

# COLLOCATIONS: RELATIONSHIPS (1)

## 1 COLLOCATIONS: THEORY

Read the theory about collocations and then complete the lesson plan.

### What is a collocation?

In English, we have the habit of using certain words together more often than others. These words that appear together are called collocations.

### Why are collocations important?

It is important to master collocations, as they will make your speech sound more natural. When you use collocations, your speech will be idiomatic; meaning you will sound more like a native speaker.

### Examples of common collocations

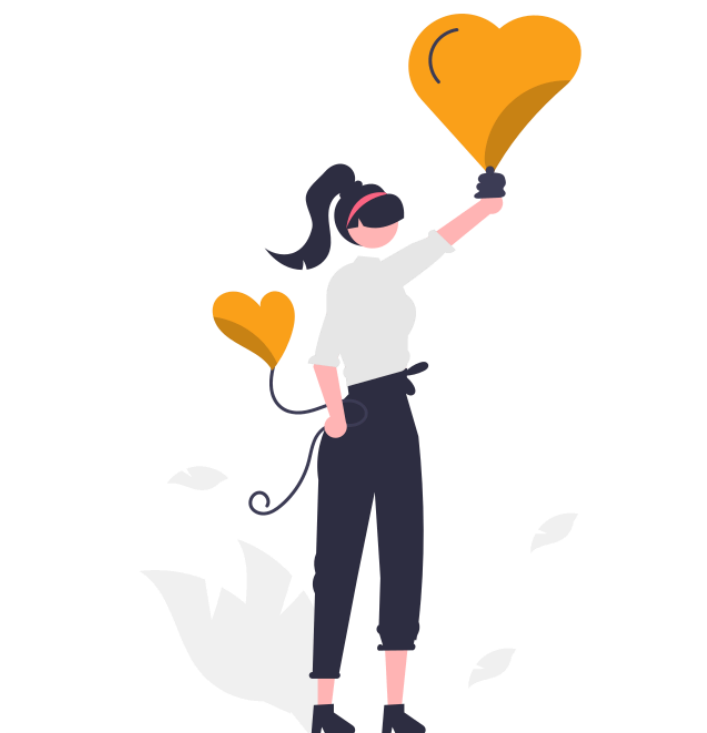
He needs to **do homework** tonight.

Let's take the subway - it'll **save time**.

If I cook, you need to **do the dishes**.

I'm going to ask him to **give me advice**.

Some people don't **take** enough **risks** in life.



## 2 GUESS THE MEANING

**Task:** Study the collocations. Work in pairs and try to figure out each collocation's meaning. You are not expected to know them all, but give it a go and have fun!

1. to make friends.

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2. casual acquaintances.

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3. close friends.

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4. love at first sight.

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5. strong chemistry.

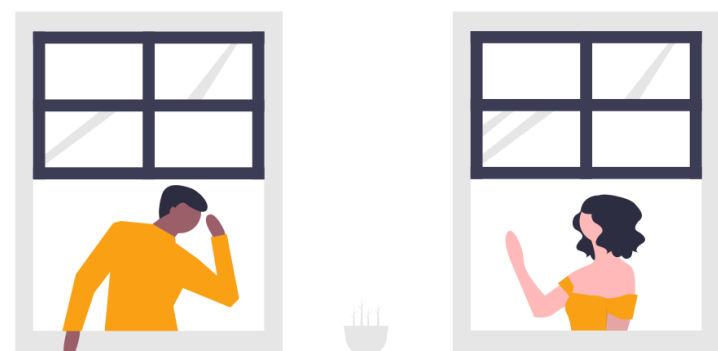
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6. soul mate.

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7. one's significant other.

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### 3 DEFINITIONS

**Task 1: Read the sentences below and match the phrases in bold to their meaning.**

1. When you move to a new city, it can be hard to **make friends**.
2. She doesn't have a lot of **casual acquaintances**, but she has some
3. Jack and Emily have been **close friends** since their university days.
4. Do you believe in **love at first sight**?
5. When two people fall in love, they have **strong chemistry**.
6. Some people believe that everyone has a **soul mate**.
7. Hopefully, your **significant other** is your soul mate.

