

A

Verb + of

accuse / suspect somebody **OF** ...

- Sue **accused** me **of** being selfish.
- Some students were **suspected of** cheating in the exam.

approve / disapprove **OF** ...

- His parents don't **approve of** what he does, but they can't stop him.

die **OF** or **FROM** an illness etc.

- 'What did he **die of**?' 'A heart attack.'

consist **OF** ...

- We had an enormous meal. It **consisted of** seven courses.

B

Verb + for

pay (somebody) **FOR** ...

- I didn't have enough money to **pay for** the meal. (*not pay the meal*)
- but pay** a bill / a fine / a fee / tax / rent / a sum of money etc. (no preposition)
- I didn't have enough money to **pay the rent**.

thank / forgive somebody **FOR** ...

- I'll never **forgive** them **for** what they did.

apologise (TO somebody) **FOR** ...

- When I realised I was wrong, I **apologised** (to them) **for** my mistake.

blame somebody/something **FOR** ... , somebody is **to blame** **FOR** ...

- Everybody **blamed** me **for** the accident.
- Everybody said that I was **to blame for** the accident.

blame (a problem etc.) **ON** ...

- The accident wasn't my fault. Don't **blame** it **on** me.

C

Verb + from

suffer **FROM** an illness etc.

- There's been an increase in the number of people **suffering from** heart disease.

protect somebody/something **FROM**

- Sun block **protects** the skin **from** the sun.

D

Verb + on

depend / rely **ON** ...

- 'What time will you be home?' 'I don't know. It **depends on** the traffic.'
- You can **rely on** Anna. She always keeps her promises.

You can use **depend + when/where/how** etc. with or without **on**:

- 'Are you going to buy it?' 'It **depends how much** it is.' (or It depends **on** how much)

live **ON** money/food

- Michael's salary is very low. It isn't enough to **live on**.

congratulate / compliment somebody **ON** ...

- I **congratulated** her **on** doing so well in her exams.
- The meal was really good. I **complimented** Mark **on** his cooking skills.

Exercises

135.1 Put in the correct preposition. If no preposition is necessary, leave the space empty.

- Some students were suspected of cheating in the exam.
- Are you going to apologise for what you did?
- The apartment consists of three rooms, a kitchen and bathroom.
- I was accused of lying, but I was telling the truth.
- We finished our meal, paid for the bill, and left the restaurant.
- The accident was my fault, so I had to pay for the repairs.
- Some people are dying of hunger, while others eat too much.
- I called Helen to thank her for the present she sent me.
- The government is popular. Most people approve of what they're doing.
- Do you blame the government for the economic situation?
- When something goes wrong, you always blame it on other people.

135.2 Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first.

- Sue said that I was selfish.
Sue accused me of being selfish
- The misunderstanding was my fault, so I apologised.
I apologised
- Jane won the tournament, so I congratulated her.
I congratulated
- He has enemies, and he has a bodyguard to protect him.
He has a bodyguard to protect
- There are eleven players in a football team.
A football team consists
- Sandra eats only bread and eggs.
Sandra lives
- You can't say that your problems are my fault.
You can't blame

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

accuse apologise approve congratulate depend live pay suffer

- His parents don't approve of what he does, but they can't stop him.
- When you went to the theatre with Paul, who paid for the tickets?
- It's not pleasant when you are accused of something you didn't do.
- We hope to go to the beach tomorrow, but it depends on the weather.
- Things are cheap there. You can afford to buy very little money.
- You were rude to Lisa. I think you should apologise to her.
- Alex suffers from back pain. He spends too much time working at his desk.
- When I saw David, I congratulated him on passing his driving test.

135.4 Put in the correct preposition. If no preposition is necessary, leave the space empty.

- I'll never forgive them for what they did.
- They wore warm clothes to protect themselves from the cold.
- You know you can always rely on me if you need any help.
- Sophie doesn't have enough money to pay for her college fees.
- She's often unwell. She suffers from very bad headaches.
- I don't know whether I'll go out tonight. It depends on how I feel.
- She hasn't got a job. She depends on her parents for money.
- My usual breakfast consists of fruit, cereal and coffee.
- I complimented her on her English. She spoke really well.