



# COLLINS COBUILD

柯林斯 COBUILD 英语学习词典练习册

## LEARNER'S DICTIONARY WORKBOOK

Helping learners with real English



外教社

上海外语教育出版社

Bill Mascull

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## 出版前言

自 20 世纪 80 年代末起,世界各国的英语教学界就对以全新构想编写的“柯林斯 COBUILD 英语词典系列”表示出极大的兴趣,并一致认为,该系列词典开创了高科技时代词典编纂的先河。这一系列词典是在世界著名的哈珀-柯林斯出版社(HarperCollins Publishers Limited)的支持下,由英国伯明翰大学(Birmingham University)词典编纂组经过十余年的努力,精心编纂而成。参与编写工作的有数百名英语教学、词典编纂和电脑软件专家。从词典的研制到出版花费了巨额的资金。

“柯林斯 COBUILD 英语词典系列”之所以被称为“以全新构想编写而成的新一代辞书”,是因为英国伯明翰大学词典编纂组首先意识到电脑时代的到来对于词典编纂的意义,并将大型电脑运用于词典的编纂工作。由于电脑的发展,利用电脑庞大的存储和检索功能对大量语言现象作具体详尽的分析成为可能。以往,词典编纂人员只能根据个别语言现象推断出词义和用法;现在,他们可以利用先进的电脑设备,输入和检索数以亿万字计的语料,根据大量而确切的语言数据来确定词义和用法。英国伯明翰大学词典编纂组就是根据上述原则,编纂了这一系列新颖独特的词典。

本系列词典中所有的例词和例句均取材于 COBUILD 英语语料库(The Bank of English)。该英语语料库的名称 COBUILD 系 COLLINS BIRMINGHAM UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE DATABASE 的首字母缩略词,如果直译应该是“柯林斯-伯明翰大学国际语料库”。该语料库包含了小说和非小说类的多种语体,如广播和电视用语、日常自然会话、报刊杂志文章,也包含了英国英语、美国英语和澳大利亚英语及多种英语方言。

伯明翰大学的词典编纂组正是依据了该语料库所提供的词频,确定了哪些是最常用词,哪些是次常用词;哪些是美国英语用法,哪些是英国英语用法或澳大利亚英语用法。词典中越是常用的词,解释越是详细,不仅提供该词的语义和句法特征,提供常用的习语和词语的搭配,还专门辟出栏目以说明用法,并尽可能用简洁明了的句子来解释词目和习语。

本社引进出版的《柯林斯 COBUILD 英语学习词典练习册》是新版《柯林斯 COBUILD 英语学习词典》的辅助用书。本练习册通过丰富的练习,指导学习者如何更好地使用《柯林斯 COBUILD 英语学习词典》,从中获取最大收益。

《柯林斯 COBUILD 英语学习词典练习册》针对中等以上程度的英语学习者,精心设计习题。练习册共分十个单元,每个单元都有一个鲜明的主题,并提供全面的指导。练习题活泼有趣,形式多样,包括语义、语用、词频、发音、语境及英国英语和美国英语的区别等各个方面,使学习者能轻松掌握《柯林斯 COBUILD 英语学习词典》提供的信息。

为了提高我国的英语教学和科研水平,更好地为读者服务,上海外语教育出版社引进了“柯林斯 COBUILD 英语词典系列”,以让我国广大英语学习者和从事相关工作的人员能够获得更多更新颖的工具书。为此,上海外语教育出版社的编辑和哈珀-柯林斯出版社的编辑通力合作,对本系列词典中的例句进行了修订,使之更符合我国的国情。毋庸置疑,如同其他词典一样,本系列词典在编校过程中难免仍有疏漏和失误,敬请广大读者批评指正。

需要说明的是,本系列词典的例证均选自 COBUILD 英语语料库,采用这些例句的目的是为了说明词目的语义和语法特征及用法,并不代表原出版社和本社的观点。





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# Introduction

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This Workbook is designed to show you the sorts of information you can find in the *Collins COBUILD Learner's Dictionary*, and how to exploit this information to the full.

There are ten units in the Workbook. Each unit contains exercises which cover the following areas, although the titles of the sections in the book are not always the same.

## Theme

You learn to use the Dictionary and develop your vocabulary through exercises based on drawings related to different themes such as people, houses, and vehicles.

## Frequent word

Perhaps you do not think of looking for very common words like **the** in a dictionary. One of the features of the COBUILD series of dictionaries is that they cover these words in depth. This section of the Workbook will show you what the Dictionary can tell you about these very frequent words.