**Meanings:**

- a. People you know casually or have met briefly without a deep connection. **2**
- b. People with whom you have a deep, strong, and trusted friendship. **3**
- c. Instantly feeling a strong romantic attraction towards someone. **4**
- d. Strong compatibility between two individuals. **5**
- e. A person with whom you share an unexplainable and deep connection, often considered as a perfect match. **6**
- f. A romantic partner with whom you are committed and share a serious and meaningful relationship. **7**
- g. To build connections and form relationships with people. **1**

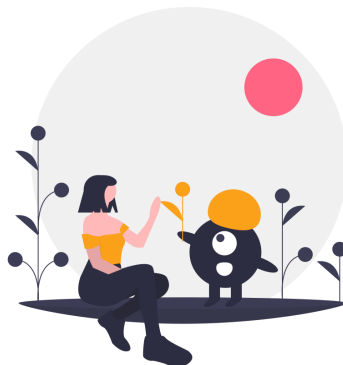
**Task 2: Work in pairs and create example sentences for each collocation, then share them with the class.**



## 4 COMPLETE THE SENTENCES

**Task: Complete the sentences by completing the collocations with the correct word.**

1. When I move to a new city, I love meeting people and making **friends**.
2. I have a lot of **casual** acquaintances from university.
3. They met in primary school and they are still very **close** friends.
4. Couples who experience love at **first** sight fall in love very quickly.
5. You can have **strong** chemistry with romantic and platonic partners.
6. You should always treat your significant **other** with respect.
7. Do you believe that everyone has a soul **mate**?
8. Sarah joined a book club to make **friends** with fellow book lovers in her community.
9. Although they were only casual **acquaintances** from work, John and Lisa would occasionally grab lunch together.
10. Jack and Emily have been close **friends** since they were kids, and they share a deep bond and trust.
11. When Alex saw Maya for the first time, it was love at first **sight**, and he couldn't take his eyes off her.
12. Mark and Lisa had an instant connection and felt a strong **chemistry** when they first met at a party.
13. After years of searching, Sarah finally found her **soul** mate in David, and they are inseparable.
14. Brian introduced his **significant** other, Maria, to his family during a family gathering, and they instantly loved her warm personality.



## 5 DIALOGUES USING COLLOCATIONS

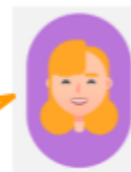
Task: Complete the dialogues by completing each collocation.

Dialogue 1:



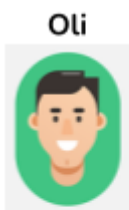
I'm moving to New York in September. I've never been before; do you have any suggestions on how I can make **friends**?

Lisa



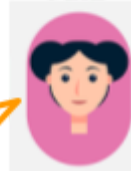
Wow! I'm so jealous; New York is an amazing city! I think the best way to make friends is to hang out with colleagues after work or join a sports club.

Dialogue 2:



I saw you chatting with Peter, how do you know each other?

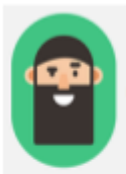
Ana



We're just casual **acquaintances**. I think we first met at a work event a few years ago.



## Dialogue 3:

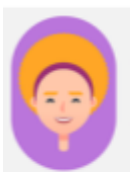
**Duke**

How many close **friends** do you have?

**Laura**

Quality over quantity, I can count them on one hand, but they're the best friends I could ever ask for!

## Dialogue 4:

**Beth**

Do you believe in love at first **sight**?

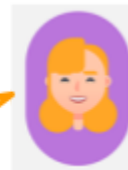
**Joe**

I used to be skeptical, but when I first saw Jane, I fell in love immediately.

## Dialogue 5:

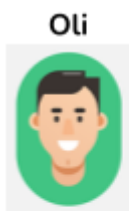
**Nathan**

What's the secret to a successful relationship?

**Jess**

I think it's important to find someone that you have **strong** chemistry with!

