



University Centre of Abdelhafid Bousouf - Mila
2022-2023-Semestre 4

English 2nd Year (G: 4,5 & 6)

– Lesson 02 –

Collocations between English and Arabic



Image

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Etudiants concernés

Institut	Département	Année	Spécialité
Literatures and Foreign Languages	Foreign Languages	2 nd Year	English Language

Lesson's Objectives : by the end of this lesson, students are supposed to be able to :

- Differentiate between unusual and natural language styles,
- Use collocations to improve the quality of their translations,
- Identify collocations in any piece of writing.

1. Definition :

'Collocation' from the verb to collocate which means; to use words that often co-occur with each other to express something naturally¹.

Collocation is also defined as a lexical relationship between two or more words that often habitually go together and make a common expression whose meaning can be derived from at least one component of the collocational expression. This lexical phenomenon is found in all languages, yet with different characteristics².

2. Consider the following examples :

1. To follow someone's lead 1. اتبع قيادة فلان/ حذا حذوه/ اقتفى أثره/ نهج منهجه
2. To settle a debt 2. يدفع ديننا/ يقضي ديننا/ يسدد ديننا
3. It's a war trophies/ a spoil of war 3. إنها هبة حرب/ إنها غنيمة حرب
4. Do not be an easy prey 4. لا تكن فريسة سهلة/ لا تكن هدفا سهلة/ لا تكن لقمة سائغة
5. He sings beautifully 5. يغني بشكل جيد/ يغني غناء جميلا/ أسلوب غناءه أسلوب أخاذ
6. The aircraft is doing reconnaissance operations 6. تؤدي الطائرة طيرانا استعلاميا/ تقوم الطائرة بعمليات استطلاع

Note : what you should observe in these examples is that the translation of each collocation is improved gradually. Thus, a difference between unusual and refined language styles is presented.

3. Types of collocations : there are too many types of English collocations that is why only some common types are mentioned below³ :

V+ N \longrightarrow enact/pass a law= يسن قانونا, pitch a tent= ينصب خيمة, find a way= يجد حلا, يجد طريقا

V+ Adv. \longrightarrow Speake clearly= يتحدث بوضوح, spend wisely= ينفق بقدر, behave politely= يتعامل بأدب

N+ N \longrightarrow war crime= جريمة حرب, moon ligh= ضوء القمر, book shelf= رف الكتب

Adj.+ N \longrightarrow ultimate power= قوة عظمى, vicious war= حرب شعواء, crushing defeat= هزيمة نكراء

Adv.+ Adj. \longrightarrow Completely different= يختلف اختلافا كبيرا, dangerously high= مرتفع ارتفاعا خطيرا, utterly ridiculous= سخيف للغاية

¹ See, Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary, third Ed., E. W, D. C, D. G, Cambridge University Press, 2008.

² See, Collocation in Use: how words go together for fluent and natural English self study and classroom use, Michael McCarthy & Felicity O'Dell, Cambridge.

³ See, Translation as Problems and Solutions, Hasan Ghazala, Dar El-Ilm lilmalayin, 2008.