

## What are semantic collocations

### Material for the Semantic Collocation task

If one word collocates with another, they often occur together. Most generally, the term **collocation** denotes a meaningful word combination that often (regularly or frequently or typically) occurs in natural language.

**Semantic collocations**, in addition, form semantic units. Semantic collocations are multiword expressions that are lexically, syntactically, pragmatically and/or statistically **idiosyncratic**. It means, that semantic collocations have semantic and/or syntactic properties that cannot be fully predicted from those of their components, and therefore semantic collocations **have to be listed in a dictionary**.

- **Examples of semantic collocations**

example	translation	description
Masarykův okruh	Masaryk circuit	motor sport race track named after the first president of Czechoslovakia, Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk
trestní čin	criminal act	harmful act
šedá ekonomika	gray market	legal trade of a commodity through unofficial distribution channels
Antonín Dvořák	Antonin Dvorak	Czech composer
skleníkový efekt	greenhouse effect	it keeps the Earth's climate warm and habitable
trest smrti	death penalty	person is put to death by the state as a punishment for a crime.
znaková řeč	sign language	language which, instead of sound patterns, uses body language
zelená karta	green card	ID card attesting to the permanent resident status of an immigrant in the United States
rovnoramenný trojúhelník	isosceles triangle	triangle with two sides equal in length
řidičský průkaz	driving license	document stating that a given person can operate a motorized vehicles

- **Examples of simple collocations**

high mountains, tall trees, strong tea, powerful car, heavy smoker, big mistake, light wind,  
the rich and famous, they are, do exercise.