

Prepositional phrases – VERBS + PREPOSITIONS

AT

look at, shout at, smile/ laugh at

TO

listen to, write to, talk/speak to, look forward to, belong to

FOR

look for, ask for, pay for, wait for, feel/be sorry for, apply for

ON

spend money on, depend on, insist on, rely on, concentrate on, congratulate sb. on sth.

IN

believe in, succeed in, specialise in

OF

remind sb. of, afraid of, die of

WITH

agree with, share sth. with sb., deal with

No preposition

meet sb., divorce sb., play the (musical instrument), phone/call sb., tell sb.

Exercise 1: Fill in the missing prepositions

1. You remind me _____ one of my classmates. She's got long dark hair and a little nose, too.
2. Mary admitted she shouted _____ her little sister yesterday and now she feels really sorry.
3. The little baby smiled _____ her parents for the first time. They were very happy.
4. I feel sorry _____ my students. I can't imagine sitting at the desk for almost six hours a day.
5. The boys laughed _____ him because he was clumsy.
6. His aunt died _____ cancer when she was young.
7. Sorry, I can't decide it. It doesn't depend _____ me.
8. Look _____ the sunset! It's so beautiful.
9. I'm afraid I don't agree _____ you about the decision.
10. She is looking forward _____ seeing us at the meeting.
11. I really trust him and I think I can rely _____ him in every situation.
12. Kevin told _____ me about his sister's accident.

Exercise 2: Fill in the missing prepositions. Discuss the questions with your neighbour.

1. What type of music do you listen _____?
2. Who do you like talking _____ on the phone?
3. Did you wait a long time _____ a tram this morning?
4. What do you hate spending money _____?
5. Who was the last person you wrote an email _____?
6. Do you know many people who believe _____ God?
7. Have you ever met _____ anyone famous?
8. Is there any ritual you always insist _____?

WORK + preposition

WORK IN a place (town, building)

WORK ON a project / a specific piece of work

WORK FOR a company (employer)

WORK AS a journalist, an actor (type of job)

WORK WITH people / tools / materials

Exercise 3: Fill in the missing prepositions

1. What are you working _____ at the moment? – I'm writing an article about recycling.
2. She's a waitress. She works _____ a restaurant.
3. I don't mind working _____ people but I prefer computers.
4. This job offer is an excellent opportunity for someone who wants to work _____ human resources.
5. I've always wanted to work _____ a teacher.
6. Can you give us some reasons why you want to work _____ our company?
7. This class is aimed at introducing children to working _____ wood and using basic tools.
8. A: "I asked you for that report an hour ago!" B: "I'm working _____ it."

Prepositional phrases – ADJECTIVES + PREPOSITIONS

After many adjectives we use particular prepositions, for example ***afraid of, interested in*** and ***bored with***.

Here are some common examples of these adjective + preposition combinations:

ABOUT

excited about, worried about, nervous about, angry about sth., annoyed about sth., furious about

AT

good at, bad at, clever at, hopeless at

FOR

famous for, well known for, responsible for

OF

afraid of, frightened of, scared of, proud of, full of, aware of, tired of

nice / kind / good / friendly / polite / rude / stupid of someone to do something

TO

**engaged to, married to, similar to
be nice/ kind/ good/ friendly/ polite/ rude to someone**

WITH

pleased with, disappointed with, happy with, satisfied with, angry/ annoyed with sb.

Exercise 1: Fill in the missing prepositions

1. We were disappointed _____ the football match.
2. I'm excited _____ having my birthday party tomorrow.
3. You look very pleased _____ yourself.
4. I'm angry _____ all the mess you have made.
5. I'm not very good _____ mathematics.
6. Your camera is similar _____ mine.
7. Brazil is famous _____ its coffee.
8. Are you scared _____ spiders?
9. Who is responsible _____ breaking this window?
10. My homework was full _____ mistakes.
11. I'm tired _____ doing the same things every day.
12. It was very nice _____ Sam to lend you the money.
13. A shop assistant should be polite _____ customers.
14. I'm very proud _____ you.