

L98: Introduction to Computational Semantics

Pre-Lecture 4 Exercise: Collocations

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Appropriateness of adjective–noun combinations

- Look at the adjective noun combinations on the next page.
- The adjectives are near-synonyms, but nevertheless not all combinations sound equally good in English.
- Select those that sound best to you.
- If you are an L2 speaker of English and lack the intuition (or maybe everything sounds equally good to you), you can use web search cleverly to narrow down your choices. (Tip: this should also be your method of choice if you are in such a situation for “real”, e.g., when writing anything and not being sure about what sounds best.)
- We will encounter some theories about this strange concept of “sounding good” in the lecture.

Which goes with which?

	unblemished	spotless	flawless	immaculate	impeccable
performance					
argument					
complexion					
behaviour					
kitchen					
record					
reputation					
taste					
order					
credentials					