

Prepositions after adjectives and nouns

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

- 1 a My brother is good at sport but he is very bad at English.
b My brother is good in sport but he is very bad in English.
- 2 a The percentage in women attending university is increasing.
b The percentage of women attending university is increasing.

Some adjectives are always followed by a specific preposition.

At. We say you are *bad at*, *good at* or *surprised at* something:

I was **surprised at** the number of people who came.

About and with. We say you are *angry about* or *pleased about* something but *angry with* or *pleased with* a person:

I am **pleased about** your new job. I was really **angry with** John.

After *disappointed* we use *about* or *with*; after *worried* we only use *about*:

She was pretty **disappointed with / about** her exam results.

I am **worried about** John. They are **worried about** the test.

Some nouns are always followed by a specific preposition.

In. We say *decrease in*, *drop in*, *fall in*, *increase in*, *rise in*:

There was an **increase in** attendance at this month's meeting.

Between. To contrast two things, we talk about the *difference between* them:

The main **difference between** the American and the Canadian accent is in the vowels.

Of. We say: *advantage of*, *disadvantage of*, *example of*, *number of*, *percentage of*, *use of*:

The **number of** people in my class who smoke is incredible.

2 Correct the mistake below.

The class look very pleased of their final results.

The class look



3 Fill in the blanks using a word from this unit and the correct preposition.

- 1 I've never been very painting or drawing.
- 2 The USA's population is far greater, so there is a big the two totals.
- 3 One saving money is that you will be able to enjoy your retirement.
- 4 The most dramatic numbers occurred in 1997, with a 30% rise.
- 5 Peter was very robotics, so he enjoyed the lecture very much.
- 6 The children with obesity problems is increasing each year.
- 7 One i-tasking is reading emails while talking on the phone.
- 8 Fortunately, there was a steady the number of road accidents.