

## Academic Vocabulary

Another important feature of English academic writing is a tendency to choose more formal alternatives when selecting words of different parts of speech.

### Verbs

English academic style makes use of formal verbs, often of Latin origin. In Ukrainian textbooks, such verbs are usually referred to as “general scientific verbs” (Ukr. *загальнонаукова лексика*).

**Task 15\*** Below are the most frequently used “scientific verbs” (in the left column) and the descriptions of their meanings (in the right column) arranged in groups of ten, alphabetically. Check your knowledge of the verbs by matching them with the descriptions of their meanings. Memorize the words you do not know actively.

#### A)

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 1. accept      | 1. put in order                           |
| 2. accomplish  | 2. reach by effort                        |
| 3. account for | 3. decide the importance and give reasons |
| 4. achieve     | 4. have an influence on, act on           |
| 5. adjust      | 5. agree or recognize with approval       |
| 6. affect      | 6. make practical use of                  |
| 7. apply       | 7. regulate                               |
| 8. arrange     | 8. take as true before there is proof     |
| 9. assess      | 9. perform successfully                   |
| 10. assume     | 10. explain the cause of                  |

#### B)

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 1. avoid      | 1. describe similarities or differences         |
| 2. clarify    | 2. arrive at an opinion                         |
| 3. coincide   | 3. be similar in area and outline               |
| 4. compare    | 4. keep away from                               |
| 5. complete   | 5. arrive at (knowledge, a theory) by reasoning |
| 6. concern    | 6. have relation to                             |
| 7. conclude   | 7. finish                                       |
| 8. consider   | 8. make clear                                   |
| 9. correspond | 9. be in harmony                                |
| 10. deduce    | 10. think about, regard                         |

#### C)

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1. define      | 1. appear  |
| 2. derive from | 2. lay stress on                                 |
| 3. determine   | 3. found, set up                                 |
| 4. emerge      | 4. state precisely the meaning of                |
| 5. emphasize   | 5. form a judgment about, calculate the value of |
| 6. ensure      | 6. find out precisely                            |
| 7. establish   | 7. guarantee                                     |
| 8. estimate    | 8. take as a starting point, source or origin    |
| 9. evaluate    | 9. concentrate on                                |
| 10. focus on   | 10. find out the value of                        |

#### D)

- |                |                                    |
|----------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. identify    | 1. keep up                         |
| 2. imply       | 2. become concerned with something |
| 3. include     | 3. point                           |
| 4. increase    | 4. pay no attention to             |
| 5. indicate    | 5. make a careful study of         |
| 6. infer       | 6. make a suggestion               |
| 7. investigate | 7. become greater in size          |
| 8. involve     | 8. conclude                        |
| 9. maintain    | 9. bring in                        |
| 10. neglect    | 10. establish the identity of      |

Collocations

E)

- |            |                    |
|------------|--------------------|
| 1. observe | 1. make            |
| 2. obtain  | 2. go before       |
| 3. occur   | 3. make smaller    |
| 4. omit    | 4. give, supply    |
| 5. perform | 5. get             |
| 6. precede | 6. watch carefully |
| 7. proceed | 7. go forward      |
| 8. produce | 8. do              |
| 9. provide | 9. leave out       |
| 10. reduce | 10. happen         |

F)

- |             |                                  |
|-------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. refer to | 1. depend upon                   |
| 2. regard   | 2. give a result                 |
| 3. rely on  | 3. be enough for                 |
| 4. require  | 4. turn to for information, etc. |
| 5. satisfy  | 5. change position               |
| 6. specify  | 6. make use of                   |
| 7. suppose  | 7. consider                      |
| 8. transfer | 8. state or name definitely      |
| 9. utilize  | 9. demand                        |
| 10. yield   | 10. guess, take as a fact        |

**Special advice:** write out the verbs on a separate sheet and keep it at hand while writing in English: you will find this helpful. You may also add to this list other “general scientific verbs” that you will come across when reading literature in your field.

Collocations are relatively stable word-combinations that occur regularly. Their knowledge and appropriate use is very important for successful academic writing in English.

