

Verbs, adjectives and nouns with prepositions

GRAMMAR

LEVEL
Intermediate

NUMBER
B2_3055G_EN

LANGUAGE
English





Goals

- Can accurately combine a wide range of verbs and adjectives with specific prepositions.
- Can identify and recall some more sophisticated noun phrase collocations and use them when talking about data or forming an argument.



We all **rely on** different things to help us learn a language.

I **approve of** people who use whatever works for them.

I think we are all **in agreement** that prepositions are confusing!



Preview and warm-up

- In this lesson, you will learn **verbs**, **nouns** and **adjectives** that require a **specific preposition**.



I want to **congratulate** you **on** winning the tennis tournament.



Phrasal verbs

- This lesson will look at verbs using three prepositions: **to**, **on** and **of**.
- We call these **phrasal verbs**.

to	on	of
refer to	rely on	accuse (somebody) of
object to	Congratulate (somebody) on	approve of



To refer to

- *To refer to* (something or someone) means to look at or in something to get information.
- We often *refer to* dictionaries, websites or important documents.
- A noun phrase will always follow this phrasal verb.



If you have any questions, please refer to the employee handbook.

Please refer to our website for more information.





To object to

- *To object to* something means **to disagree with someone or something**.
- We often follow *object to* with *that*, referring to something **earlier in the sentence** or **previously mentioned**.
- *To object to* can come before a **noun phrase** or a **gerund (-ing)**.



You said my work was poor and I **object to that**.

I **object to** spending my own money on a business trip.





To refer to and to object to

- Here are some more examples.



Have you **referred to** my earlier email?

We should **refer to** the map.



Do you **object to** the idea that we made some mistakes?

I strongly **object to** driving too fast.





To refer to and to object to

**Complete the sentences with either *to refer to* or *to object to*.
You might need to change the verb tense to make each sentence
grammatical.**

1. Please _____ the bottom of the menu for the desserts.
2. Does anyone _____ going for a walk after dinner?
3. Mark _____ splitting the bill evenly, because he didn't order a second drink.
4. I think he did. Do we need to _____ the bill?
5. I _____ the accusation that I'm lying!



To rely on

- If you **rely on** someone or something, you **trust them to help** or **support** you when **needed**.
- We often **rely on people, institutions or authorities, technology** and **weather conditions**.
- This phrasal verb takes this structure: **to rely on + noun phrase + (infinitive)**.



I am **relying on you** to finish the report before Tuesday.

I shouldn't have **relied on** the passport authority. They didn't process my application in time.





To congratulate on

- *To congratulate on* means to wish someone **happiness** for something, normally an **achievement**. This shows **respect** and **admiration**.
- We often use *to congratulate on* as a **main verb** after an **auxiliary verb**.
- We put a **noun phrase**, often an **object pronoun**, between *congratulate* and *on*.



I want to **congratulate** you **on** your success at university.

Can we all **congratulate** Dianne **on** doing such a great job?





To rely on and to congratulate on

- Here are some more examples.



I probably **rely on** my smart phone too much.

We are **relying on** the weather to improve before the weekend.



Let me be the first to **congratulate you on** becoming a parent.



To rely on and to congratulate on

Use the correct phrasal verb for each context. Use the tense or construction below each picture.

1. A colleague failed to submit an important piece of work on time



past simple



want + infinitive

2. You go to a friend's band's concert and they play well

3. You have to announce the employee of the month at a staff meeting



need + infinitive



present continuous

4. You are planning what needs to be done before a party next weekend



Think of a time when...

Think of a time when you did these things and share your story with your teacher.



1

You **relied on** someone or something and they let you down...

2

You had to **refer to** something...

3

You **objected to** something...





To *accuse* (somebody or something) of

- To *accuse* (somebody) of means to say somebody has done **something wrong**.
- Subject + *accuse* + noun phrase + *of* + present participle.



He **accused me of** taking his chair.

Are you **accusing the student of** cheating in the exam?





To approve of

- *To approve of* something means you **agree with** or **support** it.
- We often use *approve of* with **doesn't/don't** or a **negative modal verb** to express **disapproval**.
- We follow *approve of* with a **noun phrase** or a **gerund**.



I approve of your decision to quit your job.

I don't approve of gossiping in the office.





To accuse (somebody or something) of and to approve of

Use to accuse (somebody or something) of and to approve of in the situations below.



You really like
your best friend's
new partner

Someone said
that you stole
office equipment

You are frustrated
that your
colleague spends
time online
shopping at work

You are watching
a story about a
crime on the
news



Adjectives with specific prepositions

- Some **adjectives** require specific **prepositions**.
- We should learn these combinations as a **single unit** and not two separate words. This is called a **collocation**.

at	by	with	about	to
astonished at	puzzled by	fed up with	enthusiastic about	sensitive to
			sensitive about	



Adjectives with specific prepositions

Fill the gaps in the sentences with the correct prepositions and adjectives to make definitions of each collocation.

