

Strategies and skills

Phrases with prepositions

The correct choice for a gap often depends on matching the correct option with the preposition after the gap.

1a Read the sentences and look at the highlighted prepositions. Choose the word that is followed by each preposition and fits the context.

- 1 I'm very interested / curious / keen / attracted in music.
- 2 I wasn't sure how to arrive / find / reach / get to the restaurant.
- 3 I'm not informed / interested / familiar / knowledgeable with his books.
- 4 James is still mending / recovering / improving / gaining from his operation.
- 5 I felt very pleased / satisfied / proud / content of myself.
- 6 It wasn't clear whether she approved / liked / agreed / accepted of what we had done.
- 7 The wet weather had a very damaging result / solution / effect / end on tourism.
- 8 I hadn't recognised / noticed / realised / heard of this artist before.

1b What prepositions are the other words followed by? Which words are not usually followed by a preposition?

Prepositions are also used before nouns, in fixed phrases or collocations. It is important to learn and recognise these. Sometimes the preposition may be the gap.

2 Look at the prepositions and nouns (A-D) carefully. Then choose the ones which form fixed phrases or collocations to complete the sentences.

- 1 It was really exciting to finally meet her in _____.

A end	B life	C person	D face
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- 2 She was a doctor by _____.

A job	B profession	C work	D employment
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- 3 We soon found that we had a lot _____ in common.

A as	B for	C between	D in
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- 4 _____ my surprise, they offered me the job as a photographer.

A For	B In	C To	D Against
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- 5 The police soon arrived on the _____.

A location	B place	C situation	D scene
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- 6 He could play the whole piece of music by _____.

A memory	B mind	C heart	D feeling
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SPEAKING BOOST

Discuss or answer.

- 1 Describe your perfect home.
- 2 What are the challenges when you move to a new home/ location?

Phrasal verbs

Some questions test your knowledge of phrasal verbs.

Sometimes the whole phrasal verb is missing, or sometimes just the verb or the particle.

TIP: Make sure you learn as many phrasal verbs as you can. It's important to remember which need an object, which can be separated and which have three rather than two parts.

3 Choose the correct words or phrases to complete the sentences.

- 1 The book was popular and quickly sold in / off / out / after.
- 2 There were fears that robots would take / give / get / make over our lives.
- 3 Other members of the group made up for / got through to / went over to / came up with some good ideas.
- 4 I decided to take / get / make / put up his offer of a job with the company.
- 5 I hoped I might pick off / up / out / over some useful tips.
- 6 I always shut down / put off / take off / shut up my computer before I go home from work.

4 Choose the correct verb (A-D) to complete the sentences.

- 1 We've decided to _____ ahead with our plans for a new office.
 A take B go C put D bring
- 2 They've _____ the meeting off until next week.
 A got B stopped C put D taken
- 3 Food prices have _____ up a lot recently.
 A changed B got C taken D gone
- 4 Do you think we should _____ together for a meeting?
 A get B bring C take D make
- 5 All the lights suddenly _____ off.
 A moved B got C put D went
- 6 I was ill last week, so I _____ a bit behind with my work.
 A went B came C got D turned
- 7 We don't like the temporary office location but we will have to _____ up with it until June.
 A live B put C take D turn
- 8 Everyone says I _____ after my father because we look alike and both love jazz.
 A look B go C take D do