

Nouns & Prepositions

Like verbs, prepositions can follow nouns too! It can be difficult but there are some patterns, see if you can pick them up.

See if you can put all of the nouns into the correct preposition box! Note: Sometimes the nouns can go into multiple boxes!

Exercise 1

Put the nouns in the correct box - which preposition do they collocate with?

argument	addiction	preference	change	advantage	meeting	approval
member	cure	reason	difficulty	photograph	attitude	awareness
damage	recipe	confusion	story	habit	anxiety	involvement
	information	fear	decision	dedication	sympathy	
to	for	of	about	with		

Exercise 2

- 1) I have an coffee. I have to have an espresso in the morning!
- 2) Most people have a tea in the morning in the UK.
- 3) My father often talks about his the socialist movement in the UK in the 70s.
- 4) Next to my bed there is a my dog.
- 5) There is no any terminal disease.
- 6) Can I have the for that wonderful chicken dish we ate last night?
- 7) She shows a lot of her violin studies.
- 8) I have the family members who come to visit patients.
- 9) Unfortunately, there are significant the train timetable and we're going to be delayed.
- 10) Some people have a lot of following instructions.

Exercise 3

Use the nouns in the text below to guide what preposition you should use, then use the words in this box to fill the gaps:

discuss the future avoid (x2) money finance have planning

Recently, my family made a decision 1) of the family business. In our family, we have a habit 2) certain topics but it is really important to plan for the future. There is a reason 3) certain topics. We always end up having big arguments 4) when we discuss the business! However, we shouldn't have a fear 5) open and honest debate. In my opinion, the difficulty 6) finance with family is the emotional aspect. You can't have a meeting 7) or without the whole thing becoming very difficult.

Answers

Exercise 1

to	for	of	about	with
addiction	argument preference	change advantage	argument meeting attitude	argument meeting difficulty
change advantage	approval cure reason	approval member difficulty	confusion story	confusion involvement
damage	difficulty recipe	photograph awareness	anxiety information	sympathy
dedication	sympathy	story habit fear	decision	

Exercise 2

- 1) I have an **addiction to** coffee. I have to have an espresso in the morning!
- 2) Most people have a **habit of drinking / a preference for** tea in the morning in the UK.
- 3) My father often talks about his **involvement with** the socialist movement in the UK in the 70s.
- 4) Next to my bed there is a **photograph of** my dog.
- 5) There is no **cure for** any terminal disease.
- 6) Can I have the **recipe for** that wonderful chicken dish we ate last night?
- 7) She shows a lot of **dedication to** her violin studies.
- 8) I have **sympathy with /for** the family members who come to visit patients.
- 9) Unfortunately, there are significant **changes to** the train timetable and we're going to be delayed.
- 10) Some people have a lot of **confusion about / difficulty with** following instructions.

Exercise 3

Recently, my family made a decision 1) **about the future** of the family business. In our family, we have a habit 2) **of avoiding** certain topics but it is really important to plan for the future. There is a reason 3) **for avoiding** certain topics. We always end up having big arguments 4) **about money** when we discuss the business! However, we shouldn't have a fear 5) **of having** open and honest debate. In my opinion, the difficulty 6) **with discussing** finance with family is the emotional aspect. You can't have a meeting 7) **about finance** or **planning** without the whole thing becoming very difficult.