1. If you are astonished _____ something you are _____ by it.
2. If you are fed up _____ something or someone, you are probably _____.
3. If someone or something is sensitive _____ something, they are _____.
4. To be puzzled _____ means to be _____.
5. He is very enthusiastic _____ music. It is his _____.

with

confused

about

surprised

to

unhappy or bored

passion

responsive to change

by

at



Transform these sentences to use the collocations from the previous two slides

1. This microphone is very responsive.

→ This microphone is very **sensitive to** quiet sounds.

2. I was surprised by what you told me.

→ _____

3. You have a real passion for art.

→ _____

4. Your email made me a little confused.

→ _____

5. She is so bored with your lies.

→ _____



In agreement and on behalf of

- Finally, there are some **nouns** that we commonly use with specific **prepositions**.
- The examples below allow you to say something when you **think the same** as a **group of people**. When you think the same, you can **speak for** someone else, because you **agree**.



I think we are all **in agreement**.

On behalf of the team, I wish you a
happy birthday!





More noun phrase collocations

- These collocations are useful for **describing data** or forming an **argument**.



Last year, there was a **reduction in** the number of people using our gyms.

At the moment, we are not sure about the **reasons for** this reduction.



I have to be honest and say that the future of the business is **in doubt**.



Make a list of prepositions from this lesson

Arrange the words verbs, adjectives and nouns from the lesson into the correct columns below.

Which four prepositions are missing?



I'm **enthusiastic** **about** my new class.

I am **puzzled** **by** that.



on

to

of

about

by

Four horizontal lines for writing in the 'on' column.

Four horizontal lines for writing in the 'to' column.

Four horizontal lines for writing in the 'of' column.

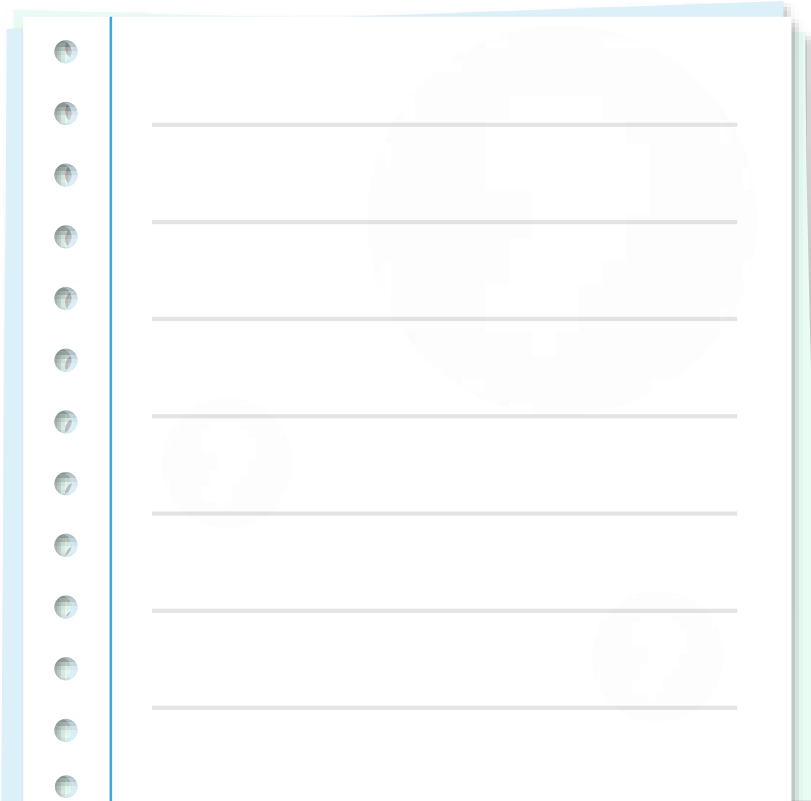
Four horizontal lines for writing in the 'about' column.

Four horizontal lines for writing in the 'by' column.



Dictation on personal data protection

Your teacher is going to read to you.
Listen out for the phrasal verbs and collocations we have looked at in
the lesson.



abc



What preposition
is that?





Personal data and social media

Use the transcription you just heard and the boxes below to share your thoughts on social media and personal data. Try to use as many of the phrases from the lesson as you can.

The **reasons for** using social media include...



I don't **approve of**...



Social media companies **rely on**...



On behalf of social media companies...





Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

no



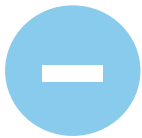


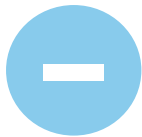
Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?









If you have time, go over
the most difficult slides again





Answer key 1/2

Activity p. 9

1. refer to
2. object to
3. objects to
4. refer to
5. object to

Activity p. 13 – possible answers

1. We **relied on** you, John, and we are disappointed.
2. I want to **congratulate** you **on** a fantastic show!
3. I need to **congratulate** Rebecca **on** winning employee of the month!
4. I am **relying on** you to book the venue.



