

OF/ AT /FOR (PREPOSITIONS) + -ING

B

of/at/for (etc.) + -ing

After a preposition (of/at/for etc.), a verb ends in **-ing**:

I'm not very good at	telling	stories.
Are you fed up with	doing	the same thing every day?
I'm sorry for	not phoning	you yesterday.
Thank you for	helping	me.
Mark is thinking of	buying	a new car.
Tom left without	saying	goodbye. (= he didn't say goodbye)
After	doing	the shopping, they went home.



afraid of ...

angry with somebody

angry about something

different from ...

or different to ...

fed up with ...

full of ...

good at ...

interested in ...

married to ...

nice/kind of somebody to ...

be nice/kind to somebody

sorry about a situation

sorry for/about doing something

be/feel sorry for somebody

☐ Are you **afraid of** dogs?

☐ Why are you **angry with** me? What have I done?

☐ Are you **angry about** last night? (= something that happened last night)

☐ Lisa is very **different from** (or **to**) her sister.

☐ I'm **fed up with** my job. I want to do something different. (= I've had enough of my job)

☐ The room was **full of** people.

☐ Are you **good at** maths?

☐ I'm not **interested in** sport.

☐ Sue is **married to** a dentist. (= her husband is a dentist)

☐ It was **kind of** you to help us. Thank you very much.

☐ David is very friendly. He's always very **nice to** me.

☐ I'm afraid I can't help you. I'm **sorry about** that.

☐ I'm **sorry for/about** not phoning you yesterday. (or I'm sorry I didn't phone you)

☐ I feel **sorry for** them. They are in a very difficult situation.

EXERCISES

1 Look at the pictures and complete the sentences with of/with/in etc.



- 1 He's afraid of dogs.
- 2 She's interested in science.
- 3 She's married to a footballer.
- 4 She's very good at languages.
- 5 He's fed up with the weather.
- 6 A: Can I help you?
B: Thanks, that's very kind of you.

2 Complete the sentences with in/of/with etc.

- 1 I'm not interested in sport.
- 2 I'm not very good at sport.
- 3 I like Sarah. She's always very kind to me.
- 4 I'm sorry about your broken window. It was an accident.
- 5 He's very brave. He isn't afraid of anything.
- 6 It was very nice of Jane to let us stay in her apartment.
- 7 Life today is very different from life 50 years ago.
- 8 Are you interested in politics?
- 9 I feel sorry for her, but I can't help her.
- 10 Chris was angry about what happened.
- 11 These boxes are very heavy. They are full of books.
- 12 I'm sorry about getting angry with you yesterday.

3 Complete the sentences.

- 1 I'm not very good at telling stories. (good/tell)
- 2 I wanted to go to the cinema, but Paula wasn't interested in. (interested/go)
- 3 Sue isn't very up in the morning. (good/get)
- 4 Let's go! I'm fed up / wait. (fed up / wait)
- 5 I'm sorry / wake you up in the middle of the night. (sorry/wake)
- 6 Sorry I'm late! thank you / wait. (thank you / wait)

4 Complete the sentences. Use without -ing.

- 1 (Tom left / he didn't say goodbye) Tom left without saying goodbye.
- 2 (Sue walked past me / she didn't speak)
Sue walked without saying hello.
- 3 (don't do anything / ask me first)
Don't ask me first.
- 4 (I went out / I didn't lock the door)
I went out without locking the door.

5 Write sentences about yourself.

- 1 (interested) I'm interested in sport.
- 2 (afraid) I'm _____
- 3 (not very good) I'm not _____
- 4 (not interested) _____
- 5 (fed up) _____

LISTEN TO... / LOOK AT... (VERB + PREPOSITION)

A

ask (somebody) for ...
 belong to ...
 happen to ...
 listen to ...
 speak/talk to somebody about something
 thank somebody for ...
 think about ... or think of ...
 wait for ...
 write to somebody
 but phone/call somebody (without to)

- ☐ A man stopped me and **asked** me **for** money.
- ☐ Does this book **belong to** you? (= Is this your book?)
- ☐ I can't find my pen. What's **happened to** it?
- ☐ **Listen to** this music. It's great.
- ☐ Did you **talk to** Paul **about** the problem?
- ☐ (on the phone) Can I **speak to** Chris, please?
- ☐ **Thank** you very much **for** your help.
- ☐ He never **thinks about** (or **of**) other people.
- ☐ Mark is **thinking of** (or **about**) buying a new computer.
- ☐ **Wait for** me. I'm nearly ready.
- ☐ I couldn't contact the company by phone. I had to **write to** them.
- ☐ I'm going to **phone** my parents this evening. (not phone to my parents)

B

look at / look for / look after
 look at ...



