a break in the clouds. In vain! We're going to a hotel next year!



Reply

Forward

Forward

It rained heavily all day yesterday but it's dry at the moment. There's thick cloud, though, and it certainly looks like rain5. Quite a strong wind is blowing too! Am glad we brought warm clothes!

Weather conditions

collocation	example	comment
weather deteriorates [opposite: improves]	The weather is likely to deteriorate later on today.	Deteriorate is quite formal — the weather is getting worse is more informal.
thick/dense fog patches of fog/mist a blanket of fog [literary] fog/mist comes down [opposite: lifts]	There is thick fog on the motorway. There are patches of fog on the east coast but these should lift by midday.	Patches of fog/mist are small areas of fog/mist, whereas a blanket of fog/mist is thicker and more extensive.
strong sun [opposite: weak]	Avoid going on the beach at midday when the sun is strongest .	
heavy rain (NOT strong rain) driving rain	Road conditions are difficult because of the driving rain .	driving rain = rain falling fast and heavily
heavy/fresh/crisp/thick/driving snow	The snow is lovely and crisp this morning.	crisp snow = snow that is fresh and hard
hard frost	There will be a hard frost tonight.	opposite of a hard frost = a light frost (NOT a soft frost)
high/strong/light/biting winds the wind picks up [opposite: dies down] the wind blows/whistles	The wind was light this morning but it's picking up now and will be very strong by the evening. The wind was whistling through the trees.	biting winds = very cold winds If the wind picks up, it gets stronger.

Extreme weather



¹ very unusual or unexpected

¹ only sunshine, no clouds in the sky

² extremely hot

³ enjoying the sunshine

⁴ heavy rain ⁵ looks as if it is going to rain

² struck, badly affected

³ extremely strong winds

⁴ rivers flooded

13.1	Look at A and I	3 opposite and	complete these	weather collocations.
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1	crisp	5	a hard
2	patches of	6	torrential
3	strong	7	unbroken
4	a hiting	8	a blanket of

13.2 Look at A and B opposite. Change the underlined words so that each sentence has the opposite meaning.

- 1 There was a <u>light</u> wind yesterday.
- 2 The wind picked up in the evening.
- 3 The weather is likely to improve tomorrow.
- 4 It was scorching hot here yesterday.
- 5 There may be some <u>light</u> rain later on today.
- 6 The mist came down at about midday.

13.3 Replace the underlined words in this message with collocations from the opposite page.



Jill Hadfield 26 May at 12:59

I wish I'd worn a warmer jacket. There's a <u>very cold</u> wind. At least it's not <u>raining heavily</u> today. We had such <u>heavy rain</u> yesterday. I wish I was <u>sunbathing</u> on a Mediterranean beach.



13.4 Answer these questions about the collocations on the opposite page.

- 1 What might make a river burst its banks?
- 2 What can you probably see if someone says, 'It looks like rain'?
- 3 What kind of wind is a freak wind?
- 4 Is it harder to drive if there's dense fog or if there are patches of fog?
- 5 What kind of weather conditions have you got if the rain is described as driving rain?
- 6 If we talk about severe weather conditions *hitting* or *striking* an area, what kind of image is created?
- 7 What, apart from wind, can blow or whistle?
- 8 Which of these verbs suggests most destruction and which least? The storm destroyed / damaged / devastated the town.

13.5 Look up these words in your dictionary. Note down two more collocations for each one.

wind

rain

snow







Over to you

Either listen to the weather forecast on an English-language TV or radio channel **or** go to the website www.bbc.co.uk/weather. (You can enter the name of your own country to get information about the weather there.)

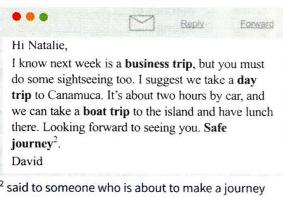
Make a note of any other useful weather collocations that you find.

Travel, journey, trip

Look at these emails and note the different collocations for travel, journey and trip.



¹ The opposite of return journey is outward journey.





I got some travel brochures with details of camping trips. Want to meet for lunch to look at them? One of them is in Chile, but it's a long overnight journey from the capital to get there, so maybe we should look nearer home? Loma

Flights

These collocations are all rather formal ones connected with flying:

Palair offers excellent in-flight entertainment, with the latest films and music.

The in-flight magazine includes maps and information about major airports.

[announcement by a cabin attendant] Ladies and gentlemen, we'll shortly be landing at Dublin Airport. Please fasten your seatbelts.

The passenger boarded the plane on time, but it was delayed taking off and she missed her connecting flight in Amsterdam.

Domestic flights are often more expensive than international ones. [flights within a country] Do you normally prefer a window seat or an aisle seat when you fly? We managed to get a charter flight; it was half the price of the scheduled flight.

The weather en route is fine, and we anticipate a smooth flight³ to Stockholm today.



Accommodation

We stayed in a small, family-run hotel.

The Panorama is a rather run-down hotel in a back street near the city centre.

The Palace is a **luxury hotel** on the main square of Porto Alegre.

I can't afford to stay in smart hotels. I always have to look for budget accommodation. [very cheap] I'd advise you to make a reservation before you go. The hotels near the beach are very popular and get fully booked during the summer.

¹ flight on a plane rented for special use

² regular flight organised by the company which owns the plane

³ The opposite is a **bumpy flight**.

14.1	Complete each sentence with trip, travel or journey.
	1 I'll get some brochures today and we can start planning our holiday. 2 Tom is away on a business all week. 3 It's a rather difficult overnight to the mountains but it's well worth it. 4 I prefer to arrange my holidays myself rather than use a agent. 5 On Saturday we went on a day to an interesting old castle. 6 Was it a tiring from Seoul to Los Angeles? 7 On summer weekends we often used to go on camping 8 Do you use a special firm to arrange business for your staff? 9 Do you make your own arrangements or does your secretary do it all? 10 I hope your flight is on time tomorrow. Safe! See you at the airport.
14.2	Complete these sentences.
	 We couldn't a reservation; all the hotels were booked. As I've got long legs, I usually ask for an seat on a long flight, but on the flight to New York I had a seat and I got a great view of Manhattan as we came in, even though I didn't have much leg-room. We're only scheduled to have about half an hour in Dubai, so I hope we don't miss our flight. They seem to have much better in-flight on that airline; they have the latest films and you can play video games. Passengers must their seatbelts before take-off and landing. Passengers with seats in rows 1 to 25 are now invited to the plane. The Principality Hotel was ratherdown and we were very disappointed. You can spend a lot of money and stay in a hotel or you can look for budget
14.3	Answer these questions about travel collocations.
	 1 What is the opposite of a smooth flight? 2 Which of these two kinds of flight do most people prefer and why? 3 What do we call a flight which is not a <i>charter</i> flight? 4 What do airlines often provide for passengers to read? 5 What is the difference between a business trip and business travel? 6 What is the opposite of outward journey? 7 If a hotel is family-run, is it especially trying to attract families as guests?
14.4	Write about 100 words describing a recent personal travel experience. Use the collocations from this unit.