## Grammatical context

The extra column of the Dictionary gives important grammatical information about word classes and grammatical patterns. These are explained in the Grammar section of the Dictionary introduction.

Each unit of the Workbook covers a grammatical word class and will get you into the habit of looking for grammatical information and applying it when you speak and write yourself.

## Phrases, idioms, metaphor

Sometimes it is possible to know all the separate words in an expression, but not to understand what the expression means. This section looks in detail at a variety of phrases, idioms, and metaphors; helps you to understand what they mean; and shows you how to find them in the Dictionary.

## Pragmatics, register

Some words are always used by a speaker or writer with a particular intention in mind, for example, to show approval or disapproval. These words are indicated by the label **PRAGMATICS** in a box in the extra column. See the section on Pragmatics in the Dictionary introduction.

Other words are used particularly in British or American English, or are associated with a particular style such as journalism or literature. Again, a label in the extra column of the Dictionary indicates this. See the section on Style and Register in the Dictionary introduction.

A section of each unit of the Workbook deals with these two areas.

## Puzzle

This section of each unit of the Workbook encourages you to think about a tricky language area not dealt with in the other sections.

## Pronunciation

This section deals, for example, with words that look the same but are pronounced differently, and words that look different but are pronounced the same. Stress is another important issue here, and you will see how to stress words correctly. We also look at differences in pronunciation between British and American English.

## Words in context

This section of each unit of the Workbook gives you a number of questions to answer in the context of a newspaper article. The questions are placed next to the part of the article that they refer to, except in Unit 7.

# Unit 1

## What to wear

Are both women wearing

- 1 a dress      3 a blouse      5 short sleeves  
2 a skirt      4 a brooch      6 high heels?

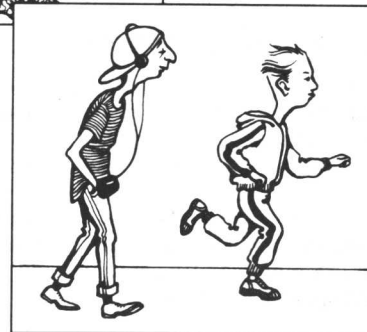
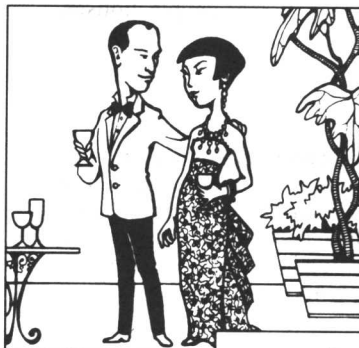


## Formal and casual

- The man standing up is wearing a  
a suit      b suite      c soot.
- He is also wearing a  
a skirt and tie      b shirt and tie      c shirt and scarf.
- Which numbered section of the Dictionary entry for **tie** is shown?  
a 2      b 6      c 10.
- Americans call a tie a  
a tight      b tire      c necktie.
- Look at the man sitting down. Which numbered section of the Dictionary entry for **casual** relates to his clothes?  
a 1      b 3      c 4.
- Which numbered section of the Dictionary entry for **casual** relates to his way of sitting?  
a 1      b 2      c 3.
- Some people might say that his socks and shoes are  
a crying      b screaming      c loud.

## Formal and formal

- What is the difference between evening dress and an evening dress? Is evening dress the same as evening wear? Can men wear evening dress?
- Is it correct to say that the woman is wearing jewellery?
- Is it correct to say that the woman is wearing her hair short?
- Is it correct to say that the man is wearing a glass?
- The man is wearing a  
a boa tie      b bow tie      c dinner tie.
- The man is wearing a  
a dinner jacket      b night jacket      c straitjacket.



## Casual and casual

- Is it correct to say that the person on the left is carrying headphones?
- The person on the left is wearing a  
a tea-shirt      b T-shirt      c tie-shirt.
- The person on the left is wearing a cap with a  
a pike      b poke      c peak.
- The person on the right is wearing a  
a jog-suit      b running-suit      c tracksuit.
- The person on the right is wearing  
a trainees      b trainers      c trailers.

### Frequent word: the

Look at the Dictionary entry for **the**. All these examples contain **the**. Which numbered section of the entry for **the** does each example illustrate? (Each example illustrates a different section.)

