

APPENDIX 2

Preposition Combinations

◆ PRACTICE 1. Preposition combinations. (Group A)

Directions: Complete the sentences with prepositions.

1. My eight-year-old son Mark is afraid of thunder and lightning.
2. My mother really likes my friend Ahmed because he is always polite to her.
3. Fifty miles is equal to eighty kilometers.
4. A: How do I get to your house?
B: Are you familiar with the red barn on Coles Road? My house is just past that and on the left.
A: Oh, sure. I know where it is.
5. It's so hot! I'm thirsty for a big glass of ice water.
6. My boss was nice to me after I made that mistake, but I could tell she wasn't pleased.
7. Mr. Watts is often angry about some silly little thing that isn't important.
8. A: Harry, try some of this pasta. It's delicious.
B: No, thanks. My plate is already full of food.
9. Four council members were absent from the meeting last night.
10. A: Why are you friendly with Mr. Parsons? He's always so mean to everybody.
B: He's always been very kind to me, so I have no reason to treat him otherwise.
11. My sister is very angry with me. She won't even speak to me.
12. Is everybody ready for dinner? Let's eat before the food gets cold.
13. Ben's wife got a promotion at work. He is really happy for her.

◇ PRACTICE 2. Preposition combinations. (Group A)

Directions: Create a sentence by matching each phrase in Column A with a phrase in Column B. Use each phrase only once.

Column A

1. Our dog is afraid B
2. The class is curious _____
3. Mr. White is angry _____
4. Several nurses have been absent _____
5. After gardening all day, Helen was thirsty _____
6. The workers are angry _____
7. The baseball coach was happy _____
8. The kitchen cupboard is full _____
9. I'm not ready _____
10. It's important to be kind _____

Column B

- A. about his team's win.
- ✓B. of cats.
- C. for a glass of lemonade.
- D. for the start of school.
- E. from work due to illness.
- F. about the snake in the cage.
- G. to everyone.
- H. of canned foods.
- I. about their low pay.
- J. at his dog for chewing his slippers.

◇ PRACTICE 3. Preposition combinations. (Group B)

Directions: Complete the sentences with prepositions.

1. What are you laughing at ?
2. I can't stop staring _____ Tom's necktie. The colors are wild!
3. A: I don't believe _____ flying saucers. Do you?
B: I don't know. I think anything is possible.
4. Ted is going to help me _____ my homework tonight.
5. Do you mind if I apply _____ your job after you quit?
6. Kyong is excited about going back home to see her family. She leaves _____ Korea next Monday.
7. I admire Carmen _____ her courage and honesty in admitting that mistake.
8. A: Where did you get that new car?
B: I borrowed it _____ my neighbor.
9. A: What are you two arguing _____ ?
B: Modern art.
10. A: Where will you go to school next year?
B: Well, I applied _____ admission at five different universities, but I'm worried that none of them will accept me.
11. I hate to argue _____ my older sister. I hardly ever win.

12. I'll introduce you _____ my cousins when they come to my wedding next week.
13. Ivan discussed his calculus problems _____ his college advisor.

PRACTICE 4. Preposition combinations. (Group B)

Directions: Choose the correct preposition.

1. You're shivering. Would you like to borrow a jacket _____ me?
(A) from B. for C. with
2. I'm applying _____ a new management position in my company.
A. to B. in C. for
3. It's unfortunate that the Bakers are always arguing _____ something.
A. with B. about C. at
4. Russ believes _____ his ability to succeed under difficult conditions.
A. in B. on C. at
5. Poor Mr. Miller. No one laughed _____ his story even though it was supposed to be funny.
A. over B. at C. from
6. It's rather amazing. Gail and Brian plan to get married soon, but they were just introduced _____ each other a month ago.
A. to B. with C. at
7. Please wake me up at 5:00 A.M. tomorrow. I need to leave _____ work early.
A. from B. to C. for
8. People say they admire me _____ my truthfulness, but sometimes I wonder if I may be too honest.
A. about B. with C. for
9. It's very difficult to discuss serious matters _____ Mark. He always tries to make jokes.
A. with B. about C. at
10. I'm trying not to stare _____ that man, but his toupee keeps falling off.
A. at B. with C. to

◇ PRACTICE 5. Preposition combinations. (Group C)

Directions: Complete the sentences with prepositions.