Over to you

Next time you fly, look at the signs at the airports you pass through, which are often in English as well as the local language(s). Find and make a note of three useful collocations.

Writing about the landscape

From my room I look out over the **surrounding countryside**. It's very different from the **familiar landscape** I see from the windows at home. At home it's a **gentle landscape**¹ with **open fields**². Here it's a **bleak landscape** with **rocky mountains** in the distance.

Yesterday we followed a path down to the lake. As we turned a corner, we caught a glimpse of³ a kingfisher standing in the water. John tried to take a picture⁴ of it but it caught sight of us and flew off. A little further on we rounded a bend⁵ and St John's Abbey came into view. The Abbey fell into ruin⁶ about three hundred years ago. Although it lies in ruins, it is well worth seeing as it stands in a dramatic setting on a steep slope beside a fast-flowing river with mountains towering⁷ above it.

The cottage is in some wonderful **unspoilt countryside**⁸ on the edge of a **dense forest**⁹. Unfortunately the trees **block the view** of the **snow-covered mountains**. It has a little garden with a stream at the end of it. The **stream winds**¹⁰ through the forest. They wanted to build a timber factory here but the local people said that it would **destroy the countryside** and, fortunately, their campaign to **protect the environment** succeeded.

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B

The language of tourism

collocation	example
uninterrupted view	From most rooms there are uninterrupted views of the castle. [nothing blocks the views of the castle]
panoramic view	From the top floor restaurant diners have a panoramic view of the countryside. [view over a very wide area]
spectacular view	From the balcony there is a spectacular view of the mountains. [very dramatic view]
enjoy/admire a view	We stopped for a few minutes to admire the view.
breathtaking scenery	The area has some breathtaking scenery – mountains, cliffs, lakes. [extremely striking and beautiful views]
dominate the landscape	The castle dominates the landscape for miles around. [can be seen from a long way away]
beach stretches	A beautiful beach stretches for miles along the coast.
sandy beach	The hotel has its own sandy beach .
secluded beach	You'll love the secluded beaches. [without many people]
golden sands	You can wander for miles along the golden sands .
peaceful/tranquil countryside	You can quickly go from the hustle and bustle of the town to the tranquil countryside. [formal]

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¹ a landscape with nothing extreme or threatening about it

² fields uninterrupted by woods or houses

³ saw for a moment

⁵ turned a corner

⁷ mountains rising dramatically

⁴ take a photo

⁶ became a ruin

⁸ countryside that has not been changed by industry or modern buildings

⁹ thick forest

¹⁰ makes lots of bends, doesn't flow in a straight line

15.1 Look at A. Complete the collocations to fit these pictures.







1	Near the lake there is an old house that	ruin about a hundred
	years ago. It stands in a lovely landscape, surrounded by	fields.

- 3 We walked through a forest; it was very dark among the trees.

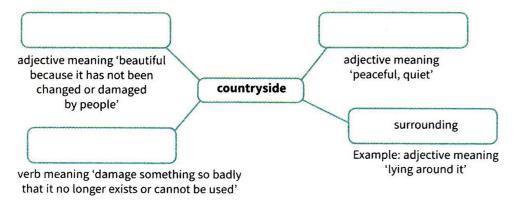
15.2 Correct the underlined collocation errors in this paragraph.

A chain of <u>snowy</u> mountains runs down the east of the country. The Wassa River, the country's biggest, <u>dances</u> slowly from the northern mountains to the sea. Even in summer it is a <u>sour</u> landscape, with its dark, <u>stony</u> mountains and its cold streams. But for me it is the <u>family</u> landscape of my childhood and I am happy that the government has decided to <u>guard</u> this environment. It is a dramatic <u>set</u> which is <u>a lot</u> worth visiting for anyone who likes <u>spectacle</u> views.

15.3 Choose the correct collocation.

- 1 We made / took / put a lot of photographs because it was such a beautiful day.
- 2 As I returned / turned the corner I made / caught / took a glimpse of the house through the trees.
- 3 A long sanded / sandy beach reached / ran / stretched for miles in front of us.
- 4 Unfortunately, the new hotel blocks / jams / stops the view of the castle.

15.4 Complete this collocation web for countryside.



15.5 Replace the words in brackets in each sentence with one word which collocates with the underlined word.

- 1 It's a beautiful town and the countryside (which is all around it) is even more beautiful.
- 2 The tower (is the most important and visible thing on) the landscape. From the top of the tower, you get a view (which allows you to see a very wide stretch) of the surrounding area.
- 3 There are lovely beaches (with very few people on them).
- 4 We travelled through some scenery (which was extremely exciting and beautiful).
- 5 From the windows of our villa we had <u>views</u> (which were continuous, without any obstacles,) of the lakes and mountains.

Describing towns and cities for visitors

Look at these extracts from a magazine article about tourist cities.



The **city skyline** is a wonderful mix of old and new, and the city itself has a lot of busy, narrow **cobbled**¹ **streets**. The old town is a **conservation area** and it has a lot of **quaint**² **old buildings** dating back to the city's foundation in the 1500s.

¹ made of a regular pattern of stones ² attractive because of being unusual and especially old-fashioned

Doradella Street has a lot of upmarket³ shops and rather pricey⁴, sometimes overpriced, restaurants, but not far away is the Genasia district, where you'll find restaurants which offer good value and a more relaxed atmosphere.



³ for people with expensive tastes ⁴ expensive, in a negative sense



Royal Avenue runs from north to south, and is **lined with shops**. Behind it, the streets are full of **lively bars** and **fashionable clubs**. The **pavement cafés** and shops of Luna Square are pleasant but very expensive.