- a When the door opened I couldn't actually see who it was. ( \_\_\_\_ )
- b The Italians love fashion in a way the British find hard to understand. ( \_\_\_\_ )
- c The rich get richer and the poor get poorer. ( \_\_\_\_ )
- d ...Dr Lobstein, author of *Children's Food: The Good, The Bad and The Useless*. ( \_\_\_\_ )
- e She was going to take the plane to London. ( \_\_\_\_ )
- f They knew that I could sing and play the piano. ( \_\_\_\_ )
- g Loosen his clothes at the neck, chest and waist. ( \_\_\_\_ )
- h ...Salzburg, perhaps the finest city in Austria. ( \_\_\_\_ )
- i Like human beings, well over half the cat's body weight is composed of water. ( \_\_\_\_ )
- j The past is a foreign country. They do things differently there. ( \_\_\_\_ )
- k To children of the sixties and seventies, classical music was a closed book. ( \_\_\_\_ )
- l The more guns you have, the more accidents you're going to have. ( \_\_\_\_ )

### Grammatical context: uncount nouns

Uncount nouns are indicated as N-UNCOUNT in the extra column of the Dictionary. This means that they are not usually used in the plural. It is possible to talk about a quantity of something referred to by an uncount noun with a word like 'some' or a phrase like 'a piece of'.

Refer in the Dictionary to the nouns that occur in these sentences and correct the sentences.

- 1 Can you give me any advices on what to do with it?
- 2 The company makes everything from aircraft to furnitures and clothes.
- 3 We've got new uniforms and new equipments. Everything works.
- 4 Have you got any informations on accommodation in Dublin or Ireland?
- 5 'I would not like to have been in the traffics.' 'No, I prefer to stay at home.'
- 6 I look on a car as just a way of getting from A to B. It's just a machinery. It's a box on wheels.
- 7 Anyone with technical knowledges in the area could have thought of it.
- 8 American children spend less time in class and do less homeworks than Japanese children.
- 9 I saw in the press what I thought was a good news.
- 10 NOTICE TO PASSENGERS. Only one hand baggage allowed inside the aircraft.

### Creature expressions

Look at the Dictionary entries for these words:

- |       |         |         |        |
|-------|---------|---------|--------|
| a cat | c horse | e whale | g worm |
| b dog | d snail | f wolf  |        |

You will see that each entry contains at least one phrase that mentions one of these creatures. Complete the examples using these items.

- 1 If it was going to be \_\_\_\_\_ eat \_\_\_\_\_, he would do anything it took to get himself re-elected.
- 2 Hundreds of police failed to prevent travellers from holding music festivals at two sites near Romsey. After a 36-hour game of \_\_\_\_\_-and-mouse with the police, 2,000 people in 300 vehicles gathered in a disused factory on the edge of town.

- 3 We were having a marvellous time, a \_\_\_\_\_ of a time. We saw Edinburgh from top to bottom and had great fun.
- 4 But this is the old crying \_\_\_\_\_ thing, isn't it? One day there's going to be a real robbery there.
- 5 Have you ever tried to drive down the High Street on a Saturday? I have many times. They move at a \_\_\_\_\_'s pace.
- 6 Drug abuse is a can of \_\_\_\_\_s nobody wants to open at sporting events.
- 7 Most of the book is completely true. 'It comes from the \_\_\_\_\_'s mouth,' said one friend.

## Hey guys

The words in the left column below all refer to people in different ways. Look them up in the Dictionary and say if they:

- can refer to men, women, or both.
- are formal, informal, or neither.
- are British, American, or both.

The first one has been done for you.

	man / woman	formal / informal	British / American
big shot	<i>both</i>	<i>informal</i>	<i>both</i>
bloke			
chap			
character			
guy			
guys			
individual			
personage			

## Opposites or what?

The prefix **in-** is added to some adjectives, adverbs, and nouns to form other adjectives, adverbs, and nouns that have the opposite meaning. For example, something that is **incorrect** is not correct.

Look at the definitions of these words beginning **in-** and say what word class they are.

Then look at the word under **Opposite?** Does it have the opposite meaning to the first word, does it have a meaning that is not the opposite, or does it just not exist?

Complete the table by ticking the right boxes. The first three have been done for you.

	Word class			Opposite?	yes	no	does not exist
	adj	adv	noun				
inadequate	✓			adequate	✓		
infamous	✓			famous		✓	
innovation			✓	novation			✓
inaugural				augural			
incessantly				cessantly			
increment				crement			
indolent				dolent			
inflammable				flammable			
influx				flux			
innately				nately			
invaluable				valuable			

## Stress and word class 1

When a word belongs to more than one word class, it may be pronounced in different ways. However, this is not always the case. Look at the Dictionary entries for:

- export • import • report • transport

and underline the stressed syllable in these words in each of these examples.

