**Grammar**

**Verbs + prepositions**







**Exercise 1**

**Choose the appropriate answer.**

1. When I phoned the hospital to enquire \_\_\_\_\_ Ricky, I was told that he’s gone home.  
a) after  
b) on  
c) about

2. I only advertised the car for sale on Wednesday, but by the end of the week ten people had phoned to ask \_\_\_\_\_ it.  
a) after  
b) for  
c) about

3. We can learn a great deal \_\_\_\_\_ the oceans by studying even a small piece of coral.  
a) after  
b) of  
c) about

4. I did not agree \_\_\_\_\_ a word of what she said.  
a) to  
b) with  
c) for

5. Professor Owen is giving a talk \_\_\_\_\_ the Romans in Lecture Hall 1.  
a) of  
b) with  
c) on

6. I had to care \_\_\_\_\_ my elderly parents when they both became ill.  
a) for  
b) after  
c) about

7. For many years we have been arguing \_\_\_\_\_ changes in the way the college is managed.  
a) for  
b) on  
c) with

8. She didn’t know \_\_\_\_\_ her stepbrother’s existence until her mother died.  
a) off  
b) about  
c) on  


**Exercise 2**

**Fill in the gaps**

**of about of with for on** **after**

**with/to of/** **about on/to after/about**

1. ‘If you want to enquire \_\_\_\_\_ a motor insurance quotation, please press 1.’
2. I hope you’re brothers feeling better soon. When you see him, tell him I asked \_\_\_\_\_ him.
3. I first learnt \_\_\_\_\_ his decision to resign when it was announced on the radio last night.
4. We’re going to talk \_\_\_\_\_ the council about the possibility of planting some new trees in the park.
5. I don’t care \_\_\_\_\_ pop music at all. I much prefer classical music.
6. The teacher says we’ve got to do the test, so there’s no point in arguing \_\_\_\_\_ it.
7. The government has agreed \_\_\_\_\_ a public inquiry into the helicopter crash.
8. If you know \_\_\_\_\_ any reasons why you should not be given medical insurance, you must declare then here.
9. “John can be really stupid sometimes.” You should not talk \_\_\_\_\_ your brother like that.”
10. I’m calling to enquire \_\_\_\_\_ Mr Dawes, who was operated on last night.
11. She’s always arguing \_\_\_\_\_ her parents about what to watch on television.
12. I know it’s a lot to ask \_\_\_\_\_\_ you, but would you look after the children while I’m in Japan on business?
13. The course was brilliant. We learnt \_\_\_\_\_ using the Internet in language learning.
14. Dan said he’ll try to fix my car. “What does he know \_\_\_\_\_ cars?”
15. I don’t think the government cares enough \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ nursery education to fund it properly.
16. After hours of discussion, the committee finally agreed \_\_\_\_\_ the amount of money to donate.



**Exercise 3**

**Choose the appropriate answer**

1. What's happened \_\_\_\_\_\_ Mike? He should be here.

a) about

b) with

c) to

2.’Do you know a band called Glass Onion?’

‘ I've never heard \_\_\_\_ them.’

a) from

b) about

c) of

3. The course consists \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ten two-hour lessons plus a tutorial.

a) of

b) for

c) with

4. Do you believe \_\_\_\_\_\_ ghosts?

a) for

b) about

c) in

5. She accused him \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ stealing her bag.

a) with

b) about

c) of

6. Who does this bag belong \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ?

a) to

b) with

c) for

7. I complained \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the noise that the builders were making.

a) about

b) for

c) to

8. I agree \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Martha. She's absolutely right.

a) to

b) on

c) with

9. We divided the cake \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ five pieces - one piece for each of us.

a) into

b) between

c) among

10. We may go hiking on Sunday. It depends \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the weather.

a) about

b) on

c) for

11. 'Why are you laughing \_\_\_\_ me? ‘

‘You've got your shirt on inside out.'

a) to

b) on

c) at

12. She suffers \_\_\_\_\_\_ headaches.

a) on

b) from

c) about

13. 'What do you know \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ electronics?'

