

Vocabulary

Collocations

4 The expressions *quick fix* and *quick exit* were used in the recording. Many other nouns collocate with adjectives describing speed. Explain the meanings of the underlined phrases in a–h.

- Let's get a quick bite before the play starts.
- Life in the fast lane was proving even more hectic than Henry had imagined.
- Benson had a reputation for trying to make a quick buck.
- Travellers in business or first class may use our fast track channel.
- With only a brisk nod in our direction, the man carried on with his presentation.
- Both parties issued a swift denial, but most of the tabloids ran the story in any case.
- The team pride themselves on their rapid response, generally one to two days maximum.
- After a quick catnap, he was ready to face the press.

5 Conversely, the adjective *slow* collocates with several nouns in the business context. Choose nouns from the box to complete these sentences from the Cambridge English Corpus. There are three nouns which you do not need to use.

decline	growth	lane	motion	pace
process	signs	speeds	tempo	

- With 40% unemployment, extremely slow, and a massive trade deficit, the economy remains **dependent on** foreign aid.
- Although sales nearly tripled that year, they grew at a slower than in the previous 12 months.
- The retail industry is showing slow of recovery.
- Overcoming the legacy of low-trust industrial relations is **necessarily** a slow
- The recession has **turned** the long, slow of newspapers into a **brisk** fall.
- Rural residents are too often stuck in the slow of the information highway, shut off from education and employment opportunities.

Idiom spot

Neologisms

Many of the expressions in 3 have only entered the language recently and are used particularly in business and in journalism. Complete these examples with one of the idioms or expressions (a–m) in the correct form.

- It appears that on the question of the newspaper's survival.
- The spin-off from his success is in attendance and greater commitment all round.
- It only takes lower interest rates for the retail industry to get excited.
- We live in a solution-hungry time, where people are confused, busy, and anxious to latch on to any they can.
- The applicant who was chosen for the post had an excellent in hedge fund trading.
- The arrival of the so-called independent advisors was for staff, who were asked to produce fresh data almost overnight.

The term *golden handshake* now has its opposite in business, referring to someone's entry into a company. Match the colours to the nouns given (one colour is used twice). Then use the expressions in sentences a–f.

blue	goods
golden	ink
green	chip
red	knight
white	hello
	shoots

- In spite of substantial investment, the company is still bleeding and drastic action is likely before the year end.
- Although we cannot report much that is positive, some encouraging are starting to appear, particularly in certain export markets.
- Typically, companies have been in business for a long time and are dominant in their particular markets.
- Sales volumes of such as dishwashers and freezers are virtually static.
- It is thought that top executive James Eagleton received a of around \$2 million on joining the corporation.
- Rumours that a was about to step in proved unfounded and the company was taken over within a matter of weeks.