Task 16\*

A)

The following sentences contain widespread academic collocations. However, one component—a noun (in the majority of cases)—has been omitted. Find the missing words in the list above the sentences and fill in the blanks.

status quo	scope	clues	light
implications	conclusions	rise	insights
issues	account	granted	emphasis

- Social and ideological crises usually *give* \_\_\_ to non-traditional religions and beliefs.
- Ecologists *lay* \_\_\_ on the consequences of human utilization of natural resources.
- The data he has found will *shed* \_\_\_ on theoretical assumptions.
- Advances in molecular biology may *have* \_\_\_ for therapy.
- Recent research into mental illnesses has *provided* \_\_\_ to the causes of schizophrenia.
- The recent elections have shown that political forces managed to *maintain the* \_\_\_ .
- The participants of the conference have raised many *burning* \_\_\_ .
- The paper *offers* \_\_\_ into the history of the Ukrainian emigration to Canada.
- For the purposes of this research, this theorem will be *taken for* \_\_\_ .
- The tests of gene therapy have allowed medical scientists to *draw* \_\_\_ about its possible risks and benefits.
- Practical consequences of the research *lie outside the* \_\_\_ of this paper.
- When investigating the origin of different disease, researchers *take into* \_\_\_ both hereditary and environmental factors.

B)

Now choose a missing verb and fill in the blanks.

extended	elaborates	laid	draw on
provides	corroborate	fall	places
submit	heightened	contributed	faces

1. Traditionally, Ukrainian higher education \_\_\_ *importance* on the development of wide erudition of students.
2. The authors of the article \_\_\_ *recent research* to show how the goal of learning English vocabulary can be integrated into speaking activities.
3. N. Bohr, the outstanding Danish physicist, \_\_\_ *the foundations* of a "liquid droplet" theory of nuclear phenomena.
4. Few facts \_\_\_ *the theory* of the virus nature of cancer.
5. In the history of science, some researchers \_\_\_ *the theories* that already existed to include the new phenomena.
6. He \_\_\_ *research* into the use of optics.
7. Many scholars think that humankind \_\_\_ *the problem* of overpopulation.
8. If you try to be as accurate as possible when learning a foreign language, you \_\_\_ *into a category* of the analytic learner.
9. Cloning of animals \_\_\_ *further opportunities* for biological research.
10. Intensive space exploration in the second half of the 20th century has essentially \_\_\_ *to our understanding* of the Universe.
11. You may try to \_\_\_ *the paper* to an international journal.
12. Political and economic changes in Ukraine have \_\_\_ *the need* of society for economists and lawyers.

C)

The collocations in this section consist of a noun and an adjective or two nouns joined by a preposition. Choose a missing component and fill in the blanks again.

inquiry	theoretical	background	causal
considerations	integral	debated	site
reliable	lack	finding	preliminary

1. There is a \_\_\_ *relationship* between the attraction of the moon and sea tides.
2. The *key* \_\_\_ of the study suggests that high cortisol level in an individual may cause the symptoms of depression.
3. In this paper, we show the \_\_\_ *results* of computational simulation for a case of the thermal resistance function that will be further verified.
4. Nowadays, ecological interpretation is becoming an \_\_\_ *part* of social sciences.
5. The right of women to have abortions is a *hotly* \_\_\_ *issue* in many countries.
6. \_\_\_ *of consistency* in obtained data has led to their wrong interpretation.
7. Discourse analysis is a relatively new *area (field)* of \_\_\_.
8. The laboratory is a *research* \_\_\_ of biologists and chemists.
9. The theory of shells has been chosen as a \_\_\_ *framework* of this investigation.
10. Philological research requires wide \_\_\_ *knowledge* in such related fields as history and philosophy.
11. The study has been undertaken with *theoretical* \_\_\_.
12. To arrive at valid conclusions, sociologists must use only \_\_\_ *sources and data*.

**Special advice:** write out the collocations on a separate sheet and keep it at hand when writing in English: you will find this extremely helpful! While reading the literature in your field, try to write out more collocations typical for your discipline and add them to the list.