As you drive into the city, the **tree-lined avenues** of the **residential areas** are soon replaced by the **high-rise flats** of the **inner city**⁵. Then come the **imposing buildings** of the Parliament and government departments.



⁵ central part of a city where poorer people live and where there are often social problems

B

Towns and cities and their problems

Here are some descriptions of the more negative aspects of towns and cities.

Some of the **inner-city areas are** an **urban wasteland**¹ and are somewhat dangerous for visitors. In fact some streets have become **no-go**² **areas**, with high crime. Many streets are **strewn with litter** and there are numerous **run-down**³ **buildings**. There are some **deprived**⁴ **areas** round the city centre with huge social problems. The **industrial zones** which lie on the edge of the city are grey and polluted.

Triope is a sprawling⁵ city with bumper-to-bumper⁶ traffic all day long. The exhaust fumes can be a nightmare. The volume of traffic has increased in recent years and the incessant roar⁷ of trucks and buses makes the city centre an extremely noisy place. The comfortable suburbs⁸ away from the city centre contrast sharply with the poor shanty towns⁹ one sees on the way to the airport.

¹ a city area which is empty and in a bad condition

² where the police and other authorities are afraid to enter

³ in very bad condition

⁴ not having the things that are necessary for a pleasant life, e.g. enough money, good living conditions

⁵ spread over a large area (slightly negative)

⁶ so many cars and so close that they are almost touching each other

⁷ very loud noise which never stops

⁸ a place from which many people travel in order to work in a bigger town or city

⁹ very poor houses made of discarded materials (e.g. tin, cardboard, plastic, etc.)

16.1 Which of the collocations in A opposite do these photos illustrate?









16.2 Which of the collocations in the box have a positive meaning (+) and which have a negative meaning (-)?

relaxed atmosphe	ere lively bar	over-priced res	taurants	urban wa	asteland
no-go area im	posing building	shanty town	fashiona	able club	run-down buildings

16.3 Answer these questions using collocations from the opposite page.

- 1 What might prevent you from sleeping in a house near a busy motorway?
- 2 Exhaust fumes will get worse if what increases?
- 3 What is the opposite of a restaurant which is good value?
- 4 What kind of area with poor, home-made houses could certainly be called a deprived area?
- 5 If an area is very interesting historically, what may it officially be called?
- 6 What is another way of saying an expensive restaurant?
- 7 What do we call blocks of flats which have many storeys, perhaps 20 or more?
- 8 What adjective could be used about an attractive and perhaps slightly unusual old building?

16.4 Match the beginning of each sentence on the left with its ending on the right.

- 1 It is a sprawling
- 2 It is full of upmarket
- 3 There was bumper-to-bumper
- 4 I get asthma from the terrible exhaust
- 5 I live in a residential
- 6 Some of the more deprived
- 7 The main street in town
- 8 The main street is lined
- 9 On the outskirts are some industrial
- 10 The streets were strewn

traffic all the way to the airport.

runs from the castle to the river.

zones and some large supermarkets.

with shops and cafés.

city covering an enormous area.

with litter.

area but work in the city centre.

areas are not far from the city centre.

fumes in the city centre.

shops, which are too expensive for me.

Over to you

Find a description in an encyclopaedia, tourist brochure or guide book of a city that you know well or are interested in. Make a note of any interesting collocations that you find there.

People: character and behaviour

A Your month of birth and your character

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Astrological Forecast

January You are good company¹ but you may have a selfish streak².

February You have an outgoing personality and a good sense of humour.

March You have a vivid imagination, but you tend to lose your temper too easily.

April You are highly intelligent with a razor-sharp mind.

May You set high standards for yourself and are fiercely³ loyal to your friends.

June The best aspect of your personality is the way you always put others first.

July Although you can be painfully shy in social situations, at work you give the impression of being supremely confident.

August You have a tendency to make snap decisions⁴.

September You have a strong sense of responsibility and always keep your word⁵.

October You are good at keeping secrets and never bear a grudge⁶.

November You find it hard to keep your temper? if you think someone is making a fool out of you.

December You can be brutally honest⁹ and sometimes hurt others' feelings.

Behaviour: verb + noun collocations

collocation	example	comment
play a joke/trick	The children played a joke on the teacher by hiding under their desks before she came into the room.	NOT make a joke/trick
take a joke	Fortunately, the teacher could take a joke and didn't punish them.	= didn't mind a joke being played on her
swallow your pride	Isabella swallowed her pride and admitted that she was wrong.	= she did it even though it was embarrassing for her
throw a tantrum	The child threw a tantrum when I wouldn't buy him any sweets.	= behaved in a very uncontrolled manner
lose your patience	Finally I lost my patience and shouted at her.	= lost my temper, became angry
come to terms with	Nick has found it hard to come to terms with his illness.	= accept something psychologically
reveal your true character	Daniel's failure to support her has certainly revealed his true character .	opposite = conceal/hide your true character

Tip

Associating these collocations with people you know may help you to learn them.

¹ people enjoy being with you

² you sometimes act in a selfish way

³ stronger than extremely

⁴ quick decisions

⁵ do what you say you will do, keep your promises

⁶ resent for a long time bad things others have done to you

⁷ not get angry

⁸ trying to deceive or trick you

⁹ honest in a way that may hurt



- 17.1 Which of the collocations in A describe negatives aspects of character?
- 17.2 Add the missing words in these letters to a magazine where readers are discussing their and others' characters. You are sometimes given the first letter.

