

Ninth Lecture: Collocations & phrasal verbs :

By definition , phrasal verbs are collocations (two or more words that " go together ") , but not all collocations are phrasal verbs . A collocation is a general term referring to words that usually or always go together . A collocation can perform various functions in a sentence (i.e. act as different parts of speech) . Some examples are " bunch of flowers " or " commit a crime . " A phrasal verb is usually a combination of a verb + a preposition which usually changes the meaning from that of the original verb . For example , " put + up with " means to tolerate , while " put + up " means to return something to its original / proper position (especially when cleaning) , and " put + off " means to delay doing something until a later time . The preposition part of the phrasal verb changes the entire meaning , so it's good to memorize certain phrasal verbs in chunks of verb + prep . instead of just learning the definition of the verb , and then the preposition separately .

Collocations & idioms

On one hand , the term collocation refers to set of words that regularly seem within the same context . On the opposite hand , the term idiom simply means that an expression that functions as one unit and whose meaning cannot be found out from its separate components . So , collocations are words that naturally go together while idioms are words that form expressions when grouped together .

Collocations & compound nouns

Compound nouns are usually two or more words put together to create a new noun. Examples "sunflower, blackboard" etc. Whereas **collocations** are words or phrases which are commonly used together. Examples "heavy rainfall, deep sleep, to make bed" etc.

The collocation is a sequence or juxtaposition of words or terms that usually co-occur / go together in a sentence. For example, you make the bed, but you do your homework. But compound nouns or nominal compounds are different things. They are more than one simple word or primary word or base word or root word combine together to form a compound word.

For example,

(I) ready + made = readymade (compound adjective).

(ii) Full + fill = fulfil (compound verb).

(iii) Moon + light = moonlight (**compound noun or nominal compound**)

Compound nouns are also formed by simple words of different parts of speech:

He (pronoun) + goat (noun) = he-goat (compound noun)

Pick (verb) + pocket (noun) = pickpocket (compound noun)

Over (adverb) + production (noun) = over-production (compound noun).

Up (preposition) + keep (verb) = upkeep (compound noun).

In (preposition) + come (verb) = income (compound noun).

Draw (verb) + back (adverb) = drawback (compound noun).

Hear (verb) + say (verb) = hearsay (compound noun).

Sometimes a compound noun consists of three words. Such compound nouns usually have the following structure:

Noun + V-ing / V - p.p. + Noun.

e.g., God-fearing person (= Person who fears God).

Machine-made clothes (= Clothes made by machine).

Compound nouns can be written in different ways:

- 1) With no space between two words: footpath.
- 2) With hyphen: tea-set.
- 3) With space between the words: mango tree.
- 4) With hyphen between the first & the second words: Tea-growing area.
- 5) Without any hyphen: Calcutta bus routes.

Lexical & grammatical collocations

Lexical collocations consist of multi-word units with nouns, adjectives, verbs, and adverbs (e.g. verb-noun, adjective-noun, and verb-adverb).

Grammatical collocations are composed of a dominant word (e.g. noun, adjective, and verb) and a preposition or grammatical structures (e.g. noun-preposition, adjective-preposition).

So, a **lexical collocation** is a type of construction where a verb, noun, adjective or adverb forms a predictable connection with another word, as in:

- **adverb + adjective:** completely satisfied (NOT downright satisfied)
- **adjective + noun:** excruciating pain (NOT excruciating joy)
- **noun + verb:** lions roar (NOT lions shout)
- **verb + noun:** commit suicide (NOT undertake suicide)

A **grammatical collocation** is a type of construction where for example a verb or adjective must be followed by a particular preposition, or a noun must be followed by a particular form of the verb, as in:

- **verb + preposition:** depend on (NOT depend of)
- **adjective + preposition:** afraid of (NOT afraid at)
- **noun + particular form of verb:** strength to lift it (not strength lifting it)

Spelling and pronunciation

Spelling refers to the way we structure words visually (using letters of the alphabet), while **pronunciation** refers to the way in which these words are formed verbally (using different speech sounds). Both spelling and pronunciation are notorious aspects of English, as there are many inconsistencies, irregularities, and seemingly illogical aspects to how each is formed. To help make sense of them, we've divided this guide into four major chapters: The Alphabet, Spelling Conventions, Pronunciation Conventions, and Common Mistakes and Commonly Confused Words.

So, Spelling refers to the arrangement of letters in a word. On the other hand, pronunciation refers to the method of articulation or the method of articulating a particular word. This is the main difference between the two words. And it might be affecting that when you pronounce for spelling, you exaggerate the pronunciation of a word to make it easier to spell. For example, in casual speech we often pronounce the word different as "difrent", leaving out the second syllable.

Oral and written speech

Oral language is designed to be listened to and to sound conversational, which means that word choice must be simpler, more informal, and more repetitive. **Written language** uses a larger vocabulary and is more formal. Oral communication can be more effective because it involves carefully chosen words along with non-verbal gestures, movements, tone changes and visual cues that keep the audience captivated. The written word is more organized, more detailed and is presented in a logical order.