

Adjective + Noun Collocations

Teacher's Notes

Description: Among the numerous things that native speakers of English take for granted is their instinctive ability to know which words sound right when used together. Unfortunately for our poor students, things aren't always so straightforward and simple. The exercises in this activity sheet help to familiarise students with some common Adjective + Noun Collocations, offering them fun and varied practice both alone and with a partner.

Aim: To practise Adjective + Noun Collocations through a series of written and communicative exercises.

Procedure: Give each student a copy of the two-page activity sheet.

Exercise A: Students begin by completing the Adjective + Noun Collocations in each sentence using one of the adjectives provided. They then chat with a partner and see if they can think of any other nouns that are often collocated with these adjectives.

answer key:

- | | | | | |
|-----------|---------|----------|-----------|----------|
| 1. strong | 2. bad | 3. heavy | 4. high | 5. long |
| 6. heavy | 7. high | 8. bad | 9. strong | 10. long |

Exercise B: Next, students match the adjectives with the nouns with which they are often collocated.

answer key:

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. e | 2. c | 3. b | 4. d | 5. g | 6. f | 7. a | 8. i | 9. j | 10. h |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|

Exercise C: Students then complete the Adjective + Noun Collocations in each sentence using a suitable noun.

answer key:

- | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. time | 2. salary | 3. effects | 4. news | 5. winds |
| 6. school | 7. smoker | 8. accident | 9. breath | 10. riser |

Exercise D: Following this, students complete the sentences using an Adjective + Noun Collocation from the previous page.

answer key:

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|---------------|------------------|------------------|---------------|
| 1. high cost | 2. good luck | 3. strong coffee | 4. double bed |
| 5. heavy rain | 6. upset stomach | 7. long way | |

Exercise E: Lastly, students complete the conversation questions using suitable Adjective + Noun Collocations. They then pair up with a classmate and ask them to each other.

answer key:

- | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. high salary | 2. side effects | 3. big mistake | 4. healthy diet |
| 5. private school | 6. early riser | 7. main course | |