3	I know that I a tendency to a grudge, but I just can't forget something bad a friend did to me recently. She has a selfish s and doesn't care sometimes how much she my feelings. I am finding it increasingly hard to k my temper with her. But perhaps it might be better to l my temper and let her know how I really feel? Silvia M. I have always tried to temper and let her know how I really feel? Silvia M. I have always tried to afool out of you in front of other people, do those rules of friendship still apply? Stefan P. I'm a little shy with new people, though not p shy, but sometimes I think I the impression that I'm unfriendly. How can I convince people that I'm good c and worth getting to know? Tom W.	Should I talk about personal matters to my closest colleague at work? She is not very good at secrets and she has a very v imagination. She always promises not to tell other people, but I'm not sure she always her word. Jan H. My boyfriend has a really friendly, o personality and a great of humour. He's intelligent and has a sharp mind. The perfect man. We've been together now for a year, and I like him a lot, but don't love him any more. Should I be bhonest with him and tell him? Lydia T. I think a friend is destroying himself with drugs. I feel a for responsibility towards him. He has always been for social services, but I don't want to make a secrets and she is not very good at the police or social services, but I don't want to make a secrets and she is not very good at services, but I don't want to make a secrets and she is not very good at the police or social services, but I don't want to make a secrets and she is not very good at services, but I don't want to make a secrets and she is not very good at services, but I don't want to make a secrets and she is not very good at services, but I don't want to make a secrets and she is not very good at services, but I don't want to make a secrets and she is not very good at secrets and she is not very good at secrets and she has a very very good at secrets and she has a very very good at secrets and she has a very very good at secrets and she has a very very good at secrets and she has a very very good at the police of secrets and she has a very very good at the police of secrets and she has a very very good at the police of secrets and she has a very very good at the police of secrets and she has a very very good at the police of secrets and she has a very very good at the police of secrets and she has a very very good at the police of secrets and she has a very very good at the police of secrets and she has a very very good at the police of secrets and she has a very very good at the police of secrets and she has a very very good and she has a very very go
17.	1 A: Charlie's found it hard to accept psych B: Yes, he's found it hard	iologically the fact that he's now divorced with his new situation. en people play jokes on him, can he? inly showed the truth about her. s of both herself and her children. his feet when I tried to put him to bed.

- 17.4 Look in your dictionary. Can you find any other collocations ...
 - 1 ... where word has the meaning of promise?
 - 2 ... where temper relates to behaviour?
 - 3 ... where sense of ... relates to an aspect of character?

People: physical appearance

Words describing people's physical appearance

Read these quotations taken from essays where students were asked to describe their family members.



My father has a round face and a droopy moustache. My mother has a more pointed face and a straight nose. My younger sister is more like my father. She has an oval² face and an upturned nose. My older sister is like a model. She has a slim figure and a slender³ waist. She has a lovely complexion⁴ and beautiful sleek⁵, shoulder-length hair, and she's always immaculately groomed⁶. I feel so ordinary next to her - I've got coarse hair and rather broad hips, but she always says I look nice.

My father and my two older brothers are all well-built8 with broad shoulders. My father is going bald but he still has a very youthful appearance for someone who is over forty. My brothers both have thick hair and bushy9 eyebrows. My younger brother is only two, but he's very cute, with chubby cheeks 10. My mother's side of the family mostly have dark hair - in fact my mother had jet-black hair when she was younger, before she went grey but on my father's side, some have fair hair and some have ginger¹² hair.

More collocations describing appearance

A short, **dumpy woman** was selling flowers at a stall on the street corner. [short and quite fat woman; used more often of women than of men. This collocation is slightly negative, so be careful how you use it.]

A **portly gentleman** answered the door. [fat and round; usually used of middle-aged and older men]

A lanky youth was standing at the street corner. [tall and thin and tending to move awkwardly]

I wouldn't like people to see me with dishevelled hair and dirty clothes. [very untidy; used of people's hair and appearance]

He bears a striking resemblance to his father. [looks remarkably like]

The lady who entered the room had a very striking appearance. [unusual appearance, in a positive, attractive sense

Tip

Sometimes words are very restricted in what they can collocate with. The colour adjectives blonde, ginger and auburn¹ are only used of people's hair (not, for example, their clothes or other objects). When a word has restricted collocations, make a special note in your vocabulary notebook. ¹reddish brown

¹ long and hanging down heavily

² shaped like an egg

³ attractively slim (a rather formal, poetic word)

⁴ the natural colour and quality of a person's skin

⁵ smooth and shiny

⁶ her appearance is always tidy and looked after with great care

⁷ rough, and not smooth or soft

⁸ have strong, attractive bodies

⁹ very thick ¹⁰ fat in a pleasant and attractive way

¹¹ completely black

¹² a red or orange-brown colour; used of people's hair

18.1 Put the words from the box into the 'fat' or 'thin' column, then answer the questions.

portly	lanky	slender	dumpy	slim	chubby	
L						

'fat' words	'thin' words

- 1 Which words could be used to describe someone's waist?
- 2 Which word is likely to be used of a rather physically awkward young person?
- 3 Which word means 'fat but in a pleasant way'?
- 4 Which word is more likely to be used to describe a man rather than a woman?
- 5 Which word is more likely to be used to describe a woman rather than a man?

18.2 Look at B. Then match the adjectives in the first box below with the nouns in the second box.

bushy	oval	strikinį	g broad	droopy	chubby	dishevelled	
cheeks	mous	tache	shoulders	hair	eyebrows	resemblance	face

18.3 Fill the gaps with appropriate collocations. You are sometimes given the first letter(s).

I hadn't seen Owe	n since he was just a baby,	so I was surprised to see that he was now a
tall young man. He	e was (1) im	gr, smart and elegant. He
was with a pretty	young woman with (2) j	black, (3) shoulder
had such a (5) str	ap	
(6) s	wa With	them was a (7) po
g,	who looked as though he	enjoyed good food, and who was probably
her father. When I	introduced myself to Ow	en, he smiled. 'Of course, I remember you,'
he said. 'You used	to work with my father. E	But you haven't aged at all! You have a
much more (8) y	a	than my father now does. Dad has
(9)	very grey.' I felt very plea	sed when he said that; he obviously didn't
notice I was begin young when they		bald. Everyone likes to think they look

18.4 Use the words from the box to fill the gaps to give contrasting meanings.

	round	coarse	upturned	fair	pointed	straight	dark	sleek
1	Her hai	r's not	, i	t's quite		, in fact	it's almos	st black.
			nose but					
3	Her mo	ther has a	fa	ce but h	er father has	a	face.	
4	My hair	is so	and ug	ly; Sally'	s is so	and lo	vely.	

Over to you

Think of a relative or friend of yours. Write a short description using collocations from this unit.

Family relationships

Sociologists talk about **nuclear** and **extended families**. A **nuclear family** is just parents and children. An **extended family** is a wider network including grandparents, cousins, etc.

Close relatives are those like parents, children, brothers or sisters. Distant relatives are people like second cousins [the children of a cousin of your mother or father] or distant cousins.

Close/immediate family refers to people who are your nearest blood relatives:

I don't have much close/immediate family.

She's a distant cousin of mine; she's not a blood relative.

Close can also be used to mean that the relationship is a very strong one:

We are a very close family. or We are a very close-knit family.

