

## COLLOCATION EXERCISES

### A

1 The meeting took almost five hours so it was impossible to \_\_\_\_\_

attention all the time.

2 The problem is difficult to \_\_\_\_\_ under control.

3 It took us all day to clean up the office after the burglary – the thieves \_\_\_\_\_

a terrible mess.

4 I don't think we should \_\_\_\_\_ a decision yet; we should wait.

5 Only 31% of the students who \_\_\_\_\_ the final exam passed it.

6 I think we should look for a new supplier – the one we have at the moment

\_\_\_\_\_ us too many problems.

7 Could you \_\_\_\_\_ me a favour and post these letters on your way home?

8 I've told him ten times that he's got the wrong telephone number. I'll \_\_\_\_\_

crazy if they call again.

9 The company offers its employees free language training but not many people

\_\_\_\_\_ advantage of it.

10 Our personnel assistant is leaving next month - she's \_\_\_\_\_ a baby.

### B

1 There's a \_\_\_\_\_ balance between success and failure.

2 My camera was stolen from my bag at the airport so I \_\_\_\_\_

a claim on my insurance.

3 The police gave a \_\_\_\_\_ description of what had happened.

4 I wasn't dressed for the occasion. I felt \_\_\_\_\_ out of place.

5 The chances of England winning the next World Cup are \_\_\_\_\_  
unlikely, I'm afraid.

6 We are \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of problems at the moment.

7 Reports that he earns more than \$5m a year are \_\_\_\_\_  
exaggerated.

8 **Michael:** Did you enjoy the play?

**Sue:** No, I didn't. It was \_\_\_\_\_ boring.

9 I'm overweight and completely out of \_\_\_\_\_. I really should start getting some exercise again.

10 He speaks with a \_\_\_\_\_ Liverpool accent. Some of my American colleagues have trouble understanding what he's talking about.

## C

1 It took them over a week to \_\_\_\_\_ their decision.

2 It'll be very difficult to persuade him. He is very set in his \_\_\_\_\_.

3 It goes without \_\_\_\_\_ that we'll all support your new strategy.

4 They are always on the \_\_\_\_\_ young and versatile people.

5 It's your \_\_\_\_\_ to prepare this week's report – I did it last week.

6 Our main competitor's new product \_\_\_\_\_ a real threat to our target of increasing our market share.

7 You shouldn't be so quick to criticise her for the poor results. You have to \_\_\_\_\_

into account the fact that she was ill for over a month.

8 There are three important points I'd like to \_\_\_\_\_.

9 It takes a very determined person to achieve results as good as this; you really have to put your \_\_\_\_\_ to it.

10 Don't \_\_\_\_\_ to conclusions – I haven't had a chance to explain it to you yet.