Find a single word that can fill all three gaps in each group of sentences below. The word must be in the same grammatical form. For example:

I got a lot of __ wear __ out of that coat.
The carpet needs replacing – it’s starting to show signs of __ wear __.
The shop has a new range of casual __ wear __ for men and women.

1.
The team were nearing the summit when the monsoon __________.
We arrived at Narita just before the dawn __________.
One of the rhinos __________ cover and charged straight at them.

2.
She’s __________ to find out about it one day – you can’t keep it a secret forever.
After leaving Paris, the train was __________ for Istanbul.
The two parties are not legally __________ until the contract has been signed.

3.
I’m sorry – I didn’t quite __________ what you said.
The police launched a huge inquiry to __________ the killer.
Don’t stand out in the rain – you’ll __________ your death of cold.

4.
He was angry and __________ at her for no reason.
When she arrived at the party, Charlotte suddenly __________ out of it and started to look more cheerful.
She _____ her briefcase shut and left the room in a huff.

5.
She has instinctive good __________ in clothes and always looks good.
I thought your joke was in pretty poor __________ and could have offended someone.
He’s so nice – why don’t you like him? I suppose there’s no accounting for __________.

6.
I thought there was a certain coldness in his __________ when he spoke to me.
I suppose you could call us opera fans in a __________ of speaking.
He earned his living by painting pictures in the __________ of the early Impressionists.
Teacher’s Notes

21 Bridge the Gap!

Time: 30 minutes

Aims:
- To show the importance of word combinations (collocations).
- To extend students’ usable vocabulary.
- To prepare students for CPE Use of English Part 3.

1. Ask students to write three sentences using the noun wear in different contexts and with different meanings, checking their ideas in the Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English. Ask them how many other uses wear can have as a noun.

2. Focus on the example, telling the class that just one word in the same grammatical form fits all three sentences (wear – noun).

3. Explain that the best way to learn new vocabulary is to note down word combinations (collocations). Ask students to underline the collocations in the example (“get wear out of”, “signs of wear”, “casual wear”). Point out that the dictionary shows collocations in bold or in boxes.

4. In pairs students fill in the missing words in the worksheet, writing down possible answers before checking collocations in the dictionary (under the right grammatical form).

5. Go through the answers then ask students to make up sentences to test their fellow students in the same way.

Answers:
1. broke; 2. bound; 3. catch; 4. snapped; 5. taste; 6. manner