- ☐ He's **looking at** his watch.
- ☐ **Look at** these flowers! They're beautiful.
- ☐ Why are you **looking at** me like that?

look for ...
 (= try to find)



- ☐ She's lost her key. She's **looking for** it.
- ☐ I'm **looking for** Sarah. Have you seen her?

look after ...
 (= take care of, keep safe)

- ☐ When Emily is at work, a friend of hers **looks after** her children.
- ☐ Don't lose this book. **Look after** it. (= Keep it safe.)

C

depend

We say **depend on** ... :

- A: Do you like eating in restaurants?
B: Sometimes. It **depends on** the restaurant. (*not it depends of*)

You can say **it depends what/where/how** (etc.) with or without **on**:

- A: Do you want to come out with us?
B: It **depends where** you're going. *or* It **depends on where** you're going.

EXERCISES

1 Look at the pictures and complete the sentences with **to/for/at** etc.



- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1 She's looking <u>at</u> her watch. | 4 Paul is talking <u>to</u> Jane. |
| 2 He's listening <u>to</u> the radio. | 5 They're looking <u>at</u> a picture. |
| 3 They're waiting <u>for</u> a taxi. | 6 Sue is looking <u>for</u> Tom. |

2 Complete the sentences with **to/for/about** etc. One sentence is already complete, and no word is necessary.

- Thank you very much for your help.
- This isn't my umbrella. It belongs to a friend of mine.
- (on the phone) Can I speak to Steven Davis, please?
- (on the phone) Thank you for calling. Goodbye.
- What happened to Ella last night? Why didn't she come to the party?
- We're thinking of going to Australia next year.
- We asked the waiter for coffee, but he brought us tea.
- 'Do you like reading books?' 'It depends on the book.'
- John was talking, but nobody was listening to what he was saying.
- We waited for Karen until 2 o'clock, but she didn't come.
- If you want to contact me, you can write to me at this address.
- Don't forget to phone your mother tonight.
- He's alone all day. He never talks to anybody.
- 'How much does it cost to stay at this hotel?' 'It depends on the type of room.'
- Catherine is thinking of changing her job.

3 Complete these sentences. Use at/for/after.

- 1 I looked _____ the newspaper, but I didn't read it carefully.
- 2 When you are ill, you need somebody to look _____ you.
- 3 Excuse me, I'm looking _____ Hill Street. Can you tell me where it is?
- 4 Goodbye! Have a great holiday and look _____ yourself.
- 5 I want to take a photograph of you. Please look _____ the camera and smile.
- 6 Barry is looking _____ a job. He wants to work in a hotel.

4 Answer these questions with It depends

- 1 Do you want to go out with us?
- 2 Do you like eating in restaurants?
- 3 Do you enjoy watching TV?
- 4 Can you do something for me?
- 5 Are you going away this weekend?
- 6 Can you lend me some money?

It depends where you're going.

It depends on the restaurant.

It depends _____

It _____

KEY

AFRAID OF... / GOOD AT...
OF/ AT /FOR (PREPOSITIONS) + -ING

- 1** 2 in
3 to
4 at
5 with
6 of
- 2** 2 at
3 to
4 about
5 of
6 of
7 from/to (*You can also say different than ...*)
8 in
9 for
10 about
11 of
12 **for/about** getting angry **with** you
- 3** 2 interested in going
3 good at getting
4 fed up with waiting
5 sorry for/about waking
6 Thank you for waiting.
- 4** 2 Sue walked past me without speaking.
3 Don't do anything without asking me first.
4 I went out without locking the door.
- 5** *Example answers:*
2 I'm afraid of the dark.
3 I'm not very good at drawing.
4 I'm not interested in cars.
5 I'm fed up with living here.

LISTEN TO... / LOOK AT... (VERB + PREPOSITION)

- 1** 2 to
3 for
4 to
5 at
6 for
- 2** 2 to
3 to
4 for
5 to
6 of/about
7 for
8 on
9 to
10 for
11 to
12 – (*already complete*)
13 to
14 on
15 of/about
- 3** 1 at
2 after
3 for
4 after
5 at
6 for
- 4** *Example answers:*
3 It depends on the programme.
4 It depends (on) what it is.
5 It depends on the weather.
6 It depends (on) how much you want.