## Dialogue 6:



Oli

What is a soul **mate**, really?



Ana

It's someone who understands you on a deep level, who sees you for who you truly are, and loves you unconditionally.

## Dialogue 7:



Duke

How's everything going with your significant **other**?



Laura

Couldn't be better! We're moving in together next month!



## 6 ETHAN AND LILY'S LOVE STORY

**Task 1: Read the story below, then complete the exercises.**

Ethan was a friendly and outgoing person who always had a warm smile on his face. He had many casual acquaintances in his neighbourhood. He would often start conversations with people at the coffee shop or while taking his evening walks. His friendly nature made it easy for him to chat with others.

One sunny day, Ethan was enjoying a walk in the park when he saw a young woman sitting on a bench. Their eyes met, and it was love at first sight for Ethan. The woman, named Lily, had a beautiful smile that captivated his heart instantly. He gained the courage to approach her and strike up a conversation.

As they talked, Ethan and Lily discovered they had a lot in common. They shared similar interests, dreams, and values. They instantly felt strong chemistry so they soon became close friends.

Over time, Ethan and Lily spent more and more time together. They enjoyed each other's company and supported one another through the good times and the bad times. It was evident to everyone around them that they were soul mates destined to be together.

As their friendship grew stronger and stronger, Ethan realised that Lily was more than just a close friend to him. He wanted Lily to be his significant other so Ethan confessed his love to Lily, hoping that she felt the same way.

To his delight, Lily confessed that she had also fallen in love with Ethan. Their love story blossomed into a beautiful relationship, built on a foundation of friendship and trust. They became inseparable, cherishing every moment they spent together.

**Task 2: Answer the questions.**

1. Identify the collocations in the text.
2. Who had a lot of casual acquaintances?
3. Which section of the text shows that they have strong chemistry?
4. Predict what will happen next.
5. Retell the story to a classmate.





## 7 COLLOCATION QUESTIONS

Practice using the collocations in a natural way by answering the following questions.

1. What are some tips for **making friends** in a foreign city?
2. What are some common challenges people face when trying **to make friends**?
3. What are some common situations or contexts in which we encounter **casual acquaintances**?
4. What are some common interests or activities that can help foster friendships with **casual acquaintances**?
5. Have you ever experienced a shift in a friendship from being casual acquaintances to becoming **close friends**? How did this transition happen?
6. What qualities do you value most in a **close friend**?
7. Do you believe in **love at first sight**? How would you define it?
8. What role do cultural or societal influences play in shaping our beliefs and expectations about **love at first sight**?
9. Is it possible to maintain a romantic relationship if you don't have **strong chemistry**?
10. What factors do you think contribute to the development of **strong chemistry** between individuals?
11. How would you describe a **soul mate**? Do you believe that everyone has one?
12. Have you ever believed that you've found your **soul mate**? What qualities or experiences led you to that belief?
13. What role does a **significant other** play in our lives? How does this type of relationship differ from other connections, such as with friendships or family?
14. How do you approach introducing a **significant other** to your family and friends? Are there any considerations or challenges that arise during this process?



# HOMework

## 1 COLLOCATIONS: WRITING TASK

You are going to write responses using the collocations presented and studied in today's lesson. Follow the guidelines below.

### Guidelines

Read each situation below (1-7) and write a response to each. You must use one or more collocations from the list (a-g) in your responses:

- a. to make friends.
- b. casual acquaintances.
- c. close friends.
- d. love at first sight.
- e. strong chemistry.
- f. soul mate.
- g. one's significant other.

### Situations:

1. After a long day at work, Sarah met someone who immediately caught her attention and left her speechless.
2. Mark and Lisa have been friends since college and know each other very well.
3. Emily recently moved to a new city and wants to meet new people and expand her social circle.
4. David and Emma have been dating for several years and are deeply committed to each other.
5. Mike and Laura who occasionally see each other at social events.
6. John and Mary met for the first time at a party and felt an instant connection.
7. Tom and Alex share a unique bond that goes beyond words.

