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INTRODUCING GRAMMAR

- 1 Test yourself by choosing the correct alternative in the following sentences.
 - a. ~~It~~/**There** is a lot of work left to do.
 - b. They were travelling **by**/~~with~~ train.
 - c. Harry **goes** / ~~is going~~ to Spain every winter.
 - d. She ~~hanged~~/**hung** her new dress in her wardrobe.
 - e. I haven't got **any**/~~no~~/~~some~~ new ideas.
 - f. Go to bed at once, ~~do~~/**will** you!
 - g. Money ~~are~~/**is** the root of all evil.
 - h. The dog had lost **its**/~~it's~~ collar.

- 2 Corpus exercise based on the British National Corpus.
 - a. *Cats* occurs 1550 times, *dogs* 4347 times. (*Cat* occurs 3847 times, *dog* 7846.)
 - b. The most common phrase is *bacon and eggs* (62 occurrences).
 - c. *It's stupid cow*.
 - d. *An arm and a leg* typically occurs after the verbs *cost* and *pay*. There can also be a pronoun, such as *cost him an arm and a leg*. In such contexts, *an arm and a leg* means "a lot of money".
 - e. *Pretty girl* is slightly more common than *beautiful girl*.

- f. The most common in front of *boy* is *pretty* (18), followed by *beautiful* (11), *handsome* (9) and *cute* (0). Note the much lower frequency of these words with *boy* than with *girl*.
- g. The word that tends to occur before *your blessings* is *count*.