



ENGLISH ASTIR
STEPPINGSTONE TO 7.0

Language focus

Thrill seekers

Adjectives with prepositions



1 Some adjectives are followed by a particular preposition. For example, in the Listening script below, Marco says:

They are also very motivating leaders, who are passionate about what they do.

For 1-10 below, identify the correct preposition in *italics*.

- 1 I am very keen *about/on/for* swimming, especially first thing in the morning.
- 2 Some people are addicted *by/with/to* watching sports. They spend all their time glued to the TV.
- 3 He's mad *for/to/about* parachuting. It's something I personally can't understand.
- 4 I'm not interested *in/by/with* going to the gym.
- 5 I easily get bored *in/about/with* doing nothing.
- 6 I can't say I'm indifferent *in/to/about* sport, but I don't like spending my time watching it.
- 7 I used to be very enthusiastic *on/about/with* team sports, but not anymore.
- 8 I'm not sure I'm capable *to/for/of* running for long distances.
- 9 I'm really passionate *for/about/on* traveling around the world and meeting fellow hockey enthusiasts.
- 10 I am fond *about/to/of* traveling, but my brother is completely fanatical *for/about/with* visiting new places.





Read more about adjectives with prepositions in the Grammar reference

Adjectives with prepositions

Some adjectives are followed by a particular preposition (when used with the verb *be*). Sometimes a different preposition is used depending on whether you are referring to 'people' or 'things'. You can check this in a dictionary, but they include:

angry/annoyed/happy/upset about (things)

good/bad at

late/famous/ready for

different from

interested in

afraid/fond/frightened of

keen on

kind/married/used to

angry/annoyed/bored with (people)

When you use the verb after the preposition, you use the verb + *-ing* form.

He's keen on playing football.

I'm interested in learning about other cultures.

When you learn new adjectives which are followed by prepositions, try to learn the adjective and the preposition together.



2 Work with your teacher. Match the sentence beginnings 1-7 with the ending a-g. It is possible to match some of the sentence beginnings with more than one ending.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 I am mad | a to any kind of physical activity |
| 2 I am not keen | b about playing computer games |
| 3 I am bored | c on team sports |
| 4 I am interested | d in walking in the countryside |
| 5 I am passionate | e with watching sport on TV |
| 6 I am fond | f about doing all kinds of exercise |
| 7 I am indifferent | g of reading sports magazines |

3 Look at questions 1-6 below. Identify the items in *italics* that are most suitable for you.

1 Which sport do you like the most?

football horse-riding swimming

2 Who do you prefer doing it with?

a colleague a friend nobody

3 How often do you like doing it?

once a week twice a week three times a week

4 When do you normally like to do it?

mornings afternoons evenings

5 How would you describe your attitude to the sport?

interested enthusiastic addicted

6 Why do you enjoy doing it?

challenging exciting exhilarating

4 Explain your answers to your teacher using the adjectives and prepositions in exercise 1.



Review

1

Make seven sentences using the items below. Two items cannot be used.

I'm addicted As a keen motorist, I'm not interested with life. for traveling

She's very fit and capable to all kinds of video games. about gymnastics. on fitness.

of playing tennis for a long time. in walking holidays. I'm a cyclist and keen

As my grandfather's very active, he's the sort of person who rarely gets bored

The sport that I am most enthusiastic It's my sister that's mad by singing.

about football, not me.

1

2

3

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