These adjectives also collocate with family:

loving, respectable, dysfunctional [unhappy, not working in a healthy way]

Henry came from a respectable family, so Ella's parents felt happy about the marriage.

Someone's late husband/wife is one who has died.

An **estranged** [formal] **husband/wife** is one who lives in a different place and has a difficult relationship with their husband/wife. They may be having a **trial separation** and may eventually decide to **get a divorce**. In some cases it can be a **bitter/acrimonious divorce**. [full of anger, arguments and bad feeling]

A person's ex-husband/ex-wife is a man/woman that she/he used to be married to.

Children whose parents have separated or divorced are said to come from a **broken home**. If their family is a strong, loving one it can be called a **stable home**. If it is a poor one, not having the things that are necessary for a pleasant life, such as enough money, food or good living conditions, it can be called a **deprived home**.

A confirmed bachelor is a man who seems to have no intention of ever marrying.

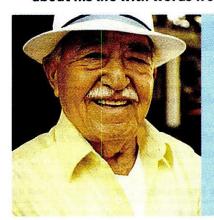
B

Parents and children

collocation	example	comment
start a family	They are hoping to start a family soon.	NOT begin a family
have children	I'd like to have three children.	NOT get children
expect a baby	Astrid is expecting a baby.	NOT wait (for) a baby
have a baby	Alyssa had her baby yesterday.	NOT get a baby
the baby is due	The baby is due next week.	= expected to arrive
single parent/mother	It's hard being a single parent .	may be either unmarried or divorced
raise / bring up children / a family	Violet had to bring up four young children on her own.	Raise a family is more common in US than in UK English.
apply for custody of give/grant [formal] custody	The father applied for custody of the children, but the judge gave/granted custody to the mother.	custody: the legal right or duty to care for a child after its parents have separated or died
provide for your family	Nico works very long hours to provide for his family.	= to earn enough money to support your family
set up home	We live with my mum now, but we'll set up home on our own soon.	= to start an independent life in one's own flat or house



19.1 Fill the gaps in this old man's memories about his life with words from A.



I grew up in an (1) _______ family as my grandparents and a couple of aunts and an uncle, who was a (2) _______ bachelor, lived with us. We saw a lot of our (3) ______ relatives as well as our close ones. I think that families tended to be much more (4) ______ then – we talked to each other more and did things together more. I'm sure there are far more (5) ______ families now than there used to be – you know, where parents hardly spend any time with their children, or with each other – and a lot of parents who are divorced. My (6) ______ wife, who died two years ago, used to say that it is not fair on children to let them grow up in (7) ______ homes.

19.2 Look at B. Correct the six collocation errors in this young woman's plans for the future. James and I are hoping to begin a family soon. We both want to get lots of children. Ideally, I'd like to have my first baby next year, when I'll be 32. My sister is waiting a baby now. It's coming next month. She's going to be a sole parent and it'll be hard for her to grow up a child on her own.



19.3 Match the two parts of these collocations.

1 apply for cousin 2 get separation 3 estranged custody 4 nuclear home 5 provide for wife 6 distant family your family 7 set up 8 trial a divorce

19.4 Answer these questions.

- 1 Who do you have in your immediate family?
- 2 Do you have much contact with your distant relatives? If so, when?
- 3 Where did your parents first set up home?
- 4 Which would most children prefer to live in, and why, a stable home or a deprived home?
- 5 What collocation means the same as to be pregnant?
- 6 Can dysfunctional families also be respectable ones?
- 7 What can be put before the words wife and husband to indicate that they are no longer married to someone?
- 8 What is a more formal alternative for give custody?

19.5 Write a paragraph about your own family using as many as possible of the collocations from this unit.

Over to you

Read some English-language women's magazines and note down any other interesting family collocations that you find.

Friendship

Here are some common collocations relating to friends and friendship.

collocation	example	comment
make friends	When you go to university you will make a lot of new friends .	NOT find friends (a common student error)
strike up a friendship	Nathan struck up a friendship with a girl he met on holiday.	= start a friendship
form/develop a friendship	Audrey formed a lasting friendship with the boy she sat next to at primary school.	NOT make a friendship
cement/spoil a friendship	Spending several weeks on holiday together has cemented their friendship .	cement = strengthen spoil = have a bad effect on
a friendship grows	We were at school together, but our friendship grew after we'd left school.	grow = get stronger
close/special friends mutual friends	I'm glad that our children are such close friends , aren't you?	mutual friends = friends that you share with someone else
a casual acquaintance	I don't know Santiago well. We're just casual acquaintances.	= someone you know a little
have a good relationship with someone	Anna and Samantha have a very good relationship . They love doing things together.	NOT have a relation / relations with
keep in contact/touch	We must keep in contact when the course ends.	opposite = lose contact/ touch

B

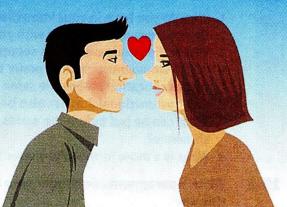
More than just good friends A love story

A LOVE STORY

مرجع زبان ايرانيان

I fell madly in love with Anton from the moment I met him. It was certainly love at first sight. I knew at once that he was the love of my life but at first I was not sure if my love was returned or not.

Within a few days, however, he had told me that he was **desperately in love** with me too. A couple of weeks later, we realised that we wanted to **make a commitment** to each other and, when Anton asked me to marry him, I immediately **accepted his proposal**. I'm sure we will always **love each other unconditionally**¹. Neither of us would ever consider **having an affair**² with someone else.



¹ love that is total and does not change regardless of what you or the **object of your love** does

² having a sexual relationship with someone outside marriage

20.1 Look at A. Choose an appropriate word to complete each sentence.

- 1 Ellie is quite a shy person and finds it hard to _____ friends.
- 2 Do Matthew and Emilya good relationship?
- 3 Alex is alwaysup friendships with people he meets on trains and planes.
- 4 I hope their disagreement over the bill won't their friendship.
- 5 It's amazing, when you meet someone new, how often you find that you have some
- 6 Apparently, people most of their closest friendships when they are young.
- 7 I wouldn't call Graham a close friend, more a casual
- 8 We didn't really like each other at first, but our friendshipas we got to know each other better.

