

Using the 'friends' of a noun

When you come across any noun, e.g. *economy*, explore the words that typically occur with it and try to use these words in your writing and speaking, so you can build the range of your vocabulary.

► Activity 1

For each of the following two lists, find three more adjectives that typically occur with the noun *economy*.

1. strong stable buoyant
 booming robust vibrant

2. weak ailing faltering
 sagging sluggish

► Activity 2

Find the adjective which you can use to describe each of the following types of *economy*:

1. an economy which is centred around knowledge

a(n) _____ economy

2. an economy which is in the countryside

a(n) _____ economy

3. an economy which is related to business and buying and selling

a(n) _____ economy

4. an economy which has developed beyond being industrial

a(n) _____ economy

5. an economy which is based on the latest technology

a(n) _____ economy

6. an economy which is very sophisticated

a(n) _____ economy

7. an economy which covers the whole world

a(n) _____ economy

8. an economy which does not use a lot of carbon

a(n) _____ economy

► Activity 3

Suggest a title for the paragraph below, then complete the text with suitable words that typically occur with the noun *economy* (there may be more than one word possible in each case).

Economic development depends on many factors, but the main one in my opinion is education. For example, a¹ _____ economy needs educated workers whose expertise in using the technology will help² _____ an economy. If there is a lack of skilled workers, it can lead to a³ _____ in the economy and eventually⁴ _____ the economy.

► Activity 4

Formulate questions using the words below. Practise answering them with a partner.

1. economic development / social development.

2. global economy / movement of people around world.

3. knowledge-based economy / benefit.

4. boost / rural economies.