'Not much.'

a) on

b) about

c) of

14. They blamed the pilot \_\_\_\_\_ the crash.

a) for

b) about

c) with

15. I got \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the bus and walked to my office.

a) out

b) away

c) off

**Exercise 4**

**Gap-fill**

**coming wrapped turn** **kicks** **spread** **come** **took** **picked** **put pass**

1. I seem to have \_\_\_\_\_ out in a rash.
2. This is urgent, so don’t \_\_\_\_\_ it off.
3. I fill tired and achy, I must be \_\_\_\_\_ down with flu.
4. It’s too good an offer to \_\_\_\_\_ down.
5. The plane \_\_\_\_\_ off smoothly.
6. The search party \_\_\_\_\_ out over the fields.
7. Henry \_\_\_\_\_ up a hitchhiker on his way to London.
8. Please don’t \_\_\_\_\_ this information on to anyone else.
9. Lesley is completely \_\_\_\_\_ up in her studies at the moment.
10. The match \_\_\_\_\_ off at 10 pm.

**Exercise 5**

**Put in the correct preposition**

1. Please come \_\_\_\_\_\_ once. We have a big problem.

2. She worked very hard and \_\_\_\_\_\_ last she managed to pass the exam.

3. We need to be \_\_\_\_\_\_ time or my grandmother will start to get anxious.

4. It feels like owning a house is \_\_\_\_\_\_ the ordinary. I'll never be able to do it.

5. We thought about it a lot and \_\_\_\_\_\_ last we decided to buy a new flat.

6. We watched a film \_\_\_\_\_\_ a change. Usually we read.

7. She was really \_\_\_\_\_\_ danger for a few minutes in the rough sea, but luckily a lifeguard saw her.

8. I went to the bookshop and \_\_\_\_\_\_ chance I found a really interesting book about Switzerland.

9. He walked into the kitchen and \_\_\_\_\_\_ his surprise there was food all over the floor.

1. She drinks a litre of water every day \_\_\_\_\_ fail.

11. The little girl broke the toy \_\_\_\_\_\_ purpose because she was so angry.

**Key**

**Exercise 1**

**Choose the appropriate answer.**

1. When I phoned the hospital to enquire \_\_\_\_\_ Ricky, I was told that he’s gone home.  
a) after  
b) on  
**c) about**

2. I only advertised the car for sale on Wednesday, but by the end of the week ten people had phoned to ask \_\_\_\_\_ it.  
a) after  
b) for  
**c) about**

3. We can learn a great deal \_\_\_\_\_ the oceans by studying even a small piece of coral.  
a) after  
b) of  
**c) about**

4. I did not agree \_\_\_\_\_ a word of what she said.  
a) to  
**b) with**  
c) for

5. Professor Owen is giving a talk \_\_\_\_\_ the Romans in Lecture Hall 1.  
a) of  
b) with  
**c) on**

6. I had to care \_\_\_\_\_ my elderly parents when they both became ill.  
**a) for**  
b) after  
c) about

7. For many years we have been arguing \_\_\_\_\_ changes in the way the college is managed.  
**a) for**  
b) on  
c) with

8. She didn’t know \_\_\_\_\_ her stepbrother’s existence until her mother died.  
a) off  
**b) about**  
c) on

**Exercise 2**

**Fill in the gaps**

1. ‘If you want to enquire \_\_\_\_\_ **about** a motor insurance quotation, please press 1.’
2. I hope you’re brothers feeling better soon. When you see him, tell him I asked \_\_\_\_\_ **after** him.
3. I first learnt \_\_\_\_\_ **of/** **about** his decision to resign when it was announced on the radio last night.
4. We’re going to talk \_\_\_\_\_ **with/to** the council about the possibility of planting some new trees in the park.
5. I don’t care \_\_\_\_\_ **for** pop music at all. I much prefer classical music.
6. The teacher says we’ve got to do the test, so there’s no point in arguing \_\_\_\_\_**about** it.
7. The government has agreed \_\_\_\_\_ **on/to** a public inquiry into the helicopter crash.
8. If you know \_\_\_\_\_ **of** any reasons why you should not be given medical insurance, you must declare then here.
9. “John can be really stupid sometimes.” You should not talk \_\_\_\_\_ **about** your brother like that.”
10. I’m calling to enquire \_\_\_\_\_ **after/about** Mr Dawes, who was operated on last night.
11. She’s always arguing \_\_\_\_\_**with** her parents about what to watch on television.
12. I know it’s a lot to ask \_\_\_\_\_\_ **of** you, but would you look after the children while I’m in Japan on business?
13. The course was brilliant. We learnt \_\_\_\_\_ **about** using the Internet in language learning.
14. Dan said he’ll try to fix my car. “What does he know \_\_\_\_\_ **about** cars?”
15. I don’t think the government cares enough \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **about** nursery education to fund it properly.
16. After hours of discussion, the committee finally agreed \_\_\_\_\_ **on** the amount of money to donate.