20.2 Make nine collocations out of the words in the box. Use each of the words once only.

affair an at commitment contact a accept contact first friends friendship lose make love love proposal return sight someone's special strike up

20.3 Answer these questions about the collocations on the opposite page.

- 1 Which verb suggests that friendship can be seen as a plant?
- 2 Which collocation suggests that love is close to being crazy?
- 3 Which collocation from the love story means agree to marry someone?
- 4 Which collocation means the same as special friends?
- 5 Which collocation means the same as keep in contact with?

20.4 Complete these questions. Then answer them.

- 1 Have you ever fallen in love at first ______?2 Do you think it's true that men are more reluctant to ______ a commitment than women?
- 3 How old were you when you _____ in love for the first time?
- 4 Do you think it is possible to have one person who is the love of your _____?
- 5 Have you ever been in love with someone who has not _______your love?

20.5 Look up these words in your dictionary. Note down two more good collocations for each one.

love friend friendship relationship



B

Houses, flats and rooms

A Finding somewhere to live

Short-let¹
accommodation
available near
university.

Rooms and studio flats²
Tel: 899544

Are you looking to move into a flat or house next term?
The Harmer Agency has a wide range of suitable accommodation.

Call us on 4446677

Newly-built apartment available soon. Spacious accommodation, **fully-fitted kitchen³**. **Off-road parking.** To let furnished or unfurnished. Would suit single academic or mature student. Tel: 3215786.

Reply

Fully furnished flat available to rent from 1st September. Quiet residential area.

£800 per calendar month Tel: 897633 after 5 pm.

³ kitchen that is already equipped with modern cooker, washing machine, cupboards, etc.

Forward

Describing your house/flat/room

Hi Mila, Luke and I have just mov

Luke and I have just moved into our dream home. It's a big old four-storey house. It's got a spacious living room which has a wonderful view of the park, and a cosy study where we can both work. And there are some lovely light, airy bedrooms which overlook the garden.

There is a separate **basement flat**, which we might **turn into a granny flat** for my mother. And if we want to **add an extension**¹ there's room for that too. It needs to be **completely refurbished**, but Luke and I have always wanted to **do up**² **an old house**.

Come and visit.

Love, Julia



Hi Julia,

You're so lucky! I'd love to move out of my awful one-room flat. It's in such a dilapidated building. You go into a draughty hall, down a chilly corridor and into this really cramped room. I want to buy a place of my own but there's a shortage of affordable housing here and I don't want to take out a big mortgage. I'd love to see your house. I hope you'll invite me to your house-warming party.

Big hug, Mila

1 we can also say **build an extension** = build an extra room or two onto an existing house

² repair, repaint and decorate (a house)

Collocations with home

She **left home** to go to university, but moving away from her family made her **feel homesick**.

Peter's back from a year abroad. His family are throwing a party to welcome him home.

(To a guest who's just arrived) Come in and **make yourself at home** while I finish getting dinner ready. [relax and make yourself comfortable]

I haven't lived in Oxford for long but I already **feel at home** here.

I'd like to buy a **second home** near the coast. [house used only for weekends, holidays, etc.]

21.1 Answer these questions using collocations from A.

- 1 What kind of accommodation would suit a student who has no furniture of his or her own?
- 2 What kind of accommodation would suit someone who is only going to be in a place for three months?
- 3 What part of town would you want to live in if you wanted to be somewhere where there are lots of private houses and no factories or other work places?
- 4 What kind of accommodation would suit a young single person who would prefer to live alone rather than to share?
- 5 If accommodation doesn't have its own garage, what else might it have to make life easier for carowning residents?
- 6 If you are moving into a new unfurnished house, but don't need to take a washing machine, cooker or fridge with you, what does the house have?

21.2 Look at B. Match the beginning of each sentence on the left with its ending on the right.

1 We want to turn our garage into a house-warming party. 2 Harper has invited me to her mortgage. 3 Next week I have to move out of my own. 4 Xavier makes a business out of doing up granny flat. 5 Our bedroom overlooks my flat. 6 Our house needs to be completely the garden. 7 I hope that one day I'll have a place of old houses. 8 The bank can help if you want to take out a refurbished.

21.3 Correct the collocation errors in these sentences.

- 1 We live on a busy road, but we're lucky because we have off-road park.
- 2 Gemma has moved off from her old flat and has now got a new place in Walville Street.
- 3 We're building an expansion to our house which will give us a bigger kitchen.
- 4 The flat is totally furnished, which is good because I have no furniture of my own.
- 5 She had to get out a big mortgage as the house was very expensive.
- 6 There is no buyable housing for young people in this area; prices are ridiculously high.
- 7 New people have entered into the house next door. I haven't met them yet.
- 8 It's a very spatial apartment with a huge living room and a big kitchen.
- 9 The flat is accessible to rent from the first of March onwards.
- 10 My brother and his wife live in a windy old cottage.

21.4 Replace the underlined words with collocations from the opposite page.

Riverview Dream at Highdale Cottages

<u>The home you've always imagined</u> could be waiting for you at Highdale Cottages. All cottages <u>let you see</u> the River Marn. Ideal for anyone seeking a <u>house used only for weekends or holidays</u> in the area.

Telephone 3340251 for appointments to view.

21.5 Complete these sentences using collocations from C opposite.

1	Lila's been away a whole year and now she's back. We must have a party to
	Our son lives at home right now but he'll be 21 soon. He'll finish university and then he'll
	probably

3	I've lived	here almost	a year now and	d I'm roally l	ooginning to
-	i ve liveu	licie allilosi	a veal illivy all	I I III I HAUV I	HOURING IN

1	I'll leave the kove to my	flat with the neighbour.	lust me in and
4	i il leave the keys to my	tiat with the neighbour	liist on in and

5	Alexis thought she would miss her friends and family when she started her new job in Rome but
	she soon found she had no time to

Eating and drinking

A

Talking about types of food

Tom: Kids eat far too much junk food.

Lucy: Yeah, but it's hard to get them to eat **nourishing meals**¹. They think they're boring.

¹ meals which make you healthy and strong

Sergio: Have you tried the new supermarket yet?

Jim: Yes. The **fresh produce**² is excellent, and they have a big **organic food** section.

Sergio: Mm, yes. I actually think their **ready meals**³ are good too.

² foods produced from farming, e.g. dairy produce, agricultural produce; pronounced /'prodju:s/

³ meals already prepared or which just need to be heated quickly before eating

Liam: I can't believe **food additives**⁴ are good for our long-term health.

Ryan: No, and I think **processed foods**⁵ in general are probably bad for us, not to mention **GM foods**⁶!

