

22nd November

OET Writing – Important Verbs

Starter:

Which sentence is incorrect?

Why?

- a) “We explained the procedure to Mrs Daley”
- b) ~~“We explained to Mrs Daley the procedure”~~
- c) “The procedure was explained to Mrs Daley”
- d) ~~“To Mrs Daley was explained the procedure”~~

What is the difference between the two correct sentences?

Verbs using the preposition 'to'...

Report

Which sentence is incorrect?

- a) "The outbreak was reported to the World Health Organisation"
- b) ~~"The World Health Organisation was reported to about the outbreak"~~
- c) "We reported the outbreak to the World Health Organisation"

Prescribe

Which sentence is incorrect?

- a) ~~"Ms Garcia was prescribed benzylpenicillin to"~~
- b) "We prescribed benzylpenicillin to Ms Garcia"
- c) "Benzylpenicillin was prescribed to Ms Garcia"
- d) "Ms Garcia was prescribed benzylpenicillin"

Give

Can you make two sentences using 'give' and the nouns below?

prophylactic treatment / Mrs Sanders

"Prophylactic treatment was given to Miss Sanders"

"Mrs Sanders was given prophylactic treatment"

“We gave Mrs Sanders prophylactic treatment”

Recommend

Which sentence is incorrect?

- a) “We recommended an increase in exercise to Mrs Cleaver”
- b) “Mrs Cleaver was recommended an increase in exercise”
- c) “An increase in exercise was recommended to Mrs Cleaver”

Suggest

Can you make two sentences using ‘suggest’ and the nouns below?

a cessation in smoking / Mr Paulson

“We suggested a cessation in smoking to Mr Paulson”

“A cessation in smoking was suggested to Mr Paulson”

Verbs using infinitives...

Ask

Which sentence is incorrect?

- a) "A urine sample was asked to Mr Jones"
- b) "Mr Jones was asked to provide a urine sample"
- c) "We asked Mr Jones to provide a urine sample"

Tell

Which sentence is incorrect?

- a) "We told Mr Smith to reduce the amount of fat he ate"
- b) "Mr Smith was told to reduce the amount of fat he ate"
- c) "Reduce the amount of fat he ate was told to Mr Smith"

Verbs using other prepositions...

Diagnose

Which sentence is incorrect?

- a) "Mr Davies was diagnosed with diabetes"
- b) "We diagnosed Mr Davies with diabetes"
- c) "Diabetes was diagnosed with Mr Davies"

Notify

Which sentence is incorrect?

- a) "We notified Miss Chen of the date of the procedure"
- b) "The date of the procedure was notified of Miss Chen"
- c) "Miss Chen was notified of the date of the procedure"

Inform

Can you make two sentences using 'inform' and the words below?

the need to have a light diet / Mrs White / of

"We informed Mrs White of the need to have a light diet"

"Mrs White was informed of the need to have a light diet"

Verb Patterns

Verbs using 'to' as preposition...

Explain

Subject + explain + object + to + person

"We explained the procedure to Mrs Daley"

Object + explain (passive) + to + person

"The procedure was explained to Mrs Daley"

Report

Subject + report + object + to + person/group

"We reported the outbreak to the World Health Organisation"

Object + report (passive) + to + person/group

"The outbreak was reported to the World Health Organisation"

Prescribe

Subject + prescribe + object + to + person

"We prescribed benzylpenicillin to Ms Garcia"

Object + prescribe (passive) + to + person

"Benzylpenicillin was prescribed to Ms Garcia"

Person + prescribe (passive) + object

"Ms Garcia was prescribed benzylpenicillin"

Give

Subject + give + person + object

"We gave Mrs Sanders prophylactic treatment"

Person + give (passive) + object

"Mrs Sanders was given prophylactic treatment"

Object + give (passive) + to + person

"Prophylactic treatment was given to Miss Sanders"

Recommend/Suggest

Subject + recommend/suggest + object + to + person

“We recommended an increase in exercise to Mrs Cleaver”

Object + recommend/suggest (passive) + to + person

“An increase in exercise was suggested to Mrs Cleaver”

With recommend/suggest you can also use:

Subject + verb + the gerund form

“We recommended exercising more to Mrs Cleaver”

Subject + verb + that + clause

“We suggested that Mr Paulson reduces the amount he smokes”

Verbs using infinitives...

Ask

Subject + ask + person + infinitive

“We asked Mr Jones to provide a urine sample”

Person + ask (passive) + infinitive

“Mr Jones was asked to provide a urine sample”

Tell

Subject + tell + object + infinitive

“We told Mr Smith to reduce the amount of fat he ate”

Object + tell (passive) + infinitive

“Mr Smith was told to reduce the amount of fat he ate”

Verbs using other prepositions...

Diagnose

Subject + diagnose + object + with + condition/illness

"We diagnosed Mr Davies with diabetes"

Object + diagnose (passive) + with + condition/illness

"Mr Davies was diagnosed with diabetes"

Notify

Subject + notify + person + of + noun

"We notified Miss Chen of the date of the procedure"

Person + notify (passive) + of + noun

"Miss Chen was notified of the date of the procedure"

Inform

Subject + inform + person + of + noun (phrase)

"We informed Mrs White of the need to have a light diet"

Person + inform (passive) + of + noun (phrase)

"Mrs White was informed of the need to have a light diet"