

25th June 2024
 Language – Nouns & Prepositions

Starter:

From memory, can you remember which prepositions go into these spaces?

1. It's really boring when you have to wait **for** a bus.
2. Do you consent **to** a physical examination?
3. Mrs Greenhalgh knows **about** the change to her surgery.
4. I would like you to reply **to** my email.
5. It's natural to worry **about** having an operation.
6. Do you agree **with** me regarding this topic?

Like verbs, prepositions can follow nouns too

It can be difficult but there are some patterns – see if you can notice them

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		
Addiction	Reason	Approval	Argument	Argument		
Change	Cure	Advantage	Confusion	Meeting		
Attitude	Preference	Member	Decision	Difficulty		
Dedication	Recipe	Fear	Anxiety	Involvement		
Damage	Sympathy	Awareness	Information	Photograph		
Approval	Argument	Habit	Story	Sympathy		
		Photograph	Meeting			

Exercise 2

- 1) I have an **addiction to** nicotine.
- 2) Most people have a **preference for** oral medication rather than suppository.
- 3) I have **made a decision about / involvement with** the strike action taking place next week.
- 4) Some patients have **anxiety about / difficulty with** getting out of bed.
- 5) There is no **cure for** any terminal disease.
- 6) Mr Smith has demonstrated **awareness of / confusion about** his situation but after explanations he understands.
- 7) She has shown a lot of **interest for/in / dedication to** her physiotherapy program. She has made good progress.
- 8) The scans reveal significant **deterioration in / damage to** the frontal cortex, which will have serious implications.
- 9) I have a lot of **photographs of / sympathy for** the families of palliative care patients.
- 10) Please avoid having audible **arguments about** treatment plans in front of patients.

Preposition + noun (phrase) / gerund (+ing verb)

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) **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/finance** 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 planning** or **money** without the whole thing becoming very difficult.