⁴ substances added to food to improve its taste or appearance or to preserve it

⁵ foods which are changed or treated as part of an industrial operation

⁶ genetically modified foods

Stella: The restaurant was leaving **perishable food**⁷ lying round outside the fridge, and

some people got **food poisoning**, so the authorities closed it down.

Jaxon: Oh dear.

⁷ food which goes bad quickly, e.g. cheese, fish

B

Eating and drinking

Eva and Leo are in the Old Port restaurant area looking for somewhere to eat.



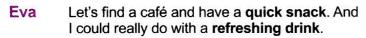
OLD PORT

Whether it's a light meal or a substantial meal you're looking for, whether you want a slap-up meal, a gourmet meal or just tasty, home-cooked food, there's something for everyone in the Old Port restaurant area. Enjoy good food in a pleasant setting.



¹ large ² unusually large and good

³ high-quality



Leo I'm dying of hunger! I need a decent meal.

Eva I know you have a healthy appetite, but you had a hearty breakfast only three hours ago! Well, how about having a soft drink and a bag of crisps now, and a proper lunch later?

Leo Crisps will only spoil your appetite. Look, this restuarant looks good and the set menu is reasonably priced. Let's go in.

Common mistakes

We say **international food/cuisine**, NOT world-wide food/cuisine. A Chinese/ Mexican/French **meal** is what you eat in a restaurant. When referring in general to the food of a country or culture we say Chinese/Mexican/French **food/cooking/cuisine**.

22.1 Match the words on the left with their collocations on the right.

1 set additives 2 food food 3 junk produce 4 ready menu 5 fresh meals

22.2 Complete these sentences using the collocations from exercise 22.1 to fill the gaps.

1	such as artificial flavours and colouring can cause allergies
	may be unhealthy, but it's quick and easy and fills you up.
3	People who don't have much time to cook often buy from
	the supermarket.
4	It's always better to buy instead of canned or frozen foods.
5	The is usually cheaper than ordering dishes separately in a
	restaurant.

22.3 Read these remarks by different people, then answer the questions.

Logan: I've got some cheese and milk. Is there a fridge here I could put them in?

Connor: I feel so hungry! I can't believe it!

Layla: I've been sick and my stomach is aching. Must be something I ate.

Michael: No matter how much I eat, I always want more.

Scarlett: All these vegetables have been grown without any chemicals at all.

Bella: I always enjoy my food and look forward to it.

PART MEDICANIA PROPERTY	name
1 Who has organic food?	
2 Who has an insatiable appetite?	
3 Who has perishable food?	
4 Who has a healthy appetite?	
5 Who has food poisoning?	
6 Who is dying of hunger?	

22.4 Replace the underlined words with suitable collocations from the opposite page.

- 1 Foods which are changed or treated as part of an industrial operation may damage our health in the long term.
- 2 Some people always have three <u>full</u>, <u>satisfying meals</u> a day, but I prefer a <u>large breakfast</u> and then a <u>small meal</u> around midday and a more <u>sizeable meal</u> in the evening.
- 3 There are some overpriced restaurants in the city centre, but down at the beach, there are some nice, not too expensively priced ones.
- 4 On my birthday my parents took me out for a <u>big, good meal</u>. They wanted to go for a <u>very high</u> <u>quality meal</u> but I said I'd prefer something more ordinary.
- 5 Iced tea is a <u>drink that cools you and makes you feel less tired</u> on a hot day, and is probably better for you than <u>non-alcoholic drinks</u> such as cola or lemonade.
- 6 Let me take you out to dinner on your birthday. Or would you prefer a <u>meal prepared at home</u>? I could make dinner for you at my place.

Films and books

A

Talking about films and books

When a new book or film comes out, newspapers and websites, like BookLikes and IMDb, will review it. The people who review the book/film are called book reviewers / film critics and they write book/film reviews. If they don't like a book/film they give it a bad review. We can say that a novel or film is based on a true story. We say that a book/film captures an atmosphere or that a book/film deals with a topic. We talk about the opening/closing scenes of a film and the opening/closing chapters of a book. We talk about the beginning and end of a book/film (NOT start and finish). If everything works out well for the central characters, we say that the book/film has a happy ending. You may recommend a book/film that you enjoyed to a friend. If a lot of people have enjoyed it, it is highly recommended.

В

Just about films and acting

I've never had any desire to **go on the stage**¹ myself but I'd love to produce a film. I think historical dramas work particularly well on **the big screen**² and I'd love to make a film about Vikings in Britain. There'd be plenty of opportunities to use **special effects**³ during battle scenes. I'd want the **male lead**⁴ to be played by Hugh Jackman, while Jennifer Lawrence could have the **female lead**. Liam Neeson could **play the role of** a Viking warrior and I'd like Judi Dench to take on a **cameo role**⁵. I'm sure that, as always, she would **give** an excellent **performance**. My dream is to make a film that would be **nominated for an Oscar**⁶. Of course, I'd also like it to be an immediate **box-office hit**⁷, playing to **full houses**⁸ worldwide.

- 1 become an actor
- ² the cinema
- ³ powerful visual effects, often created using technology
- 4 main male part

- ⁵ small but special part
- ⁶ put on the official list of people in the film world who may receive a special prize (an Oscar)
- ⁷ extremely successful with audiences
- ⁸ cinemas/theatres with no empty seats

Other strong collocations are **cast a film** [select the actors for a film], **star in a film**, **shoot a film**, **make a film**.

C

Just about books, audiobooks and e-books

collocation	example				
be engrossed/absorbed in a book	Claudia was so engrossed/absorbed in her book that she didn't hear me.				
compulsive reading	Many people find articles about the private lives of film stars compulsive reading. [so interesting you can't stop reading]				
bedtime reading	I don't think a horror story makes good bedtime reading .				
an easy read	Detective stories are good for train journeys as they're an easy read.				
download an audiobook / an e-book reader app	You can look up the latest book releases and download an audiobook from the iTunes store. I've just helped my mother download an e-book reader app on her tablet.				
flick/skim through a book	Mona flicked/skimmed through the book without reading it in detail.				
beautifully written	The book is beautifully written – I highly recommend it.				

Common mistakes

Critics **review** books and films, NOT criticise them. To *criticise* a book or film means to say negative things about it.

Remember that you watch television, NOT see television, but you can see or watch a film or programme on television. We usually say see a film at the cinema.

