

Collocations

To be fluent in English, you need to know which words go together. Learning the correct combination of words will help you sound more natural.

When English learners translate directly from their language into English, they often say unnatural word combinations, such as 'make exercise' or 'take breakfast' or 'I married with him.' All of those combinations are incorrect and unnatural in English.

Collocations are a group of two or more words that usually go together. Think of a collocation splitting the word collocation. **Co** - means together - **location** - means place. Collocations are words that are located together.

Here are 10 collocations and their examples in English and Spanish:

1. Increasingly anxious - Cada vez mas ansioso, crecientemente ansioso.

He became increasingly anxious because of his wife's pregnancy.
Se puso cada vez más ansioso por el embarazo de su esposa.

2. A glittering career - Una carrera sobresaliente, brillante.

I am sure you will have a glittering career in football
Estoy seguro de que tendrás una brillante carrera en el fútbol.

3. Spoil the appetite - Arruinar el apetito

I remember my grandmother always told me not to spoil my appetite by eating cookies before lunch.
Recuerdo que mi abuela siempre me decía que no echara a perder mi apetito comiendo galletas antes del almuerzo.

4. Hasty exit - Salida apresurada

The children made a hasty exit before their father saw the mess.
Los niños salieron apresuradamente antes de que su padre viera el desastre.

5. A round of applause - Una ronda de aplausos

Could you give her a round of applause?. What a charming voice!
¿Podrían darle un aplauso? ¡Qué voz tan encantadora!

6. Great pleasure - Gran gusto, placer

He gets great pleasure from living in Hawaii
El disfruta mucho viviendo en Hawái

7. A catchy tune - Canción pegadiza

Can you stop singing that? No, I can't. It's a catchy tune.
¿Puedes dejar de cantar eso? No, no puedo. Es una melodía pegadiza.

8. High standards - Estándares altos

Does your mother have high standards about cleaning?
¿Tu madre tiene altos estándares de limpieza?

9. A brisk walk - Una caminata rápida, enérgica.

The doctor advised a brisk walk every day
El doctor aconseja una caminata enérgica todos los días.

10. To hand in notice - Avisar al empleador que se va renunciar al empleo.

Katie has handed in her notice and will be leaving next month
Katie ha entregado su aviso y se irá el próximo mes.