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Core Verb Collocations: Make, Do, Take, Have, Break, Keep, Catch, Pay

Easy | Medium | A2 | Elementary | Pre-intermediate | B1 | Intermediate | B2 | Upper Intermediate | Phrasal verb | Present tense | Verb | Collocations | Vocabulary

1. Choose the correct verb to complete what Sarah says about her morning cooking routine.

"I always ___ breakfast for my family before they wake up because I enjoy preparing healthy meals."

Select one.

A) do
B) make
C) take
D) have

2. Complete the traveler's diary by choosing ALL the phrases that correctly use "take" and "have."

Yesterday I wanted to...

Select all that apply.

A) take a photo of the sunset
B) have a good time at the beach
C) take a good time at the beach
D) take a break from walking
E) have a photo of the sunset
F) have lunch at a café

3. Select the correct verb to complete the student's complaint.

"I have so much work tonight! I need to ___ my math homework, ___ a shower, and then study for tomorrow's test."

Select one.

A) make, have
B) do, take
C) take, do
D) have, make

4. Fill in the gaps to complete this student's typical day using the most natural verb combinations.

I always try to _____ my promises to study every evening. During exam week, I _____ trouble sleeping because I'm so nervous. Sometimes I need to _____ my routine and do something fun to relax.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1
A) keep
B) have
C) break

Blank 2
A) keep
B) have
C) break

Blank 3
A) keep
B) have
C) break

5. Select the correct verb to complete the teacher's instruction.

"Please ___ attention to this explanation, and try to ___ the main idea of what I'm saying."

Select one.

- **A)** take, have
- **B)** make, keep
- **C)** pay, catch
- **D)** do, break

6. Complete Sarah's description of her morning office routine by choosing the correct verb for each blank.

Every morning at 10 AM, I _____ a coffee break with my colleagues in the kitchen. During our break, we usually _____ stories about our weekend activities. It helps us _____ connected as a team.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** have
- **B)** take
- **C)** make

Blank 2

- **A)** share
- **B)** tell
- **C)** give

Blank 3

- **A)** stay
- **B)** keep
- **C)** remain

7. Choose the correct verbs to complete Tom's weekend plans.

This weekend I want to _____ a good time with friends, _____ some photos at the park, and _____ plans for next week.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** have
- **B)** take
- **C)** make

Blank 2

- **A)** take
- **B)** have
- **C)** make

Blank 3

- **A)** have
- **B)** take
- **C)** make

8. Complete the business meeting scenario by choosing the correct verb for each professional context.

The CEO will _____ a decision about the merger tomorrow. Our team needs to _____ our best to prepare the presentation. We should also _____ notes during the client meeting.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** make
- **B)** do
- **C)** take

Blank 2

- **A)** make
- **B)** do
- **C)** take

Blank 3

- **A)** make
- **B)** do
- **C)** take

9. Choose the correct verb to complete this conversation about weekend plans.

"I can't ___ a decision about where to go this weekend. Should we ___ a trip to the mountains or stay in the city?"

Select one.

- **A)** do, have
- **B)** make, take
- **C)** have, do
- **D)** break, keep

10. Choose the correct verbs to complete what Sarah says about her busy morning routine.

Every morning I _____ my bed, then I _____ some exercise, and finally I _____ a shower before work.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** make
- **B)** do
- **C)** take

Blank 2

- **A)** make
- **B)** do
- **C)** take

Blank 3

- **A)** make
- **B)** do
- **C)** take

11. Choose the correct verb to complete this advice about friendship.

"If you want to maintain good relationships, you should always ___ your promises and never ___ someone's trust."

Select one.

- **A)** break, keep
- **B)** make, have
- **C)** keep, break
- **D)** take, do

12. Choose the correct verbs to complete the teacher's advice to her students.

You need to _____ attention in class, _____ an effort with your homework, and _____ your best on the final exam.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** pay
- **B)** make
- **C)** do

Blank 2

- **A)** pay
- **B)** make
- **C)** do

Blank 3

- **A)** pay
- **B)** make
- **C)** do

13. Help the traveler complete his journey story by selecting the appropriate verb for each situation.

I had to _____ the 8 AM bus to the airport, but first I needed to _____ attention to the departure board. At the gate, I had to _____ my time because the flight was delayed.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** catch
- **B)** pay
- **C)** take

Blank 2

- **A)** catch
- **B)** pay
- **C)** take

Blank 3

- **A)** catch
- **B)** pay
- **C)** take

14. Choose the correct verbs to complete what the tired worker says to his colleague.

I really need to _____ a break and _____ a rest before the meeting starts.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** take
- **B)** have

Blank 2

- **A)** have
- **B)** take

15. Choose ALL the situations where someone might correctly use "catch" and "pay."

Select all that apply.

- **A)** catch a bus to work
- **B)** pay attention in class
- **C)** catch attention in class
- **D)** catch a cold in winter
- **E)** pay a cold in winter
- **F)** pay the bill at a restaurant

16. Choose the correct verbs to complete the student's excuse to her teacher.

I'm sorry I'm late! I had to _____ some bad news to my family, then I tried to _____ calm, but I almost missed the _____ bus to school.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** break
- **B)** keep
- **C)** catch

Blank 2

- **A)** break
- **B)** keep
- **C)** catch

Blank 3

- **A)** break
- **B)** keep
- **C)** catch

17. Help Sarah complete her daily routine checklist by selecting ALL the correct collocations with "make" and "do."

Select all that apply.

A) make breakfast
B) do breakfast
C) do homework
D) make homework
E) make a decision
F) do the dishes