Unit 133

Verb + preposition 2 about/for/of/after

A *Verb* + about

talk / read / know ABOUT ... , **tell** somebody **ABOUT** ...

- We **talked about** a lot of things at the meeting.

have a discussion ABOUT something, *but* **discuss** something (no preposition)

- We had **a discussion about** what we should do.
- We **discussed** a lot of things at the meeting. (*not* discussed about)

do something **ABOUT** something = *do something to improve a bad situation*

- If you're worried about the problem, you should **do** something **about** it.

B *Verb* + for

ask (somebody) **FOR** ...

- I sent an email to the company **asking** them **for** more information about the job.

but 'I **asked** him **the way** to ...', 'She **asked** me **my name**' (no preposition)

apply (**TO** a person, a company etc.) **FOR** a job etc.

- I think you'd be good at this job. Why don't you **apply for** it?

wait FOR ...

- Don't **wait for** me. I'll join you later.
- I'm not going out yet. I'm **waiting for** the rain to stop.

search (a person / a place / a bag etc.) **FOR** ...

- I've **searched** the house **for** my keys, but I still can't find them.

leave (a place) **FOR** another place

- I haven't seen her since she **left** (home) **for** the office this morning. (*not* left to the office)

C Care about, care for and take care of

care ABOUT somebody/something = *think that somebody/something is important*

- He's very selfish. He doesn't **care about** other people.

We say '**care what/where/how** ...' etc. (*without* about):

- You can do what you like. I don't **care what** you do.

care FOR somebody/something

(1) = *like something* (usually negative sentences)

- I don't **care for** very hot weather. (= I don't like ...)

(2) = *look after somebody*

- Alan is 85 and lives alone. He needs somebody to **care for** him.

take care OF ... = *look after, keep safe, take responsibility for*

- Don't worry about me. I can **take care of** myself.
- I'll **take care of** the travel arrangements. You don't need to do anything.

D Look for and look after

look FOR ... = *search for, try to find*

- I've lost my keys. Can you help me to **look for** them?

look AFTER ... = *take care of, keep safe or in good condition*

- Alan is 85 and lives alone. He needs somebody to **look after** him. (*not* look for)
- You can borrow this book, but you must promise to **look after** it.

Verbs + **about/of** (**think/hear** etc.) → Unit 134 Other verbs + **for** → Unit 1

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Exercises

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

1 I'm not going out yet. I'm waiting *for* the rain to stop.
2 Don't ask me ..... money. I don't have any.
3 I've applied ..... a job at the factory. I don't know if I'll get it.
4 I've applied ..... three colleges. I hope one of them accepts me.
5 I've searched everywhere ..... Joe, but I haven't been able to find him.
6 I don't want to talk ..... what happened last night. Let's forget it.
7 I don't want to discuss ..... what happened last night. Let's forget it.
8 We had an interesting discussion ..... the problem, but we didn't reach a decision.
9 We discussed ..... the problem, but we didn't reach a decision.
10 I sent her an email. Now I'm waiting ..... her to reply.
11 Ken and Sonia are travelling in Italy. They're in Rome right now, and tomorrow they leave ..... Venice.
12 The roof of the house is in very bad condition. I think we ought to do something ..... it.
13 We waited ..... Steve for half an hour, but he never came.
14 Tomorrow morning I have to catch a plane. I'm leaving my house ..... the airport at 7.30.

133.2 **Put in the correct preposition after care. If no preposition is necessary, leave the space empty.**

1 He's very selfish. He doesn't care *about* other people.
2 Who's going to take care ..... you when you are old?
3 She doesn't care ..... the exam. She doesn't care whether she passes or fails.
4 'Do you like this coat?' 'Not really. I don't care ..... the colour.'
5 Don't worry about the shopping. I'll take care ..... that.
6 He gave up his job to care ..... his elderly father.
7 I want to have a good holiday. I don't care ..... the cost.
8 I want to have a good holiday. I don't care ..... how much it costs.

133.3 **Complete the sentences with look for or look after. Use the correct form of look (looks/looked/looking).**

1 I *looked for* my keys, but I couldn't find them anywhere.
2 Kate is ..... a job. I hope she finds one soon.
3 Who ..... you when you were ill?
4 I'm ..... Liz. I need to ask her something. Have you seen her?
5 The car park was full, so we had to ..... somewhere else to park.
6 A babysitter is somebody who ..... other people's children.

133.4 **Complete the sentences with these verbs (in the correct form) + a preposition:**

apply **ask** **do** **leave** **look** ~~**search**~~ **talk** **wait**

1 Police are *searching for* the man who escaped from prison.
2 Sarah wasn't ready. We had to ..... her.
3 I think Ben likes his job, but he doesn't ..... it much.
4 When I'd finished my meal, I ..... the waiter ..... the bill.
5 Cathy is unemployed. She has ..... several jobs, but she hasn't had any luck.
6 If something is wrong, why don't you ..... something ..... it?
7 Helen's car is very old, but it's in excellent condition. She ..... it very well.
8 Diane is from Boston, but now she lives in Paris. She ..... Boston ..... Paris when she was 19.

→ Additional exercise 36 (page 323)

LIVEWORKSHEETS