23.1 Use collocations from A opposite instead of the underlined words in this conversation. The conversation has no errors, but the changes will improve it.

Matthew: Have you downloaded that new e-book that has just appeared about Ireland?

Camilla: No, I don't use my e-book reader app much and I don't visit websites with

articles discussing new books. What's it about?

Matthew: Well, it concerns the Irish War of Independence. It's very authentic and it

manages to give the atmosphere of Ireland at the beginning of the 20th century.

Camilla: Is it just historical facts, then?

Matthew: No, the main people are two brothers who have different opinions about the

war and this divides their family. In the <u>first chapters</u> they're happy and do everything together, but by the <u>last chapter</u> they have become enemies.

Camilla: Mm, it sounds a bit depressing to me.

Matthew: Well, it certainly doesn't finish in a happy way, but I liked it, and it's

recommended very much by all the critics.

Camilla: So, a book with a pleasant start and a sad finish. Not for me, I'm afraid.

I prefer the opposite.

23.2 Complete the crossword.

1		2				
3					4	
	5					
	6					
		2004 - 51 55 750				
7						

Across

- 3 I was completely in my book and didn't realise how late it had got.
- 5 An alternative to 3 across.
- 6 He wants to go on the —. He's always wanted to be an actor.
- 7 Who played the male in *Destination Saturn*?

Down

- 1 role means 'small but special part in a film/play'.
- 2 The film was for an Oscar but it didn't win.
- 4 It was an amazing film about space travel, with fantastic special —.

23.3 Match the words in the box on the left with their collocations on the right.

full	big	bedtime	screen	rea	ding
female	bo	ox-office	lead	hit	house

23.4 Complete these collocations.

- 1 shoot / star in / make a
- 4 compulsive / bedtime

Over to you

Online bookshops, as well as book and film review websites, often have mini-reviews and descriptions of books and films. Find a review of a book or film that you know and note down any interesting collocations in it.

Describing music

The Year in Review: Music

Bloom *Music from the Centre of the Earth* (Palm records 234655)

New arrivals on the rock **music scene**, Bloom are already making a big impact. If you're looking for **background music**, then this is not for you, but if you want music to **blast out from**¹ your hi-fi and annoy the neighbours, then Bloom's **debut**² **album**, with tracks from their **live performance** at the Delaya Stadium, may be just what you want.

Johnny MacRoy Songs we loved (Kase Phonograph 488792)

For fans of **easy listening**³ and **catchy**⁴ **tunes**, this is all you need. In fact it's so relaxing you might just fall asleep. MacRoy **gives a** sentimental **performance** of these old love songs. At 47, he's not exactly a **pop idol** but his **adoring fans** will love it.

The Divide Amphibian (Fono Corp 3321978)

This is a rock symphony, an extraordinary **piece of music**. After their **massive hit** in 2015 with Megalith, their record company has **released** this album

hoping for another **big hit**. The band themselves wrote the music. They have a **huge following** and are due to **go on tour** later this year.

The Oxbridge Symphonia British classics old and new (Rotor Records 775537)

Haunting melodies and the occasional virtuoso performance from its two soloists mark this collection of popular British classical music, which aims to capture a wider audience for the classics and to promote Britain's musical heritage. Roger Crow conducts the orchestra. Crow himself composed two of the pieces, hence the title. Good birthday present for your uncle and aunt. But if you're a real classical music lover, save your money.

BUST-OUT WITH JOLA V BLAZE MAMA (Presto 58843)

Bust-out's new double album **features**⁶ **Jola V**, a young **rap**⁷ **artist** from Miami. Jola used to be with Chicago hip-hop band Frenzy, but **went solo** in 2015. The band have **remixed**⁸ four tracks from earlier albums and Jola's **up-tempo**⁹ numbers just add to the excitement



¹ sound extremely loud

- ⁶ includes as an important part
- ⁷ rock music in which rhymed lyrics are spoken over rhythm tracks
- ⁸ made a new version of a musical track

B

Playing music

I saw Martin **strumming a guitar** the other day. I didn't know he could play.



He can't. He just likes people to think he can. He's got no **musical talent** whatsoever.

I've **taken up the guitar**. I've had three lessons so far.



That's great.
I love live
music. What
can you play?

Well, the first week was all about tuning the instrument. I've got to play a piece for my teacher next week.

² presented to the public for the first time

³ music that is not serious or difficult

⁴ pleasant and easy to remember

⁵ extremely skilful

⁹ played at a fast beat

24.1 Change the underlined words using collocations from A so that each sentence has the opposite meaning.

- 1 The band's last album was a minor hit. (give two answers)
- 2 There are some great slow numbers on this new album.
- 3 The band has a small following of dedicated fans.
- 4 Music was playing quietly on the hi-fi when I entered the house.
- 5 Maria Plurosa gave a poor performance of Heder's violin concerto last night.

24.2 Correct the eight collocation errors in this paragraph. The first one is done for you.

For all folk music likers, Johnny Coppin's new album, *The Long Harvest*, published last week, will be a great addition to their collection. Johny recently got solo after five years with the folk band Blue Mountain. He is proud of the musical inheritance of his native Kentucky. Tracks 3 and 7 comprise his old friend Wiz Carter on guitar. With this album Coppin says he hopes to control a wider audience for folk music. His excellent living performance at the recent Lockwood Folk Festival suggests he has a good chance of succeeding. He makes a tour next month. Don't miss him.

1	lovers	
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		-
7		
8	***************************************	

24.3 What word(s) mean ...?

- 1 ... music that is playing while you are doing something else and not really listening to it?
- 2 ... music that is not complicated or difficult to listen to?
- 3 ... a pop musician who is a very big star with many fans?
- 4 ... a type of performer who speaks rhymed lyrics over rhythm tracks?
- 5 ... to tighten or loosen the strings of an instrument till they make the correct note?
- 6 ... a way of playing a guitar by moving your fingers across the strings?

24.4 Complete these sentences with suitable collocations.

Hundreds of _______ fans were waiting for Shamira to come out of the concert hall.
The orchestra gave a wonderful _______ of some popular classics.
It was a very ______ tune; you only had to hear it once and you were singing it.
I'd love to ______ a musical instrument but I don't have time.
It is one of those ______ melodies which you never forget, so beautiful, yet so sad.
There's a lot of musical ______ in the family; all the children play an instrument.

