

Practise and consolidate your learning by completing our activities. In the first one you need to refer to the words in bold to choose the correct common collocation to complete the sentence.

ACTIVITY 1

Complete the sentence with the correct common collocation.

Question 1: The latest figures are encouraging, and indicate a _____ **the economy**.

Answer:

- a. strength in
- b. growth in
- c. high in

Question 2: The motives that compel students to seek _____ **education** are quite varied.

Answer:

- a. top
- b. open
- c. higher

Question 3: The government will need to address the problems facing the now _____ environment after the recent disaster.

Answer:

- a. fragile
- b. unstable
- c. weak

Question 4: The scientists were preparing to _____ the **environment** in the Antarctic

Answer:

- a. explore
- b. discover
- c. investigate

Question 5: His application was rejected because he _____ the **finances** for his venture.

Answer:

- a. was minus
- b. lacked
- c. was short on

Question 6: Jim had to _____ his **medicine** three times a day.

- Answer:**
- a. drink
 - b. swallow
 - c. take

Question 7: There is usually a _____ **medicine** in third world countries.

- Answer:**
- a. shortage of
 - b. limit in
 - c. reduction of

Question 8: The software company will be showcasing its _____ **technology**.

- Answer:**
- a. unknown
 - b. up-to-date
 - c. latest

Question 9: Children readily _____ new **technology** compared with their parents who are often reluctant to do so.

- Answer:**
- a. embrace
 - b. support
 - c. approve

Question 10: With the falling dollar there was a significant _____ **tourism**.

- Answer:**
- a. downfall in
 - b. downturn in
 - c. downgrade in

ACTIVITY 2

Match each of the adjectives in the left-hand column with a suitable noun from the right. The noun in bold is the headword. The first one has been done for you.

- | | | |
|----------------|---|------------------|
| 1. prevailing | → | strategy |
| 2. burning | | price |
| 3. counselling | | industry |
| 4. throbbing | | issue |
| 5. soaring | | trade |
| 6. discerning | | trend |
| 7. thriving | | service |
| 8. learning | | traveller |
| 9. flourishing | | inflation |
| 10. asking | | pain |

ACTIVITY 3

Choose which meaning of 'say' is used in the following sentences.

Question 1: Scientists **say** the likelihood of finding a cure for cancer in the next five to seven years is remote.

Answer:

- a. giving an example
- b. narrowing down
- c. quoting

Question 2: It would have been, **say** two to three years since I last saw him.

Answer:

- a. giving an example
- b. narrowing down
- c. quoting

Question 3: What they found, **say**, in the case of bananas, is that they grow quickly and easily in the subtropics.

Answer:

- a. giving an example
- b. narrowing down
- c. quoting

Question 4: Environmentalists **say** that the short supply of water is a worrying trend.

Answer:

- a. giving an example
- b. narrowing down
- c. quoting

Question 5: Acid rain, **said**, is caused by poisonous gases seeping into the atmosphere.

Answer:

- a. giving an example
- b. narrowing down
- c. quoting



Question 6: If you want to visit some of the local Sydney attractions, there's, **say**, Paddy's Market in the heart of China town or Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Answer:

- a. giving an example
- b. narrowing down
- c. quoting

Question 7: You could probably harvest the crop within, **say** four to six months.

Answer:

- a. giving an example
- b. narrowing down
- c. quoting

Question 8: It is best to leave yourself, **say** three to four hours for the review.

Answer:

- a. giving an example
- b. narrowing down
- c. quoting

Question 9: Defenders of advertising **say** that the controversial billboard is both helpful and informative.

Answer:

- a. giving an example
- b. narrowing down
- c. quoting

Question 10: It's not unusual for the shop to offer, **say** in the case of ice cream, twelve flavours.

Answer:

- a. giving an example
- b. narrowing down
- c. quoting

ANSWERS ACTIVITY 1

Question 1: The latest figures are encouraging, and indicate a _____ **the economy**.

Answer: **b. growth in**

Question 2: The motives that compel students to seek _____ **education** are quite varied.

Answer: **c. higher**

Question 3: The government will need to address the problems facing the now _____ environment after the recent disaster.

Answer: **a. fragile**

Question 4: The scientists were preparing to _____ the **environment** in the Antarctic

Answer: **a. explore**

Question 5: His application was rejected because he _____ the **finances** for his venture.

Answer: **b. lacked**

Question 6: Jim had to _____ his **medicine** three times a day.

Answer: **c. take**

Question 7: There is usually a _____ **medicine** in third world countries.

Answer: **a. shortage of**

Question 8: The software company will be showcasing its _____ **technology**.

Answer: **c. latest**

Question 9: Children readily _____ new **technology** compared with their parents who are often reluctant to do so.

Answer: **a. embrace**

Question 10: With the falling dollar there was a significant _____ **tourism**.

Answer: **b. downturn in**



ANSWERS ACTIVITY 2

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1. prevailing | trend |
| 2. burning | issue |
| 3. counselling | service |
| 4. throbbing | pain |
| 5. soaring | inflation |
| 6. discerning | traveller |
| 7. thriving | industry |
| 8. learning | strategy |
| 9. flourishing | trade |
| 10. asking | price |

ANSWERS ACTIVITY 3

Question 1: Scientists **say** the likelihood of finding a cure for cancer in the next five to seven years is remote.

Answer: **c. quoting**

Question 2: It would have been, **say** two to three years since I last saw him.

Answer: **b. narrowing down**

Question 3: What they found, **say**, in the case of bananas, is that they grow quickly and easily in the subtropics.

Answer: **a. giving an example**

Question 4: Environmentalists **say** that the short supply of water is a worrying trend.

Answer: **c. quoting**

Question 5: Acid rain, **say**, is caused by poisonous gases seeping into the atmosphere.

Answer: **a. giving an example**

Question 6: If you want to visit some of the local Sydney attractions, there's, **say**, Paddy's Market in the heart of China town or Sydney Harbour Bridge.

Answer: **a. giving an example**



Question 7: You could probably harvest the crop within, **say** four to six months.

Answer: **b. narrowing down**

Question 8: It is best to leave yourself, **say** three to four hours for the review.

Answer: **b. narrowing down**

Question 9: Defenders of advertising **say** that the controversial billboard is both helpful and informative.

Answer: **c. quoting**

Question 10: It's not unusual for the shop to offer, **say** in the case of ice cream, twelve flavours.

Answer: **a. giving an example**