

Miscellaneous Grammar Worksheet

Prepositions — Advanced Level

Name: _____

Class: 9 Section: _____

Date: _____

Marks: _____ / 30

Instructions: Read each question carefully and answer in the space provided. All the best!

Section A — Fill in the Blanks (8 x 1 = 8 marks)

Fill in each blank with the most appropriate preposition. Think carefully — several of these test fine distinctions that even advanced learners often get wrong.

1. The train arrived _____ time, but we still had to wait _____ another twenty minutes for the connecting bus.
2. He is blind _____ his own faults, yet extremely quick to comment _____ everyone else's mistakes.
3. The novel is based _____ true events that took place _____ the early 1900s.
4. She sat _____ the edge of her seat, anxious _____ the results of the final match.
5. The charity works _____ behalf of children who have been deprived _____ a proper education.
6. He was so absorbed _____ his work that he remained completely oblivious _____ the noise around him.
7. The company's profits declined sharply _____ the last quarter, largely _____ account of rising costs.
8. Contrary _____ popular belief, the decision was arrived _____ only after months of careful debate.

Section B — Choose the Correct Option (6 x 1 = 6 marks)

Each sentence has two prepositions that could both seem correct at first glance. Circle/underline the one that is actually correct, and be ready to justify your choice.

1. The results were different from / than what the analysts had expected.
2. He has been suffering from / with a severe headache since morning.
3. The committee is composed of / from members representing every department.
4. She is quite particular about / on the way her instructions are followed.
5. The two proposals are similar to / with each other in almost every respect.
6. He was accused of / for leaking confidential information to a rival company.

Section C — Error Correction (6 x 1 = 6 marks)

Each sentence contains exactly one preposition error, often involving a fixed phrase. Identify and correct it.

1. The lawyer argued that the evidence was inconsistent to the witness's earlier statement.
2. Despite of the heavy rain, the ceremony continued as planned.
3. He has a strong aptitude with numbers and logical reasoning.
4. The manager was reluctant of approving the request without further review.
5. The scientists are still investigating on the actual cause of the malfunction.

6. She was determined of finishing the marathon despite the injury.

Section D — Cloze Passage (10 x 1 = 10 marks)

Read the passage and fill in each blank with a single appropriate preposition. Some blanks depend on the verb or adjective just before them, while others depend on the overall meaning of the sentence.

Long (1) _____ the invention of the printing press, information travelled slowly and was often distorted (2) _____ the time it reached its destination. Scholars had to rely (3) _____ handwritten copies, which were prone (4) _____ human error. When Gutenberg's press was introduced (5) _____ the mid-fifteenth century, it was met (6) _____ both excitement and suspicion. Many feared that the widespread availability (7) _____ books would undermine the authority (8) _____ the Church, while others welcomed it as a step (9) _____ greater literacy. Historians still debate the extent (10) _____ which this single invention changed the course of European history.

Answer Key

Section A

1. on ... for
2. to ... on
3. on ... in
4. on ... about
5. on ... of
6. in ... to
7. in ... on
8. to ... at

Section B

1. different **from** (standard British/formal usage; 'different than' is common in American informal English)
2. suffering **from** a headache (fixed expression)
3. composed **of** members (composed of = made up of)
4. particular **about** (fixed collocation with 'particular')
5. similar **to** each other (fixed collocation with 'similar')
6. accused **of** leaking information (fixed collocation with 'accused')

Section C

1. inconsistent to → inconsistent with
2. Despite of → Despite (or 'In spite of')
3. aptitude with → aptitude for
4. reluctant of → reluctant to
5. investigating on → investigating (remove 'on'; 'investigate' is transitive)
6. determined of → determined to

Section D

1. before
2. by
3. on
4. to
5. in
6. with
7. of
8. of
9. towards
10. to