- 1 If Mexico cannot export its goods, it will export its people.
- 2 America's imports have been falling and its exports booming.
- 3 There is no tax on exports and the transport of imports.
- 4 A master wrote in my school report: 'Teaching this boy is a nightmare.'
- 5 More than 535 navigation 'incidents' were reported to the Department of Transport last year.

## Words in context

Read this article from the *Independent* and answer the questions.

### Airborne Mystery of Duchess's Jewels

Police in London and Washington were last night investigating the theft of jewellery believed to be worth £250,000, given to the Duchess of York on her wedding day by the Queen.

The diamond necklace and bracelet were taken from a suitcase belonging to the Duchess's lady-in-waiting, Jane Dunn-Butler, during a flight from New York to London.

Ms Dunn-Butler is thought to have left the suitcase in a baggage hold, from where it was taken. The Duchess discovered the theft late on Monday night after unpacking at her home in Wentworth, Berkshire.

It is not known in which country the items, believed to be royal heirlooms, were stolen, but they were last seen in Washington. Washington police were last night 'having the hotel turned upside down'.

The Duchess arrived home on Monday afternoon after a four-day trip to the US, where she had attended a White House reception hosted by President Bill Clinton and his wife Hillary, and attended a launch for her book *Budgie the Helicopter* at the New York department store, Bloomingdale's. ...

- 1 Which of these combinations are mentioned in the Dictionary?  
a airborne  
b groundborne  
c waterborne.
- 2 Would it be possible to use **thieving** instead of **theft** here?
- 3 What is the normal form of **jewellery** in American English?
- 4 What is the male equivalent of a duchess?
- 5 What is the plural of lady-in-waiting?
- 6 What sort of name is Dunn-Butler?  
a a duo name  
b a bi-name  
c a double-barrelled name.
- 7 In which sections in the Dictionary are **thought** and **hold** defined as they are used here?
- 8 Look at the definitions for **heir** and for **loom**. Are heirlooms machines for making cloth for someone's heirs?
- 9 Where in the Dictionary is this sense of **turn upside down** defined?
- 10 List all the things that can be attended that are mentioned in sections 1 and 2 of the Dictionary entry for **attend**.
- 11 List all the things that can be launched that are mentioned in sections 1 to 4 of the Dictionary entry for **launch**.

## Unit 2

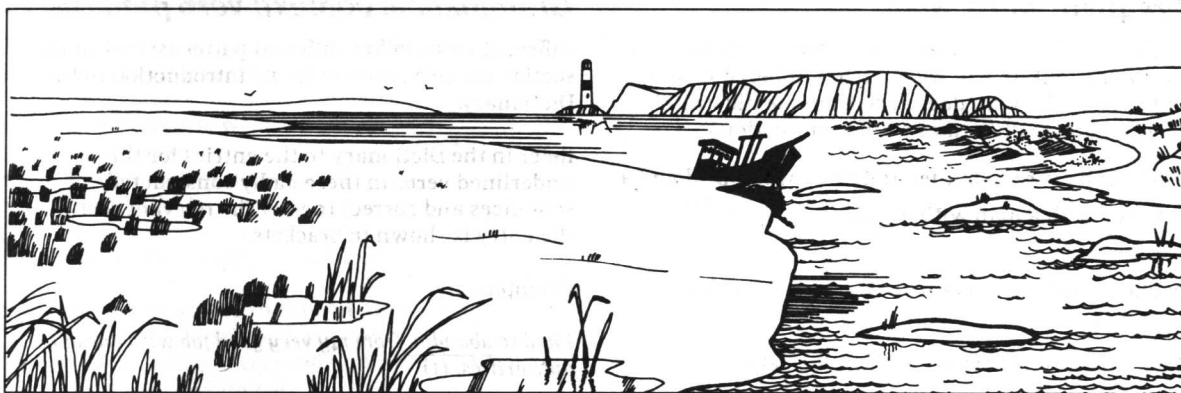


### Mountain scenery

Look at the drawing and complete the sentences with the correct alternatives.

(In some cases, there is more than one correct alternative.)

- 1 The highest point of a tall mountain is its
  - a cap
  - b peak
  - c summit
  - d top.
- 2 If there is snow on a mountain, you usually say that it is
  - a snow-capped
  - b snow-peaked
  - c snow-summited
  - d snow-topped.
- 3 A glacier is a huge mass of ice that moves very slowly. The related adjective 'glacial' can refer to
  - a speed
  - b a bad atmosphere between people
  - c a man's appearance
  - d a woman's appearance.
- 4 Below the glacier and the waterfall there is a river. In the river you can see large
  - a boulders
  - b rocks
  - c stones
  - d pebbles.
- 5 A section of river where the water moves very fast, often over rocks, is called
  - a rapid
  - b rapids
  - c flows
  - d floes.



