



Make vs Do: make vs do: Decisions, Progress & Abstract Collocations

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

- You need to ___ a decision soon.
a) do
b) make
c) have
d) get
- The storm ___ a lot of damage to the houses.
a) did
b) made
c) had
d) took
- She ___ friends easily wherever she goes.
a) does
b) has
c) makes
d) takes
- I can't ___ up my mind about which university to choose.
a) do
b) have
c) take
d) make
- Regular practice will help you ___ progress.
a) do
b) make
c) have
d) take
- He ___ a big effort to arrive on time.
a) made
b) did
c) had
d) took
- We should all try to ___ good in the world.
a) make
b) have
c) do
d) take
- She ___ a terrible mistake on the exam.
a) did
b) had
c) took
d) made
- Please ___ sure you lock the door when you leave.
a) do
b) make
c) have
d) take
- Small actions can ___ a big difference.
a) make
b) do
c) have
d) take



Answers

1. b) make
2. a) did
3. c) makes
4. d) make
5. b) make
6. a) made
7. c) do
8. d) made
9. b) make
10. a) make
11. c) do
12. d) made
13. b) making
14. a) did
15. c) made
16. d) making
17. b) did
18. a) did
19. c) make
20. d) made



Explanations

1. “make” (b)

'Make a decision' is a fixed collocation. Use 'make' for choices and judgements. You need to make a decision soon.

2. “did” (a)

'Do damage' is the correct collocation. Use 'do' for causing harm or damage. The storm did a lot of damage to the houses.

3. “makes” (c)

'Make friends' is a fixed collocation meaning to form new friendships. She makes friends easily wherever she goes.

4. “make” (d)

'Make up your mind' is a fixed expression meaning to decide. I can't make up my mind about which university to choose.

5. “make” (b)

'Make progress' is the correct collocation. Use 'make' for advancement and improvement. Regular practice will help you make progress.

6. “made” (a)

'Make an effort' is a fixed collocation. Use 'make' for trying hard to do something. He made a big effort to arrive on time.

7. “do” (c)

'Do good' means to perform helpful or charitable acts. Use 'do' for actions that help others. We should all try to do good in the world.

8. “made” (d)

'Make a mistake' is a fixed collocation. Use 'make' for errors. She made a terrible mistake on the exam.

9. “make” (b)

'Make sure' is a fixed expression meaning to check or confirm. Please make sure you lock the door when you leave.

10. “make” (a)

'Make a difference' is a fixed collocation meaning to have an important effect. Small actions can make a big difference.

11. “do” (c)

'Do the right thing' is a fixed collocation meaning to act correctly or ethically. I think we should do the right thing and tell the truth.

12. “made” (d)

'Make a fortune' means to earn a very large amount of money. He made a fortune selling his tech company.

13. “making” (b)

'Make plans' is the correct collocation. Use 'make' for creating arrangements. They are making plans for their summer holiday.

14. “did” (a)

'Do harm' and 'do good' are fixed collocations. 'Do more harm than good' means to cause more problems than benefits. The new policy did more harm than good.

15. “made” (c)

'Make a list' is a fixed collocation. Use 'make' for creating written records. She made a list of everything she needed to buy.

16. “making” (d)

'Make fun of' is a fixed expression meaning to laugh at or mock someone. Stop making fun of your little brother!

17. “did” (b)

'Do well' is the correct collocation meaning to perform successfully. He did really well in his final exams.

18. “did” (a)

'Do nothing/something/everything' — use 'do' with indefinite pronouns. The children did nothing all afternoon — they just watched TV.

19. “make” (c)

'Make a living' means to earn enough money to support yourself. She wants to make a living as a freelance writer.

20. “made” (d)

'Make an impression' is a fixed collocation. Use 'make' for the effect you have on others. His presentation made a great impression on the audience.