Appendix 2: PREPOSITION COMBINATIONS

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General Notes on Appendix 2

- Prepositions can be humorously defined as “small words that cause second language learners a lot of trouble.” Most students will smile at that definition. Students often ask how they can learn prepositions. Lots of practice and long-term experience with the language are the essentials.

  General definitions of individual prepositions can be attempted, but overall there is usually no easy, logical explanation for why one preposition and not another is used in combination with a particular verb or adjective. To give students some sense of how varied and complex prepositions are, have them look up *at* or *in* in a dictionary: the listings are voluminous.

- The purpose of this Appendix is to give the students small chunks of preposition combinations to deal with at a time, manageable units to memorize (if that’s their strategy), to practice, to review, and to practice again. The Workbook offers additional self-study practice.

- TERMINOLOGY: The text does not define preposition because it is very difficult to define, especially for the purposes of second language learners. Perhaps teachers who have found a definition of a preposition that works for their students could share it with the rest of us on the Azar Web site: [http://www.longman.com/azar](http://www.longman.com/azar).

CHART A2-1: PREPOSITION COMBINATIONS: INTRODUCTION

- This chart introduces the content of this appendix: combinations of prepositions with adjectives and verbs. Sometimes preposition combinations correspond to those in a students’ native language, but often they do not. Sometimes correct prepositions can be guessed, but often not. Sometimes English uses a preposition where another language does not, and vice versa. The approach in this textbook is for the students to learn only a few at a time, then move on to another group and learn those.
**EXERCISE 1, p. 453. Preview: preposition combinations. (Chart A2-2)**

Ask the students to complete this exercise in their seats, then discuss the correct answers. The main purpose of this exercise is to make sure the students know what the term “preposition” refers to.

**ANSWERS:**

2. with  
3. of  
4. about  
5. with  
6. about  
7. with  
8. to  
9. of  
10. of  
11. to  
12. for  
13. with  
14. from  
15. with

**SELF-STUDY PRACTICE, p. 454. Group A.**

Demonstrate what the student is supposed to do: cover the answers and complete the sentences first, then cover the answers and the sentences and complete the reference list.

Rather than simply giving a list, the text seeks to maximize student exposure and practice by involving them in the creation of the reference list. This approach allows quick self-testing and immediate reinforcement.

Some students probably won’t follow the directions to cover the answers and will “cheat,” thus depriving themselves of an opportunity to gain learning experience with preposition combinations. It’s up to the student to take the responsibility.

The directions given in this practice are to be followed in all the self-study practices in this appendix.

**EXERCISE 2, p. 454. Preposition combinations. (Group A)**

Follow class discussion of the correct answers with a quick oral drill in which you give the first part of the sentence and the students call out the preposition:

**TEACHER:** Mr. Porter is nice . . . .

**STUDENTS:** to

**TEACHER:** to everyone.

**ANSWERS:**

2. from  
3. for  
4. at/with  
5. of  
6. to  
7. to  
8. for  
9. to  
10. with  
11. about  
12. for  
13. about  
14. of

**EXERCISE 3, p. 455. Review: preposition combinations. (Group A)**

This technique of having students create quizzes (as yet another way of giving them practice) can be used for every group of preposition combinations. This exercise is an example of what you can have students do routinely.

**EXERCISE 4, p. 455. Review: preposition combinations. (Group B)**

Again, as in Exercise 2, follow class discussion of the correct answers with a quick oral drill in which you give the first part of the sentence and the students call out the preposition. Use this oral drill technique for each group and for frequent oral reviews.

**TEACHER:** I borrowed this dictionary . . .

**STUDENTS:** from

**TEACHER:** from Pedro.
ANSWERS:
1. from  
2. with  
3. to 
4. at 
5. in  
6. at  
7. for 
8. with ... about/over  
9. with  
10. for 
11. for  
12. at

☐ EXERCISE 5, p. 456. Preposition combinations. (Group C)

ANSWERS:
1. to  
2. for  
3. for 
4. of  
5. for ... for  
6. for  
7. to ... from  
8. to  
9. about ... in  
10. of/about  
11. of  
12. to

☐ EXERCISE 6, p. 457. Preposition combinations. (Group D)

ANSWERS:
1. for  
2. from  
3. for 
4. on 
5. with  
6. in  
7. at  
8. to 
9. of  
10. to   
11. to ... about  
12. with  
13. to ... about

☐ EXERCISE 7, p. 458. Review: preposition combinations. (Groups A and B)

ANSWERS:
1. to 
2. A: from 
3. A: to 
4. to 
5. of 
6. from ... for 
7. A: in 
8. A: for ... with 
9. from 
10. to 
11. B: with  
12. at 
13. B: to

☒ EXERCISE 8, p. 458. Review: preposition combinations. (Groups A, B, C, and D)

ANSWERS:
1. about  
2. from 
3. of 
4. to ... with 
5. to 
6. for 
7. from  
8. with  
9. with 
10. to 
11. A: with ... about/over 
12. at  
13. for ... at  
14. at 
15. C: to

☐ EXERCISE 9, p. 460. Preposition combinations. (Group E)

ANSWERS:
1. with  
2. to 
3. from 
4. about 
5. to 
6. about/of  
7. at  
8. for 
9. for 
10. for 
11. about 
12. to 
13. about 

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EXERCISE 10, p. 461. Preposition combinations. (Group F)

ANSWERS:
1. to . . . for  
2. for  
3. of  
4. for  
5. on  
6. for  
7. on  
8. to/with  
9. from  
10. on  
11. of  
12. to  
13. from  
14. of/from

EXERCISE 11, p. 462. Preposition combinations. (Group G)

ANSWERS:
1. on  
2. from  
3. about  
4. for  
5. about  
6. from  
7. to . . . about  
8. to  
9. into  
10. from  
11. by  
12. to  
13. about  
14. from

EXERCISE 12, p. 462. Review: preposition combinations. (Groups E, F, and G)

ANSWERS:
1. on  
2. about  
3. with  
4. from  
5. from  
6. to . . . for  
7. of  
8. to  
9. from  
10. to  
11. for  
12. of/from  
13. from  
14. on  
15. on  
16. of  
17. about  
18. for  
19. to  
20. to

CHART A2-2: PREPOSITION COMBINATIONS: A REFERENCE LIST

- This chart provides a list of the preposition combinations used throughout Appendix 2. It’s designed as a quick and easy reference for students.