

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 _____ the accident last night?' 'Yes, Vicky told me.'
- Jane used to call me quite often, but I haven't _____ her for a long time now.
- A: Have you _____ 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 _____ you.
- 'Do you want to _____ our holiday?' 'Not now. Tell me later.'
- I live in a small town in the north of England. You've probably never _____ 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 _____ things carefully.
- That's a good idea. Why didn't I _____ that?
- A: I've finished reading the book you lent me.
B: What did you _____ it? Did you think it was good?
- We're _____ 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 _____ an excuse.
- When I was offered the job, I didn't accept immediately. I went away and _____ it for a while. In the end I decided to take the job.
- I don't _____ much _____ this coffee. It's like water.
- Katherine is homesick. She's always _____ her family back home.
- A: Do you think I should apply to do the course?
B: I can't _____ 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 _____ ?'
- Our neighbours complained _____ us _____ the noise we made last night.
- Kevin was complaining _____ pains in his chest, so he went to the doctor.
- I love this music. It reminds me _____ a warm day in spring.
- He loves his job. He thinks _____ his work all the time, he dreams _____ it, he talks _____ it and I'm fed up with hearing _____ it.
- 'We've got no money. What can we do?' 'Don't worry. I'll think _____ something.'
- Jackie warned me _____ the water. She said it wasn't safe to drink.
- We warned our children _____ 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 _____ something.
- I can't make a decision yet. I need time to _____ your proposal.
- Before you go into the house, I must _____ you _____ the dog. He's bitten people before, so be careful.
- She's not a well-known singer. Not many people have _____ her.
- A: You wouldn't go away without telling me, would you?
B: Of course not. I wouldn't _____ it.
- I would have forgotten my appointment if Jane hadn't _____ me _____ it.
- Do you see that man over there? Does he _____ you _____ anybody you know?