### Features of the landscape

Look at the drawing and complete the sentences with the correct alternatives.  
(There is only one correct alternative in each case.)

1 The picture shows a river

- a basin
- b source
- c estuary.

2 In the left foreground there is a

- a march
- b marsh
- c mart.

3 In the marsh, there are

- a reeds
- b reefs
- c riffs.

4 The ship in the river has run

- a abound
- b aground
- c around.

5 In the background there is a

- a lighthouse
- b lightship
- c light industry.

6 In the background there are

- a clefts
- b cleavers
- c cliffs.

**Frequent word: a/an**

Look at the Dictionary entry for **a/an**. All these examples contain **a** or **an**. Which numbered section of the entry for **a/an** does each example illustrate? (Each example illustrates a different section.)

- a I looked over the border and there was a field and a tower with a man with a gun.  
(     )
- b The competition was won by a Mrs Nora Flynn.  
(     )
- c Van Gogh said that he couldn't look at a Rembrandt and not believe in God.  
(     )
- d A man's got to do what a man's got to do.  
(     )
- e He was an airline pilot, wasn't he?  
(     )
- f At six on a Saturday evening, the queue for the Hard Rock Cafe goes round the block.  
(     )
- g He is thought to own a Rolls Royce and a Cadillac.  
(     )
- h They've got a practical understanding of real-life situations.  
(     )
- i Take a card, any card.  
(     )
- j Professor Ericsson said that no amount of chess or music practice would produce a Bobby Fischer or a Mozart.  
(     )

**Grammatical context: verb patterns 1**

Different verbs follow different patterns: look at the section on verb patterns in the introduction to the Dictionary.

Refer in the Dictionary to the entries for the underlined verbs in these badly constructed sentences and correct them. (The relevant section of the entry is shown in brackets.)

Example:

*I had to abandon from my very good job with one of the authorities. (1)*

If you look at section 1 of the entry for **abandon**, you will see that the pattern is V n, in other words 'verb plus noun' with no words in between. So the sentence should be:

*I had to abandon my very good job with one of the authorities.*

- 1 His doctor advised to him to retire as soon as possible. (1)
- 2 At this point a large dog entered into the room and was told it was not yet lunchtime. (1)
- 3 Why do you say you hate against shopping? (2)
- 4 I think I'd like that I go home. (Sub-entry 2, section 6)
- 5 The Slovaks like wine. The Czechs are preferring beer.
- 6 The doctor can take these things away, but you can't prevent them to come back. (1)
- 7 Would you recommend all first-year students to live on campus? (2)
- 8 I have yet to succeed to make good porridge. (1)
- 9 I am thinking smokers should respect non-smokers. (1)



## Under the weather

Find the meanings of these expressions and say where you can find them in the Dictionary, as in the following example.

If you feel **under the weather**, you

- a walk in the rain.
- b feel sad because of the weather.
- c feel slightly ill.

(The answer is c.

See the entry for **weather**, section 4.)

- 1 If someone **weathers the storm**, they
  - a stay outside during bad weather.
  - b reach the end of a very difficult period without much harm or damage.
  - c look older because of a very difficult period they have been through.
- 2 If you say that you are **snowed under**, you
  - a are emphasizing that you have a lot of work or other things to deal with.
  - b mean that there is a lot of snow under your doorstep or under your car.
  - c mean that you are very tired.

3 If you say that you will **take a rain check**, you mean that you

- a will not accept an offer immediately, but that you might accept it later.
- b are going to look outside to see if it is going to rain.
- c are going to cancel a holiday and get your money back because of bad weather.

4 If you say that you **haven't the foggiest**, you are emphasizing that you do not

- a like fog.
- b know something.
- c care what the weather will be like tomorrow.

5 If someone is **under a cloud**,

- a nobody knows where they are.
- b they are feeling ill.
- c people have a poor opinion of them because of something they have done.

## The gift of the gab

Look up these items in the Dictionary.

- articulate
- eloquent
- fluent
- gift of the gab
- loquacious
- verbose
- windbag
- wordy

- 1 Which three words are used to talk about people who express themselves well? Which one of these three words is not used to talk about pieces of writing?

2 Which two words are adjectives used to criticize people who use more words than necessary?

3 Which word is used to describe someone who talks a lot, without necessarily criticizing them for this?

4 Which of these words is formal?

5 Which of these words is rude?

6 What do Americans call the **gift of the gab**?