

Extension exercises

Chapter 9: Combining words | Comments

Exploring how learners use English

The more learners carry out activities like this, the more confident they become in recognising these features and understanding the importance of them in learning.

Equally, the more we study and analyse their speaking and writing in these terms, the more sensitive we become to difficulties they may be having. In turn, this enables us to focus specifically on these difficulties in our teaching.

Course materials

More recent course materials have taken developments in the academic study of 'lexico-grammar' seriously. Although, they probably follow conventional distinctions between vocabulary and grammar in how the material is organised, more and more attention is paid to features of how words combine.

If words *are* taught in isolation, this provides teachers with the opportunity to be creative in presenting them to learners, drawing their attention to what precedes and follows them. We can also group words together in terms of how they combine with other words, even if this is not explicitly indicated in the materials.