

The Ultimate 130+ Duolingo English Test Collocation List

Hey! As promised, here is the full, high-octane list of 50 collocations designed specifically to help you break that 130-point ceiling on the DET.

Think of these as "pre-packaged sophistication." Instead of struggling to find the right adjective, use these pairs to show the AI that your English isn't just correct—it's natural and academic.

Category 1: Academic & Logical Connections

Refining how you present arguments and data.

- 1. Adhere to (regulations/standards):** Everyone must adhere to the safety regulations.
 - 2. Bridge the gap:** Technology can bridge the gap between different generations.
 - 3. Carry out (research/an experiment):** Scientists carried out extensive research on the vaccine.
 - 4. Draw a conclusion:** It is too early to draw a conclusion from the current data.
 - 5. Empirical evidence:** There is no empirical evidence to support that claim.
 - 6. Extensively discuss:** The author extensively discusses the impact of global warming.
 - 7. Formulate a strategy:** The company needs to formulate a strategy for the next quarter.
 - 8. Inextricably linked:** Culture and language are inextricably linked.
 - 9. Pose a challenge:** Climate change poses a significant challenge to agriculture.
 - 10. Standardized approach:** We need a standardized approach to evaluate all students fairly.
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Category 2: Describing Trends & Impact

Perfect for "Summarize the Conversation" or "Describe a Photo."

- 11. Alleviate poverty:** Sustainable jobs are the best way to alleviate poverty.
 - 12. Dramatically increase:** The cost of living has dramatically increased recently.
 - 13. Exponential growth:** The tech industry has seen exponential growth over a decade.
 - 14. Far-reaching consequences:** This political decision will have far-reaching consequences.
 - 15. Fundamental change:** The internet caused a fundamental change in how we work.
 - 16. Mitigate the risk:** Wearing a seatbelt helps to mitigate the risk of injury.
 - 17. Profound impact:** A good teacher can have a profound impact on a student's life.
 - 18. Sharp decline:** There has been a sharp decline in the tiger population.
 - 19. Steady progress:** The team is making steady progress on the project.
 - 20. Underlying cause:** Stress is often the underlying cause of physical illness.
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Category 3: Opinions & Social Issues

Essential for "Interactive Writing" and "Speaking Sample."

21. **Abject poverty:** Many families in that region are living in abject poverty.
 22. **Categorically deny:** The spokesperson categorically denied the rumors.
 23. **Compelling argument:** She made a compelling argument for shorter work weeks.
 24. **Deeply rooted:** Some traditions are deeply rooted in our history.
 25. **Exert pressure:** Parents often exert pressure on children to succeed.
 26. **Grossly inadequate:** The current funding for schools is grossly inadequate.
 27. **Highly controversial:** The new tax law is a highly controversial topic.
 28. **Informed decision:** Reading the news helps you make an informed decision.
 29. **Long-standing tradition:** It is a long-standing tradition to eat together on holidays.
 30. **Major breakthrough:** Scientists recently made a major breakthrough in cancer research.
 31. **Mutually beneficial:** A trade agreement should be mutually beneficial.
 32. **Pressing issue:** Air pollution is a pressing issue in urban areas.
 33. **Reach a consensus:** After hours of debate, they finally reached a consensus.
 34. **Stark contrast:** Her lifestyle is in stark contrast to how she grew up.
 35. **Take into account:** We must take into account the feelings of the local community.
 36. **Unforeseen circumstances:** The event was canceled due to unforeseen circumstances.
 37. **Vastly overrated:** In my view, the latest smartphone is vastly overrated.
 38. **Virtually impossible:** It is virtually impossible to finish this in one day.
 39. **Widely accepted:** It is widely accepted that exercise improves mental health.
 40. **Withstand the pressure:** The building was designed to withstand the pressure of earthquakes.
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Category 4: Descriptive & Expressive Pairs

Elevating your "Write About a Photo" vocabulary.

41. **Breathtaking scenery:** The hikers stopped to admire the breathtaking scenery.
 42. **Densely populated:** Tokyo is one of the most densely populated cities.
 43. **Highly sophisticated:** The new security system is highly sophisticated.
 44. **Intricately designed:** The jewelry was intricately designed with gold and silver.
 45. **Perfectly balanced:** The chef prepared a perfectly balanced meal.
 46. **Quietly confident:** He walked into the interview feeling quietly confident.
 47. **Rapidly expanding:** The e-commerce market is rapidly expanding.
 48. **Severely damaged:** The car was severely damaged in the accident.
 49. **Striking resemblance:** He bears a striking resemblance to his father.
 50. **Vividly remember:** I still vividly remember my first day of school.
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Practice Tips for Your 130+ Journey

Don't try to use all 50 in one test! Pick 5 "Power Pairs" each day and try to work them into your speaking practice. If you want more tips on how the DET algorithm actually grades your vocabulary, check out these deep dives: