



Prepositional Phrases:

Adjective + Preposition: Common Collocations

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

1. She's really afraid ____ spiders.
a) of
b) from
c) about
d) with
2. He's very good ____ playing the guitar.
a) in
b) at
c) for
d) on
3. I'm really interested ____ Japanese culture.
a) about
b) on
c) for
d) in
4. We're very excited ____ the trip to Paris.
a) in
b) about
c) of
d) with
5. My parents are proud ____ my achievements.
a) about
b) for
c) with
d) of
6. She's always been bad ____ remembering names.
a) at
b) in
c) with
d) for
7. I'm sorry ____ being late. It won't happen again.
a) at
b) of
c) with
d) for
8. The children are bored ____ this game. Let's play something else.
a) at
b) about
c) from
d) with
9. Are you worried ____ the exam tomorrow?
a) about
b) of
c) for
d) with
10. He felt really angry ____ the decision to cancel the event.
a) to
b) about
c) on
d) for
11. She's very kind ____ animals.
a) with
b) for
c) to
d) at

12. I'm tired ____ waiting. Let's just leave.
a) of
b) from
c) with
d) about
13. This dress is very similar ____ the one I bought last week.
a) to
b) as
c) with
d) like
14. Japanese food is quite different ____ Chinese food.
a) of
b) from
c) than
d) with
15. Are you ready ____ the presentation?
a) to
b) at
c) for
d) about
16. She was really pleased ____ her exam results.
a) on
b) of
c) for
d) with
17. He's been married ____ Sarah for ten years.
a) with
b) by
c) to
d) for
18. I'm not very keen ____ horror films.
a) about
b) for
c) on
d) of
19. She's very fond ____ her grandmother.
a) with
b) about
c) of
d) to
20. The town is famous ____ its beautiful beaches.
a) of
b) for
c) about
d) with



Answers

1. a) of
2. b) at
3. d) in
4. b) about
5. d) of
6. a) at
7. d) for
8. d) with
9. a) about
10. b) about
11. c) to
12. a) of
13. a) to
14. b) from
15. c) for
16. d) with
17. c) to
18. c) on
19. c) of
20. b) for



Explanations

1. “of” (a)

'Afraid of' is the standard collocation. We say 'afraid of something/someone' to express fear.

2. “at” (b)

'Good at' is used for skills and abilities: good at maths, good at cooking, good at playing the guitar.

3. “in” (d)

'Interested in' is the correct collocation. We say 'interested in something' to express curiosity or attraction.

4. “about” (b)

'Excited about' is used when looking forward to something: excited about the holiday, excited about the news.

5. “of” (d)

'Proud of' is the standard collocation: proud of my son, proud of my work, proud of my country.

6. “at” (a)

'Bad at' is the opposite of 'good at'. We use 'bad at' for skills and abilities: bad at maths, bad at cooking.

7. “for” (d)

'Sorry for' + gerund is the standard pattern for apologising about one's own actions: sorry for being late, sorry for interrupting, sorry for causing trouble.

8. “with” (d)

'Bored with' is the standard collocation meaning tired of something: bored with the lesson, bored with waiting.

9. “about” (a)

'Worried about' is the correct collocation: worried about the future, worried about money, worried about a friend.

10. “about” (b)

'Angry about' is used for situations, events or decisions: angry about the delay, angry about the cancellation.
Note: 'angry with' is used when directed at a person (angry with my boss).

11. “to” (c)

'Kind to' is the standard collocation: kind to children, kind to strangers, kind to animals.

12. “of” (a)

'Tired of' means fed up with something: tired of waiting, tired of his excuses. Note: 'tired from' means physically exhausted (tired from running).

13. “to” (a)

'Similar to' is the correct collocation: similar to mine, similar to what I expected. Do not confuse with 'the same as'.

14. “from” (b)

'Different from' is the standard collocation accepted worldwide: different from mine, different from what I expected.

15. “for” (c)

'Ready for' is used before nouns: ready for the exam, ready for dinner, ready for the meeting.

16. “with” (d)

'Pleased with' is the standard collocation: pleased with the outcome, pleased with my performance. It means satisfied or happy about something.

17. “to” (c)

'Married to' is the correct collocation: married to someone. We do not say 'married with someone' (though 'married with children' means 'married and has children').

18. “on” (c)

'Keen on' means enthusiastic about or fond of something: keen on sports, keen on the idea, keen on cooking.

19. “of” (c)

'Fond of' means having affection for someone or something: fond of chocolate, fond of travelling, fond of my old teacher.

20. “for” (b)

'Famous for' is the standard collocation: famous for its food, famous for its history, famous for being the birthplace of Shakespeare.