

What are Verb Collocations?

Worksheet

Verb collocations are verb-noun pairs that go together naturally, like 'make a decision', 'take action', or 'break the ice'.

Questions

1. "I ___ a big mistake when I forgot her birthday."
A) did
B) made
C) took
D) kept
2. "He ___ full responsibility for the project."
A) made
B) broke
C) took
D) kept
3. "The team ___ steady progress toward the goal."
A) made
B) took
C) kept
D) broke
4. "I need to ___ a decision before Friday."
A) take
B) keep
C) make
D) break
5. "I need to ___ a decision about my career."
6. "She always ___ her promises to her friends."
7. "Let's ___ the ice and introduce ourselves."
8. Define: make + ?
9. Define: take + ?
10. Define: break + ?

Answer Key

1. B) made — The natural collocation is 'make a mistake'. We don't say 'do a mistake'.
2. C) took — 'Take responsibility' is the correct collocation. 'Make responsibility' is unnatural.
3. A) made — 'Make progress' is the natural collocation used by native speakers.
4. C) make — 'Make a decision' is the correct verb collocation, not 'take' or others.
5. The collocation is 'make a decision'. Full sentence: "I need to make a decision about my career." Why: 'make' naturally pairs with 'decision'; you create or form a decision.
6. The collocation is 'keep a promise'. Full sentence: "She always keeps her promises to her friends." Why: 'keep' means to maintain or honor; it's the natural verb.
7. The collocation is 'break the ice'. Full sentence: "Let's break the ice and introduce ourselves." Why: 'break the ice' is an idiom meaning to start conversation in an awkward situation.
8. make a decision, make a mistake, make an effort, make progress
9. take action, take a chance, take responsibility, take time
10. break the ice, break a promise, break the law, break a record

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