

Preposition and noun phrases

I can use preposition + noun phrases.

1 Choose the correct answers (a–c) to complete the sentences.

- It looks as though that shop has closed ____ – it's been empty for weeks now.
a for now b for one thing c for good
- The instructions should be clear, but if you're ____, just ask someone.
a in doubt b in vain c in effect
- It was a horrible journey, but we got there ____.
a in all b in the end c in that case
- If the staff here think you're ____, they'll ask to see some identification.
a under arrest b under the impression c under age
- There's too much ____ to risk failing this exam.
a at stake b at fault c at the moment
- Do you have more ____ with your father or your mother?
a in any case b in common c in that case

2 Write the words in brackets in the correct order to complete the sentences.

- We were (the / impression / party / the / under / that) had been cancelled.

- Dan and Mia (a / have / for / been / while / dating).

- I'm afraid (a / moment / I'm / busy / the / bit / at). Can I call you back?

- I was going to buy the brown boots, (on / decided / second / but / thoughts / I) to get the black ones.

- 'What do you like about living in Barcelona?' 'Well, (one / a / got / for / thing / it's) great nightlife.'

- I'll lend you this book (give / on / you / that / it / condition) back next week.

3 Complete the sentences with the correct prepositions.

- The ticket office sold me a return rather than a single ____ mistake.
- Do you think Petra didn't invite us to her party ____ purpose?
- I heard Finn got ____ trouble for not doing his homework.
- Tina's not very keen on rock music – ____ fact, she can't stand it!
- I'd like to see you later, but ____ course, if you're busy, that's fine.
- No one was really ____ fault. It was just an accident.

4 Correct the mistakes in the phrases in bold. Tick the correct sentences.

- It was a long day and **at the time** I got home I was exhausted. ☐
- The show doesn't start until eight, so we should still get there **in time**. ☐
- Joe and Lisa were always arguing and **at the end** they split up. ☐
- It's only **by the end** of the book that you learn the killer's identity. ☐
- I didn't realise it **by the time**, but the girl we met last night was Terry's sister. ☐
- We should have moved house **by the end** of the month. ☐

5 Choose the correct words to complete the text.

How do you stop being friends with someone you no longer feel close to? If you've been friends for 'a while / one thing', you may simply not have anything in 'effect / common' any more. It doesn't mean anyone's at 'fault / last'. If you've tried in 'vain / control' to make things work, maybe it's best to end the friendship. Naturally, you don't want to hurt the other person, and if you're in any 'time / doubt', don't say or do anything you might regret. Perhaps your friend doesn't realise how you feel – they may be under 'control / the impression' that everything's fine. You could talk to them and suggest not seeing each other for a few weeks, and in 'time / fact' you'll know whether you want your friendship to continue or not.



VOCAB BOOST!

When you come across a new preposition + noun phrase, record it in your notebook under the preposition.

by: chance, mistake with: (any) luck for: a while

Then write an example sentence for each preposition + noun phrase to help you remember it:

With any luck, my parents will let me stay over at my friend's house tonight.

6 Read the Vocab boost! box. Complete the sentences with an appropriate noun and your own ideas.

- Although I haven't done it for a ____, I used to like ____.
- At the ____, my favourite song is ____.
- The last time I was late for something was ____.
I couldn't get there on ____ because ____.
- In the future, I'd love to _____. With any _____, I'll be able to.
- There are several reasons why I like my best friend. For one _____, he/she _____.