Answer key 2/2

Missing: with, in, at

by: puzzled

about: enthusiastic, sensitive

of: accuse (somebody), approve

to: refer, object, sensitive

on: rely, congratulate,

Activity p. 23

5. She is so **fed up** with your lies.

4. I was **puzzled** by your email.

3. You are very **enthusiastic** about art.

2. I was **astonished** at what you told me.

Activity p. 20

5. about, passion

4. by, confused

3. to, responsive to change

2. with, unhappy or bored

1. at, surprised

Activity p. 19

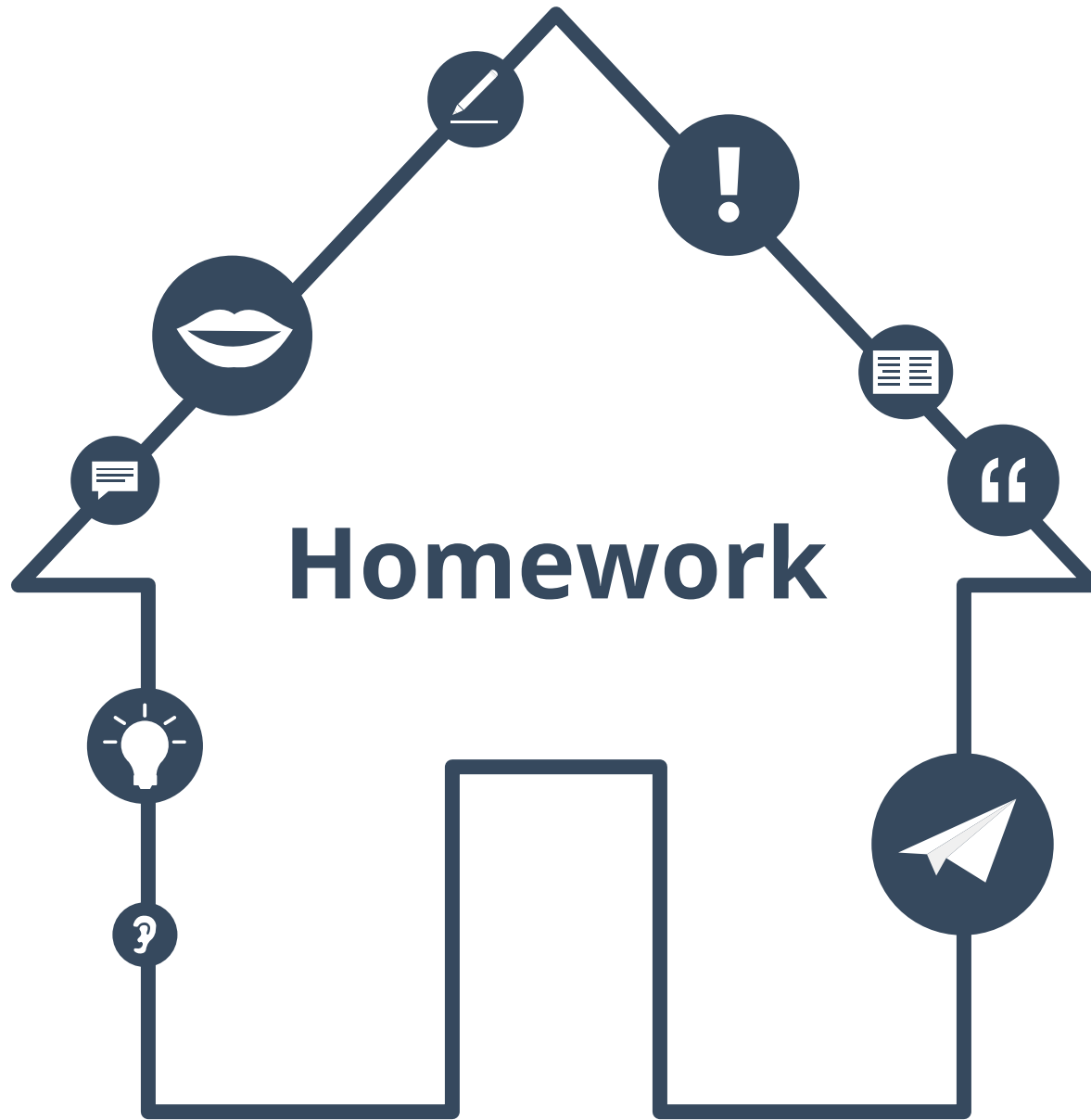


Transcription on personal data protection p. 24

Do you **approve of** social media platforms using your personal data? Do you think about this when you write a post to **congratulate** a friend **on** their promotion? You would be **astonished at** how companies use the information we give away for free.

Many of us are **in agreement**: this is worrying, but it doesn't cause a **reduction in** how much we use social media. We **object to** data being used like this, but we also **rely on** social media for a lot of things. What are the **reasons for** this?

On behalf of internet users everywhere, I would like to see stricter laws on data protection. Please **refer to** my pamphlet for more information.





Pamphlet

Re-read the transcription on page 24. The speaker mentions a pamphlet. What do you think it would say on the pamphlet?

Design your own version of this pamphlet about personal data and social media. Use the phrasal verbs and collocations from the lesson. You might want to research some key facts and figures.





About this material



Find out more at
www.lingoda.com

This material is provided by

lingoda

lingoda Who are we?



Why learn English online?



What kinds of English classes do we offer?



Who are our English teachers?



How do our English certificates work?



We also have a language blog!