

Verb + preposition 3 about and of

A

dream **ABOUT** ... (when you are asleep)

- ☐ I **dreamt about** you last night.

dream **OF/ABOUT** being something / doing something = *imagine*

- ☐ Do you **dream of/about** being rich and famous?

(I) **wouldn't dream OF** doing something = *I would never do it*

- ☐ 'Don't tell anyone what I said.' 'No, I **wouldn't dream of it.**' (= I would never do it)

B

hear **ABOUT** ... = *be told about something*

- ☐ Did you **hear about** what happened at the club on Saturday night?

hear **OF** ... = *know that somebody/something exists*

- ☐ 'Who is Tom Hart?' 'I have no idea. I've never **heard of** him'. (*not heard from him*)

hear **FROM** ... = *receive a letter, phone call or message from somebody*

- ☐ 'Have you **heard from** Jane recently?' 'Yes, she phoned a few days ago.'

C

think **ABOUT** ... and think **OF** ...

When you **think ABOUT** something, you consider it, you concentrate your mind on it:

- ☐ I've **thought about** what you said and I've decided to take your advice.
- ☐ 'Will you lend me the money?' 'I'll **think about** it.'

When you **think OF** something, the idea comes to your mind:

- ☐ He told me his name, but I can't **think of** it now. (*not think about it*)
- ☐ That's a good idea. Why didn't I **think of** that? (*not think about that*)

We also use **think of** when we ask or give an opinion:

- ☐ 'What did you **think of** the film?' 'I didn't **think much of** it.' (= I didn't like it much)

The difference is sometimes very small and you can use **of** or **about**:

- ☐ When I'm alone, I often **think of (or about)** you.

You can say **think of or think about** doing something (for possible future actions):

- ☐ My sister is **thinking of (or about)** going to Canada. (= she is considering it)

D

remind somebody **ABOUT** ... = *tell somebody not to forget*

- ☐ I'm glad you **reminded me about** the meeting. I'd completely forgotten about it.

remind somebody **OF** ... = *cause somebody to remember*

- ☐ This house **reminds me of** the one I lived in when I was a child.
- ☐ Look at this photograph of Richard. Who does he **remind you of**?

E

complain (TO somebody) **ABOUT** ... = *say that you are not satisfied*

- ☐ We **complained to** the manager of the restaurant **about** the food.

complain **OF** a pain, an illness etc. = *say that you have a pain etc.*

- ☐ We called the doctor because George was **complaining of** a pain in his stomach.

F

warn somebody **ABOUT** a person or thing which is bad, dangerous, unusual etc.

- ☐ I knew he was a strange person. I had been **warned about** him. (*not warned of him*)
- ☐ Vicky **warned me** about the traffic. She said it would be bad.

warn somebody **ABOUT/OF** a danger, something bad which might happen later

- ☐ Scientists have **warned us about/of** the effects of global warming.

134.1 Put in the correct preposition.

- 1 Did you hear about what happened at the party on Saturday?
- 2 'I had a strange dream last night.' 'Did you? What did you dream ?'
- 3 Our neighbours complained us the noise we made last night.
- 4 Kevin was complaining pains in his chest, so he went to the doctor.
- 5 I love this music. It reminds me a warm day in spring.
- 6 He loves his job. He thinks his job all the time, he dreams it, he talks it and I'm fed up with hearing it.
- 7 I tried to remember the name of the book, but I couldn't think it.
- 8 Jackie warned me the water. She said it wasn't safe to drink.
- 9 We warned our children the dangers of playing in the street.

134.2 Complete the sentences using the following verbs (in the correct form) + the correct preposition:

complain dream hear remind remind ~~think~~ think warn

- 1 That's a good idea. Why didn't I think of that?
- 2 Bill is never satisfied. He is always something.
- 3 I can't make a decision yet. I need time to your proposal.
- 4 Before you go into the house, I must you the dog. He is very aggressive sometimes, so be careful.
- 5 She's not a well-known singer. Not many people have her.
- 6 A: You wouldn't go away without telling me, would you?
B: Of course not. I wouldn't it.
- 7 I would have forgotten my appointment if Jane hadn't me it.
- 8 Do you see that man over there? Does he you anybody you know?

134.3 Complete the sentences using hear or heard + the correct preposition (about/of/from).

- 1 I've never heard of Tom Hart. Who is he?
- 2 'Did you the accident last night?' 'Yes, Vicky told me.'
- 3 Jill used to phone quite often, but I haven't her for a long time now.
- 4 A: Have you a writer called William Hudson?
B: No, I don't think so. What sort of writer is he?
- 5 Thank you for your letter. It was good to you again.
- 6 'Do you want to our holiday?' 'Not now. Tell me later.'
- 7 I live in a small town in the north of England. You've probably never it.

134.4 Complete the sentences using think about or think of. Sometimes both about and of are possible. Use the correct form of think (think/thinking/thought).

- 1 You look serious. What are you thinking about ?
- 2 I like to have time to make decisions. I like to things carefully.
- 3 I don't know what to get Sarah for her birthday. Can you anything?
- 4 A: I've finished reading the book you lent me.
B: Have you? What did you it? Did you like it?
- 5 We're going out for a meal this evening. Would you like to come?
- 6 I don't really want to go out with Tom tonight. I'll have to an excuse.
- 7 When I was offered the job, I didn't accept immediately. I went away and it for a while. In the end I decided to take the job.
- 8 I don't much this coffee. It's like water.
- 9 Carol is very homesick. She's always her family back home.