

ART OR ARTS

Task 1

1. What is the difference in meaning between the words *art* and *arts*?

2. Study the meaning and use of the two words in a section of a large corpus of General English (over 1 billion words). Go to the following address and register for a free account. Then follow the instructions below:

Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA) <https://www.english-corpora.org/coca/>

- In the 'SEARCH' > 'List' tab, type *art/arts* in the query box. Next, click on the 'Sections' button and scroll down the list. Select 'MAG: Soc/Arts' which stands for magazine articles devoted to the topics of arts and social issues. Then press the button 'Find matching strings'.

The screenshot shows the COCA website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with icons for search, frequency, context, and overview. Below this, there are four tabs: SEARCH, FREQUENCY, CONTEXT, and OVERVIEW. The SEARCH tab is active. In the search area, the text 'art/arts' is entered in the query box, and the 'Find matching strings' button is highlighted. Below the search area, there are options for 'Sections', 'Texts/Virtual', 'Sort/Limit', and 'Options'. The 'Sections' option is selected, and a list of sections is displayed. The 'MAG: Soc/Arts' section is highlighted. To the right of the search area, there is a 'List' tab and a 'Chart' tab. Below the search area, there is a 'List' tab and a 'Chart' tab. The 'List' tab is active, and a list of sections is displayed. The 'MAG: Soc/Arts' section is highlighted. To the right of the search area, there is a 'List' tab and a 'Chart' tab. The 'List' tab is active, and a list of sections is displayed. The 'MAG: Soc/Arts' section is highlighted.

Corpus of Contemporary American English

SEARCH FREQUENCY CONTEXT OVERVIEW

List Chart Word Browse +

art/arts [POS]?
Find matching strings Reset

Sections Texts/Virtual Sort/Limit Options

1	MAG:News/Opin	2	IGNORE
	MAG:Financial		----
	MAG:Sci/Tech		TV/MOVIES
	MAG:Soc/Arts		BLOG
	MAG:Religion		WEB-GENL
	MAG:Sports		SPOKEN
	MAG:Entertain		FICTION
	MAG:Home/Health		MAGAZINE
	MAG:Women/Men		NEWSPAPER
	MAG:Afric-Amer		ACADEMIC

(HIDE HELP)

SECTIONS

SHOW Determines whether the frequency is shown for each "section" of the corpus (in the case of COCA, the genre or year). For example, the synonyms of *beautiful* in each section and overall.

Select a section: (sub-)genre or (set of) year(s). [Click here](#) for more examples of change over time.

*ize verbs in ACADEMIC	Past tense verb + <i>up</i> in TV/MOVIES
*ment in ACADEMIC	Nouns near <i>green</i> in 2010-2019
<i>good</i> + NOUN in NEWSPAPERS	Noun near <i>chair</i> in FIC
Hard + NOUN in MAGAZINES	Synonyms of <i>strong</i> in TV/MOVIES
Verbs in MAGAZINES-Sports	Nouns in NEWSPAPERS-Money
Adjectives in ACADEMIC-Medicine	Adverbs in TV/MOVIES

- The next screen lists the numbers of occurrences (so-called frequencies) of the two words. Which is more frequent?

HELP	①	★	ALL FORMS (SAMPLE): 100 200 500	FREQ
1	①	★	ART	12277
2	①	★	ARTS	2863
TOTAL				15140

0.281 seconds

- Click on one of the two words to see it in different contexts (co-called concordance lines). Explore this screen by clicking on active links to discover what additional information it contains.

SECTION: MAG:Soc/Arts (2,862)
 FIND SAMPLE: [100](#) [200](#) [500](#) [1000](#)
 PAGE: << < 1 / 29 > >>

CLICK FOR MORE CONTEXT						HELP	SAVE	TRANSLATE	ANALYZE
1	2015	MAG	HistoryToday	①	Q	# James Fenton, School of Genius: A History of the Royal Academy of Arts (Royal Academy of Arts, 2006). # Above: Sims"			
2	2015	MAG	HistoryToday	①	Q	of Genius: A History of the Royal Academy of Arts (Royal Academy of Arts, 2006). # Above: Sims" Magna Carta' mural in			
3	2015	MAG	HistoryToday	①	Q	relationship, from which today we still have plenty to learn, between' the arts' and the body politic. Admittedly, comedy's influence on public opinion sometime			
4	2015	MAG	HistoryToday	①	Q	. It was thus Aristophanes as controversialist whom Davenant chose to defend all the performing arts at this crucial moment in their history: Aristophanes beca			
5	2015	MAG	HistoryToday	①	Q	In an Afrikaans adaptation by Andr P. Brink of Birds, staged by the Performing Arts Council of the Transvaal's Youth Theatre in 1971, the birds created a new			
6	2015	MAG	HistoryToday	①	Q). # Charles Stuckey (ed), Monet: A Retrospective (Beaux Arts Editions, 1985). # Daniel Wildenstein, Monet, or the Triumph of			
7	2015	MAG	HistoryToday	①	Q	, machine-knit, coral-pink silk. # Fabric advertisement from the magazine The Repository of Arts, published by R. Ackermann, 1809. # Fashion plate of ladies' m			
8	2015	MAG	HistoryToday	①	Q	we move away from the established' canon' of Weimar culture to consider the arts under the Weimar Republic in a broader sense, we get a very different pictu			
9	2015	MAG	HistoryToday	①	Q	through an examination of the public debates surrounding politics, morality, society and the arts. # Considering what came after it, the fact that Weimar demo			
10	2015	MAG	NatGeog	①	Q	the girlie teenage magazines like Marie Claire and Cosmo. My background was in fine arts, and that helped me to put together colors and draw lines." During			

- Select a random sample of 100 concordances by clicking on the number '100' in the upper left corner of the screen. Study the lines and copy two sentences that illustrate best the meaning of the word. If you can't see the whole sentence, click on the number next to the line, in the leftmost column. This link will take you to a larger section of the text. You will also see the information about its source.

Source information:

Source	MAG: History Today
Date	2015
Publication information	Jul2015, Vol. 65 Issue 7, p28-30. 3p.
Title	Reinterpreting the Republic
Author	Storer, Colin;

Expanded context

comedies, horror films or historical epics. Glossy fashion magazines and hard-boiled detective stories had a larger readership than the novels of Alfred Doblin or Heinrich Mann and the extent to which most ordinary people were even aware of the paintings of George Grosz and Otto Dix or the theories of Einstein and Heisenberg is debateable. When looked at in this way, Weimar culture may seem less startlingly original or excitingly advanced than in most accounts, but it also seems richer, more multi-faceted and more reflective of the lives of ordinary Germans and, as a result, more useful in helping us to understand what it was like to live in this period. Above all, its very openness is stressed and calls into question the deterministic and pessimistic interpretation of the Republic through an examination of the public debates surrounding politics, morality, society and the arts. # Considering what came after it, the fact that Weimar democracy ultimately failed to survive the domestic and international pressures placed on it after 1929 was a tragedy not just for Germany but for Europe as a whole. Yet this should not detract from the myriad achievements of the Republic's 15 years of existence. In trying to understand how and why the Weimar Republic collapsed, as so much of the historical literature has done over the last 80 years, we should not lose sight of the positive features of its history. The story of the Republic is one of creation as well as destruction and it deserves to be remembered as such. It was a remarkable period in German history that demonstrates both the best and worst features of democratic politics and what can happen to modern industrial societies when they face extreme conditions. Indeed, given the pressures placed upon it and the consistent

- Go back to the 'FREQUENCY' tab (Figure 2). Study the other word by following the same steps.
- If you can't access the corpus, study the pages available here [LINK 1-1][LINK 1-2].

3. Fill out the gaps below with one of the two words.

- As he did, an extraordinary work of _____ emerged.
- He was made a corresponding member of the St Petersburg Academy and a Foreign Honorary member of the American Academy of _____ and Sciences.
- It was thus Aristophanes as controversialist whom Davenant chose to defend all the performing _____ at this crucial moment in their history.
- The king was also an avid collector of antiquities and contemporary _____.
- Though sought-after in front of the camera, Miller wanted to learn the _____ of photography and moved to Paris in 1929 to study under the famed Man Ray.
- Students apply anticipatory design concepts to projects in the _____, media, and user experience, and to some extent to technology, business, and the social sciences.

Task 2

1. What nouns form frequent collocations with the words *art* and *arts*?

art gallery, _____

2. Study the most frequent noun collocations of the two words by following the steps below.

Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA) <https://www.english-corpora.org/coca/>

- In the 'SEARCH' > 'List' tab, type *art NOUN* in the query box. Next, click on the 'Sections' button and scroll down the list. Select 'MAG: Soc/Arts'. Then press the button 'Find matching strings'.

The screenshot shows the COCA search interface. The search query is 'art NOUN'. The 'Sections' dropdown menu is open, showing a list of subcorpora. The 'MAG: Soc/Arts' section is selected. The 'Find matching strings' button is visible. A help panel on the right explains the 'LIST display' format.

LIST display

Find single words like *mysterious*, all forms of a word like *JUMP*, words matching patterns like **break**, phrases like *more * than* or *rough NOUN*. You can also search by synonyms (e.g. *gorgeous*), and customized wordlists like *clothes*. In each case, you see each individual matching string.

More information: [basic syntax](#), [part of speech](#), [lemmas \(forms of words\)](#), [synonyms](#), [customized word lists](#), and [combining words](#).

- The next screen lists 100 most frequent noun collocations of the word *art* together with their numbers of occurrences in the subcorpus (arts and media section). Study the first 10 most frequent collocations in context by following the same steps as in the previous activity.

Corpus of Contemporary American English

SEARCH FREQUENCY CONTEXT CONTEXT +

ON CLICK: [CONTEXT](#) [TRANSLATE \(PL\)](#) [ENTIRE PAGE](#) [GOOGLE](#) [IMAGE](#) [PRON/VIDEO](#) [BOOK](#) (HELP)

HELP	ALL FORMS (SAMPLE): 100 200 500	FREQ	TOTAL 4,665 UNIQUE 544 +
1	ART MUSEUM	402	
2	ART GALLERY	256	
3	ART WORLD	238	
4	ART INSTITUTE	229	
5	ART HISTORY	189	
6	ART CENTER	169	
7	ART STUDENTS	153	
8	ART SCHOOL	127	
9	ART EDUCATION	82	
10	ART FORM	77	

- Repeat the same steps for the word *arts*.
- You can also directly compare the most frequent collocations of the two words. In the 'SEARCH' > 'Compare' tab, select all the settings as in the screenshot below (if you can't see the 'Compare' tab, click on the plus sign next to 'Browse'). You will be comparing NOUN collocates of the words *art* and *arts* in the position directly after (one to the right of) the words.

Corpus of Contemporary American English

SEARCH FREQUENCY CONTEXT ACCOUNT

List Chart Word Browse Collocates **Compare** KWIC -

arts Word1 [POS]?
art Word2 [POS]

NOUN Collocates noun.ALL

+ 4 3 2 1 0 0 1 2 3 4 +

Compare words Reset

Sections Texts/Virtual Sort/Limit Options

1 MAG:News/Opin
MAG:Financial
MAG:Sci/Tech
MAG:Soc/Arts
MAG:Religion
MAG:Sports
MAG:Entertain
MAG:Home/Health
MAG:Women/Men
MAG:Afric-Amer

2 IGNORE

TV/MOVIES
BLOG
WEB-GENL
SPOKEN
FICTION
MAGAZINE
NEWSPAPER
ACADEMIC

(HIDE HELP) [+ UPTAKE](#)

COMPARE WORDS display

Compare the **collocates** of two words, to see how they differ in meaning and usage. For example, **utter and sheer** (note the negative collocates with *utter*), **warm and hot**, **small and little**, or adjectives near **boy and girl**.

By comparing collocates, you can move far beyond the simplistic entries in a thesaurus, to "tease out" slight differences in words, or (as in the case of *boy* and *girl*) what is the difference in what is being said about two different things.

Please review the discussion of **collocates** to see how to select the span for the collocates.

- Compare the collocations of the two words. Which nouns are more likely to occur together with the words *art* and *arts*?

Corpus of Contemporary American English

SEARCH FREQUENCY CONTEXT ACCOUNT

SEE CONTEXT: CLICK ON NUMBERS (WORD 1 OR 2) [HELP...]

SORTED BY RATIO: CHANGE TO FREQUENCY

WORD 1 (W1): **ARTS** (0.23)

	WORD	W1	W2	W1/W2	SCORE
1	FELLOWSHIP	43	0	86.0	368.4
2	COUNCIL	54	3	18.0	77.1
3	GROUPS	40	9	4.4	19.0
4	ORGANIZATIONS	20	13	1.5	6.6
5	FOUNDATION	20	18	1.1	4.8
6	CENTER	125	169	0.7	3.2
7	CLUB	36	71	0.5	2.2
8	GALLERY	26	256	0.1	0.4
9	MUSEUM	25	402	0.1	0.3

WORD 2 (W2): **ART** (4.28)

	WORD	W2	W1	W2/W1	SCORE
1	WORLD	238	0	476.0	111.1
2	INSTITUTE	229	0	458.0	106.9
3	HISTORY	190	1	190.0	44.4
4	FORM	77	0	154.0	35.9
5	CRITIC	68	0	136.0	31.7
6	GALLERIES	67	0	134.0	31.3
7	METHODS	54	0	108.0	25.2
8	MATERIALS	52	0	104.0	24.3
9	HISTORIAN	51	0	102.0	23.8
10	DECO	50	0	100.0	23.3
11	NOUVEAU	41	0	82.0	19.1
12	SHOW	40	0	80.0	18.7

- If you can't access the corpus, study the pages available here. [LINK 1-3] [LINK 1-4]

3. Complete the gaps below with the more frequent collocate.

- It remains one of the most stirring battle portraits in British _____ history.
- After moving with her family to Oklahoma, McGuire had the good fortune in high school to have an _____ teacher who gave his students challenging assignments.
- She has served on the boards of numerous _____ organizations over the years, including the American Craft Council.
- Both the _____ Council (An Chomhairle Ealaíon) in Dublin and the _____ Council of Northern Ireland in Belfast support visual art through individual grants for buying time and materials, training and travel
- When they saw _____ exhibition of contemporary Scandinavian art in 1912, they felt an immediate affinity.

Task 3

Follow the same steps to study adjectival collocations of the two words. Note, the adjective (ADJ) comes before these two words so you need to adjust the search words and settings accordingly.