

Verb + preposition 3 **about and of****A****hear ABOUT ...** = *be told about something*

- Did you **hear about** the fire at the hotel yesterday?

**hear OF ...** = *know that somebody/something exists*

- 'Who is Tom Hart?' 'I have no idea. I've never **heard of** him.' (not heard from him)

**hear FROM ...** = *be in contact with somebody*

- 'Have you **heard from** Jane recently?' 'Yes, she called me a few days ago.'

**B****think ABOUT ... and think OF ...**When you **think ABOUT** something, you consider it, you concentrate your mind on it:

- I've **thought about** what you said and I've decided to take your advice.
- 'Will you lend me the money?' 'I'll **think about** it.'

When you **think OF** something, the idea comes to your mind:

- It was my idea. I **thought of** it first. (not thought about it)
- I felt embarrassed. I couldn't **think of** anything to say. (not think about anything)

We also use **think of** when we ask or give an opinion:

- 'What did you **think of** the movie?' 'I didn't **think much of** it.' (= I didn't like it much)

The difference is sometimes very small and you can use **of** or **about**:

- When I'm alone, I often **think of** (or **about**) you.

You can say **think of** or **think about** doing something (for possible future actions):

- My sister is **thinking of** (or **about**) going to Canada. (= she is considering it)

**C****dream ABOUT ...** (when you are asleep)

- I **dreamt about** you last night.

**dream OF or ABOUT** being something / doing something = *imagine*

- Do you **dream of** (or **about**) being rich and famous?

**I wouldn't dream OF** doing something = *I would never do it*

- 'Don't tell anyone what I said.' 'No, I **wouldn't dream of** it.' (= I would never do it)

**D****complain (TO somebody) ABOUT ...** = *say that you are not satisfied*

- We **complained to** the manager of the restaurant **about** the food.

**complain OF** a pain, an illness etc. = *say that you have a pain etc.*

- We called the doctor because George was **complaining of** a pain in his stomach.

**E****remind somebody ABOUT ...** = *tell somebody not to forget*

- I'm glad you **reminded** me **about** the meeting. I'd completely forgotten about it.

**remind somebody OF ...** = *cause somebody to remember*

- This house **reminds** me **of** the one I lived in when I was a child.
- Look at this photograph of Richard. Who does he **remind** you **of**?

**F****warn somebody ABOUT** a person or thing which is bad, dangerous, unusual etc.

- I knew he was a strange person. I had been **warned about** him. (not warned of him)
- Vicky **warned me** about the traffic. She said it would be bad.

**warn somebody ABOUT or OF** a danger, something bad which might happen later

- Scientists have **warned us about** (or **of**) the effects of climate change.

# Exercises

**134.1** Complete the sentences using **hear** or **heard** + a preposition (**about/of/from**).

- I've never heard of Tom Hart. Who is he?
- 'Did you hear about the accident last night?' 'Yes, Vicky told me.'
- Jane used to call me quite often, but I haven't heard from her for a long time now.
- A: Have you heard of a writer called William Hudson?  
B: No, I don't think so. What sort of writer is he?
- Thanks for your email. It was good to hear from you.
- 'Do you want to hear about our holiday?' 'Not now. Tell me later.'
- I live in a small town in the north of England. You've probably never heard of it.

**134.2** Complete the sentences using **think about** or **think of**. Sometimes both **about** and **of** are possible. Use the correct form of **think** (**think/thinking/thought**).

- You look serious. What are you thinking about?
- I need time to make decisions. I like to think about things carefully.
- That's a good idea. Why didn't I think of that?
- A: I've finished reading the book you lent me.  
B: What did you think of it? Did you think it was good?
- We're thinking about going out to eat this evening. Would you like to come?
- I don't really want to go out with Tom tonight. I'll have to think about an excuse.
- When I was offered the job, I didn't accept immediately. I went away and thought about it for a while. In the end I decided to take the job.
- I don't think about much of this coffee. It's like water.
- Katherine is homesick. She's always thinking about her family back home.
- A: Do you think I should apply to do the course?  
B: I can't think of any reason why not.

**134.3** Put in the correct preposition.

- Did you hear about the fire at the hotel yesterday?
- 'I had a strange dream last night.' 'Did you? What did you dream about?'
- Our neighbours complained to us about the noise we made last night.
- Kevin was complaining about pains in his chest, so he went to the doctor.
- I love this music. It reminds me of a warm day in spring.
- He loves his job. He thinks about his work all the time, he dreams about it, he talks about it and I'm fed up with hearing about it.
- 'We've got no money. What can we do?' 'Don't worry. I'll think about something.'
- Jackie warned me about the water. She said it wasn't safe to drink.
- We warned our children about the dangers of playing in the street.

**134.4** Complete the sentences using these verbs (in the correct form) + a preposition:

complain    dream    hear    remind    remind    think    think    warn

- It was my idea. I thought of it first.
- Ben is never satisfied. He's always thinking about something.
- I can't make a decision yet. I need time to think about your proposal.
- Before you go into the house, I must warn you about the dog. He's bitten people before, so be careful.
- She's not a well-known singer. Not many people have heard of her.
- A: You wouldn't go away without telling me, would you?  
B: Of course not. I wouldn't warn about it.
- I would have forgotten my appointment if Jane hadn't reminded me about it.
- Do you see that man over there? Does he remind you of anybody you know?