1. A: Why are you friendly with/to George? I thought you didn't like him.
B: I'm not crazy _____ his attitude, but I'm his supervisor, so I have to encourage him to do better work.
2. A: Do you think it's bad that I drink so much coffee every day?
B: I believe too much of almost anything is bad _____ you.

3. I don't know why they fired me. It certainly isn't clear _____ me.
4. A: Dad, I got ninety-five percent on my algebra exam!
B: I'm proud _____ you. I knew you could do it.
5. A: You seem to be interested _____ aerobic exercise and jogging.
B: I think regular physical exercise is good _____ everyone.
6. That sweater is very similar _____ mine. Did you buy it at the mall?
7. A: You were up awfully late last night.
B: I couldn't sleep. I was hungry _____ something sweet, but I couldn't find anything in the kitchen.
8. I have no doubt that I'm doing the right thing. I'm sure _____ it.
9. George Gershwin, an American composer, is most famous _____ his *Rhapsody in Blue*, an orchestral piece that combines jazz with classical music.
10. A: Why is Gary avoiding you? Is he angry about something?
B: I don't know. I'm not aware _____ anything I did that would upset him.
11. A: Who is responsible _____ this dog? We don't allow dogs in this office!
B: He belongs to the boss's wife.
A: Oh.
12. My car is a lot like yours, but different _____ Margaret's.
13. Don't be nervous _____ your job interview. Just be yourself.
14. Teachers need to be patient _____ their students.
15. Ken carelessly dropped the football before he could score, so his team lost. He was very sad _____ that.

◇ PRACTICE 6. Review: preposition combinations. (Groups A and C)

Directions: Complete the sentences with prepositions.

1. Dr. Nelson, a heart specialist, is . . .
 - a. proud _____ her work.
 - b. famous _____ her medical expertise.
 - c. sure _____ her skills.
 - d. familiar _____ the latest techniques.
 - e. patient _____ her patients.
 - f. aware _____ the stresses of her job.

- g. interested _____ her patients' lives.
 - h. nice _____ her patients' families.
2. Her patient, Mrs. Green, is . . .
- a. sad _____ her illness.
 - b. nervous _____ an upcoming surgery.
 - c. aware _____ her chances for survival.
 - d. full _____ hope.
 - e. not afraid _____ dying.
 - f. curious _____ alternative medicines.
 - g. ready _____ unexpected side-effects.
 - h. hungry _____ a home-cooked meal.

PRACTICE 7. Preposition combinations. (Group D)

Directions: Complete the sentences with prepositions.

1. How much did you pay for that beautiful table?
2. A: Did you talk _____ the manager _____ returning that dress?
B: No. She didn't arrive _____ the store while I was there. I waited _____ her for a half an hour and then left.
3. I listened _____ you very carefully, but I didn't understand anything you said.
4. When I graduated _____ college, my mother and father told everyone we knew that I had graduated.
5. A: We don't have all day! How long is it going to take for someone to wait _____ us?
I'm hungry.
B: We just got here. Be patient. Do you have to complain _____ everything?
6. When did you arrive _____ Mexico City?
7. A: This sauce is delicious!
B: Well, it consists _____ tomatoes, garlic, olive oil, and lemon juice all blended together.
8. There were ten people at the meeting and ten different opinions. No one agreed _____ anyone else _____ the best way to solve the club's financial problems.
9. I have to complain _____ the manager. Both the food and the service are terrible.
10. We've invited only family members _____ our wedding. I hope our friends aren't offended.
11. The soccer coaches disagree _____ one another _____ the best way to get their team mentally prepared for a game.

◇ PRACTICE 8. Preposition combinations. (Groups B and D)

Directions: Complete the sentences with the verb in parentheses and the correct preposition.

1. Margo **got to** the airport early so she wouldn't miss her flight.
(arrive) Margo arrived at the airport early so she wouldn't miss her flight.
2. The store manager had time to **help** a few customers.
(wait) The store manager had time to _____ a few customers.
3. Sigrid **asked me to go** to the symphony with her.
(invite) Sigrid _____ me _____ the symphony.
4. Water **is made of** hydrogen and oxygen.
(consist) Water _____ hydrogen and oxygen.
5. Sara **stood at the bus stop** for 20 minutes before the bus came.
(wait) Sara _____ the bus for 20 minutes.
6. The restaurant owner **discussed** the management changes with her staff.
(talk) The restaurant owner _____ the management changes with her staff.
7. Joseph **is going to** Athens for graduate work in archeology.
(leave) Joseph _____ Athens for graduate work in archeology.
8. Why is that man **continuing to look at** me?
(stare) Why _____ that man _____ me?
9. Barb **assisted** her friend **with** her finances.
(help) Barb _____ her friend _____ her finances.
10. I **checked** ten books **out of** the library. I'll return them next week.
(borrow) I _____ ten books _____ the library.

◇ PRACTICE 9. Preposition combinations. (Group E)

Directions: Complete the sentences with prepositions.

1. Molly is always looking for her keys. She seems so disorganized.
2. Something's the matter _____ Dan. He's crying.
3. Do whatever you want. It doesn't matter _____ me.
4. Look _____ those clouds. It's going to rain.
5. Are you looking forward _____ your trip to Mexico?
6. A: Does this watch belong _____ you?
B: Yes. Where did you find it? I searched _____ it everywhere.

7. I woke up frightened after I dreamed _____ falling off the roof of a building.
8. Tomorrow I'm going to ask my father _____ a ride to school.
9. Tomorrow I'm going to ask my father _____ his work. I don't know much _____ his new job.
10. Please empty that bowl of fruit and separate the fresh apples _____ the old apples.
11. Mr. Sanchez looks a lot _____ a famous movie actor I've seen.
12. My brother Ben warned me _____ taking a shortcut through the back streets. I got lost and was late for a job interview.

◇ PRACTICE 10. Preposition combinations. (Group E)

Directions: Create sentences by matching each phrase in Column A with a phrase in Column B. Use each phrase only once.

Column A

1. The sheriff is searching G
2. The baby keeps looking _____
3. Once again, Rita is looking _____
4. In this picture, Paula looks _____
5. The Browns are looking forward _____
6. Before you do the wash, you need to separate the darks _____
7. Sometimes Joey is afraid to sleep. He often dreams _____
8. Something's the matter _____
9. The sign on the highway warned drivers _____
10. Do you know much _____

Column B

- A. about monsters and dragons.
- B. to their 20th wedding anniversary.
- C. for her glasses. She always misplaces them.
- D. about housing prices in this area?
- E. about high winds on the bridge.
- F. with this car. It's making strange noises.
- ✓G. for the escaped prisoner.
- H. from the whites.
- I. at the TV screen. The picture is fuzzy.
- J. like her maternal grandmother. The resemblance is very strong.

◇ PRACTICE 11. Preposition combinations. (Group F)

Directions: Complete the sentences with prepositions.

1. Please don't argue. I insist on lending you the money for your vacation.
2. That thin coat you're wearing won't protect you _____ the bitter, cold wind.
3. A: What's the matter? Don't you approve _____ my behavior?
B: No, I don't. I think you're rude.
4. A: Can I depend _____ you to pick up my mother at the airport tomorrow?
B: Of course you can!
5. A: The police arrested a thief in my uncle's store yesterday.
B: What's going to happen _____ him? Will he go to jail?

6. My friend Ken apologized _____ me _____ forgetting to pick me up in his car after the movie last night. I forgave him _____ leaving me outside the theater in the rain, but I'm not going to rely _____ him for transportation in the future.
7. A: Thank you _____ helping me move to my new apartment last weekend.
B: You're welcome.
8. It isn't fair to compare Mr. Wong _____ Ms. Chang. They're both good teachers, but they have different teaching methods.
9. I've had a bad cold for a week and just can't get rid _____ it.
10. Excuse me _____ interrupting you, but I have a call on the other line. Could I get back to you in a second?
11. A: I need to be excused _____ the office meeting tomorrow morning.
B: I was going to announce your promotion at the meeting. Can you change your plans?
A: I'd love to. It's a dental appointment.
12. People don't die _____ embarrassment, but sometimes they wish they could.
13. I'm sorry. The office staff is very busy right now. It will be a half hour before someone can take care _____ your request.

◇ PRACTICE 12. Preposition combinations. (Group F)

Directions: Write "C" beside the correct sentences. Write "X" beside those that are incorrect. In some cases, both may be correct.

1. a. C John needs to be excused from the meeting.
b. C John excused his associate for the accounting error.
2. a. C Do you approve of your government's international policies?
b. X Do you approve on the new seat-belt law?
3. a. _____ I apologized for the car accident.
b. _____ I apologized to Mary's parents.
4. a. _____ Why did you get rid over your truck? It was in great condition.
b. _____ I got rid of several boxes of old magazines.
5. a. _____ Pierre died of a heart attack.
b. _____ Pierre's father also died from heart problems.
6. a. _____ It's not a good idea to compare one student to another.
b. _____ I wish my parents wouldn't compare me with my brother.

7. a. _____ We can rely on Lesley to keep a secret.
b. _____ There are several people whom my elderly parents rely in for assistance.
8. a. _____ You can relax. I took care about your problem.
b. _____ The nurses take wonderful care of their patients at Valley Hospital.

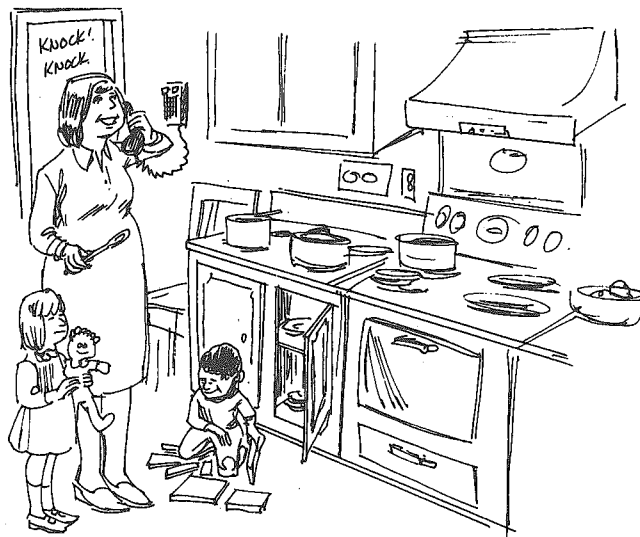
◇ PRACTICE 13. Preposition combinations. (Group G)

Directions: Complete the sentences with prepositions.

1. Please try to concentrate on my explanation. I can't repeat it.
2. I spoke _____ my brother _____ your problem, and he said that there was nothing he could do to help you.
3. All right, children, here is your math problem: add ten _____ twelve, subtract two _____ that total; divide ten _____ that answer; and multiply the result _____ five. What is the final answer?*
4. I feel pretty good about my final examination in English. I'm hoping _____ a good grade.
5. A: Did you hear _____ the plans to build a new hotel in the middle of town? It's wonderful!
B: Yes, I heard, but I disagree _____ you. I think it's terrible! It means the town will be full of tourists all the time.
6. A: Have you heard _____ your friend in Thailand recently?
B: Yes. She's having a difficult time. She's not accustomed _____ hot weather.
7. A: I must tell you _____ a crazy thing that happened last night. Have you heard?
B: What? What happened?
A: A hundred monkeys escaped _____ the zoo.
B: You've got to be kidding! How did that happen?
8. A: Do you ever wonder _____ the future of our natural environment?
B: Yes, especially when I read about the deforestation of the rainforests.
9. A: Is Carol hiding _____ me? Is she afraid of me?
B: No, but since she turned two years old, she loves to play hide-and-seek. She hides _____ everyone now.

*Answer: 10

10. A: Can I tell you _____ the new preschool later? Someone's at the door.
B: Sure.



◇ PRACTICE 14. Preposition combinations. (Group G)

Directions: Complete the sentences with the verb in parentheses and the correct preposition.

1. The skiers **wanted** snow for the holiday weekend, but it rained instead.
(hope) The skiers hoped for snow for the holiday weekend.
2. Jenny often **thinks about** people she went to high school with. She's curious about what happened to them.
(wonder) Jenny often _____ people she went to high school with.
3. I **cut** the pie **into** eight equal pieces.
(divide) I _____ the pie _____ eight equal pieces.
4. Could you **put** another egg **in** the mixture? It's a little dry.
(add) Could you _____ another egg _____ the mixture? It's a little dry.
5. An artist **focuses on** the way light strikes his subject.
(concentrate) An artist _____ the way light strikes his subject.
6. The prisoners **got away from** their guards and ran into the woods.
(escape) The prisoners _____ their guards and ran into the woods.
7. I **am used to** humid weather in the summer.
(accustom) I _____ humid weather in the summer.
8. Ben **got the news about** his father's death from his secretary.
(hear) Ben _____ the news _____ his father's death from his secretary.

◇ PRACTICE 15. Review: preposition combinations. (Appendix 2)

Directions: Circle the correct preposition in each sentence. In some cases, both prepositions are correct.

1. The taxi driver apologized (to,) for Ann for the accident.
2. My mother died (from, of) cancer.
3. Jack was excused *from, for* school for several days so he could travel with his father.
4. Mary always compares her country *with, to* this country.
5. Susie dreamed *of, about* winning the lottery.
6. The mountain climbers were warned *of, about* the avalanche danger.
7. Maria needed ten dollars immediately. She asked her sister *about, for* some money.
8. Beth looks *like, for* her sister. They could almost be twins.
9. Dennis tried talking *to, about* Roman, but the noise in the restaurant was so loud that neither he nor Roman could hear each other.
10. This dish tastes like it has meat in it, but it consists only *in, of* vegetables.
11. Mary and Joe argue *about, with* everything. They always disagree *with, about* each other.
12. Are you sure *of, about* your data?
13. Our dentist is very patient *to, with* children.
14. Professor Case always seems angry *at, with* his students, but maybe he's upset about something else.
15. We discussed our house plans *with, about* several architects.
16. The apartment owner spoke *to, with* several tenants about a possible rent increase.
17. We heard *about, from* the plane crash on the radio.
18. If you multiply any number *from, by* zero, the answer is always zero.
19. Shhh! I'm concentrating *in, on* my homework.

◇ PRACTICE 16. Review: preposition combinations. (Appendix 2)

Directions: Choose the correct preposition.

1. What time do you need to be ready _____ work?
A. at B. about C. on (D.) for
2. One pound is equal _____ 2.2 kilos.
A. for B. to C. in D. on

3. Too many vitamins may be bad _____ your health.
A. in B. about C. for D. with
4. That box looks very heavy. Can I help you _____ it?
A. with B. in C. about D. on
5. Our cat got rid _____ all the mice in our basement.
A. about B. of C. in D. off
6. Everyone admires Mr. Kim _____ his generosity with his time and money.
A. for B. from C. with D. about
7. I need to hide this chocolate _____ the children or they will eat it in one day.
A. with B. from C. to D. at
8. Billy, stop that! It's not polite to stare _____ people.
A. to B. at C. in D. on
9. Angela has applied _____ several jobs in the airline industry, but she hasn't gotten an interview yet.
A. to B. with C. of D. for
10. This car can't belong _____ Mike. It's too nice!
A. about B. with C. to D. at
11. Monica loves vegetables, but she's not crazy _____ fruit.
A. over B. of C. at D. about
12. Jack paid _____ my dinner.
A. with B. for C. on D. in
13. I tried to tell Jessica _____ my trip, but she didn't seem interested. I wonder if she was jealous.
A. to B. about C. with D. off
14. We're really happy _____ Professor James. He just received an award for excellence in teaching.
A. for B. to C. over D. in
15. People say I shouldn't care what other students think, but their opinions matter _____ me.
A. to B. for C. with D. on
16. Annie eats vegetables only if they are separated _____ the other foods on her plate.
A. between B. from C. with D. to
17. Kristi forgave her twin sister _____ taking her cell phone without asking.
A. about B. from C. for D. with
18. Doctors say that even ten minutes of exercise a day is good _____ you.
A. at B. for C. with D. about
19. I'm sorry. Your explanation still isn't clear _____ me.
A. about B. with C. to D. in

20. My sister complained _____ the manager.
A. to B. with C. at D. for
21. She complained _____ the slow service in the restaurant.
A. for B. about C. over D. by
22. What happened _____ your hand? It's swollen.
A. on B. to C. in D. about
23. The problem with your answer is that you multiplied six _____ eight instead of subtracting it.
A. by B. from C. to D. over
24. Paul is so smart. He graduated _____ the university in just three years.
A. of B. at C. from D. to