**Exercise 3**

**Choose the appropriate answer**

1. What's happened \_\_\_\_\_\_ Mike? He should be here.

a) about

b) with

**c) to**

2.’Do you know a band called Glass Onion?’

‘ I've never heard \_\_\_\_ them.’

a) from

**b) about**

c) of

3. The course consists \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ten two-hour lessons plus a tutorial.

**a) of**

b) for

c) with

4. Do you believe \_\_\_\_\_\_ ghosts?

a) for

b) about

**c) in**

5. She accused him \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ stealing her bag.

a) with

b) about

**c) of**

6. Who does this bag belong \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ?

**a) to**

b) with

c) for

7. I complained \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the noise that the builders were making.

**a) about**

b) for

c) to

8. I agree \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Martha. She's absolutely right.

a) to

b) on

**c) with**

9. We divided the cake \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ five pieces - one piece for each of us.

**a) into**

b) between

c) among

10. We may go hiking on Sunday. It depends \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the weather.

a) about

**b) on**

c) for

11. 'Why are you laughing \_\_\_\_ me? ‘

‘You've got your shirt on inside out.'

a) to

b) on

**c) at**

12. She suffers \_\_\_\_\_\_ headaches.

a) on

**b) from**

c) about

13. 'What do you know \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ electronics?'

'Not much.'

a) on

**b) about**

c) of

14. They blamed the pilot \_\_\_\_\_ the crash.

**a) for**

b) about

c) with

15. I got \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the bus and walked to my office.

**a) out**

b) away

c) off

**Exercise 4**

**Gap-fill**

1. I seem to have \_\_\_\_\_ **come** out in a rash.

2. This is urgent, so don’t \_\_\_\_\_ **put** it off.

3. I fill tired and achy, I must be \_\_\_\_\_ **coming** down with flu.

4. It’s too good an offer to \_\_\_\_\_ **turn** down.

5. The plane \_\_\_\_\_ **took** off smoothly.

6. The search party \_\_\_\_\_ **spread** out over the fields.

7. Henry \_\_\_\_\_ **picked** up a hitchhiker on his way to London.

8. Please don’t \_\_\_\_\_ **pass** this information on to anyone else.

9. Lesley is completely \_\_\_\_\_ **wrapped** up in her studies at the moment.

10. The match \_\_\_\_\_ **kicks** off at 10 pm.

**Exercise 5**

**Put in the correct preposition**

1. Please come \_\_\_\_\_\_ **at** once. We have a big problem.

2. She worked very hard and \_\_\_\_\_\_ **at** last she managed to pass the exam.

3. We need to be \_\_\_\_\_\_ **in** time or my grandmother will start to get anxious.

4. It feels like owning a house is \_\_\_\_\_\_ **out of** the ordinary. I'll never be able to do it.

5. We thought about it a lot and \_\_\_\_\_\_**at** last we decided to buy a new flat.

6. We watched a film \_\_\_\_\_\_**for** a change. Usually we read.

7. She was really \_\_\_\_\_\_ **in** danger for a few minutes in the rough sea, but luckily a lifeguard saw her.

8. I went to the bookshop and \_\_\_\_\_\_**by** chance I found a really interesting book about Switzerland.

9. He walked into the kitchen and \_\_\_\_\_\_**to** his surprise there was food all over the floor.

10. She drinks a litre of water every day \_\_\_\_\_ **without** fail.

11. The little girl broke the toy \_\_\_\_\_\_ **on** purpose because she was so angry.