English Grammar – Preposition Practise

in/on/at

Peter is good **at** English. (good at)
The company president didn't want to comment **on** the scandal. (comment on)
These boots were **on** sale last week. (on sale – low price)
Grace is **in** her forties. (in her forties)
He spends all his money **on** video games. (spend money on something)
Greg is involved **in** organized crime. (involved in)
I watched the film **on** my cell phone. (watch on)
Roger's company specializes **in** the management of young musicians. (specialize in)
Eric is **on** vacation until next month. (on vacation)
I couldn't focus **on** my work because of the loud music. (focus on)
Laura can't concentrate **on** her job because she is too stressed. (concentrate on)
Your income will depend **on** your performance. (depend on)
I get up **at** seven **in** the morning **on** weekdays. (at a time)(in the morning)(on weekdays)
China has agreed to participate **in** the global economic forum. (participate in)
My husband spent the kids' money **on** cigarettes. (spend money on something)
There has been a small increase **in** gasoline prices. (increase in)
The files are **on** my computer **in** the folder called "finance". (on a computer)(in a folder)
At first, Lillian was not accustomed to working **in** a big company. (at first)(work in a company)
I intend to work **on** the project **at** the weekend. (work on)(at the weekend)
After I finish the report, my boss said that I could go **on** vacation. (on vacation)
Paul is very good **at** telling jokes. (good at + gerund)
It's difficult to concentrate **on** your work when you're tired. (concentrate on)
Fred rarely arrives **on** time. (on time)
Tina studied **at** London University for three years. (study at)
Tina looks down **on** people who haven't graduated from university. (look down on)
When John is **at** school, he studies very hard, but **at** home he doesn't. (at school)(at home)
The doctor elaborated **on** the patient's condition. (elaborate on)
I studied **at** Oxford University. (study at a university/school)
I studied **in** London. (study in a city)
Last week, I had an interview for a programming position **at/in** Google. (at/in a company)
It's good to have "Fluent English" **on** my CV. (on a CV)
There are few women **in** my field of work. (in a field of work)
Last year Fred went **on** a trip to Vienna. (go on a trip)
My car is similar to the car that David Hasselhoff drove **in** his TV show. (in a TV show)
On the way, he was driving his car **at** a speed of 120 km per hour. (on the way)(at a speed)
A large tree was right **in** front of him. (in front of)
Bob realized that his tires were **in** bad condition. (in bad/good condition)
Bob needed to invest **in** some new tires. (invest in)
Bob went to a shop that specializes **in** high performance tires. (specialize in)

by/until

I was surprised **by** the color of her hair. (surprised by/at/with)
We must finish the project **by** 5pm today. (finish by)
The movie was inspired **by** a book written 50 years ago. (inspired by)
I always go to work **by** train. (by car/train/bus/etc.)
My boss told me to finish the report **by** the end of the day. (finish by)
Everyone in the HR department was surprised **by** the news. (surprised by/at/with)
I plan to work **until** I am 65 years old. (work until)
I work **until** 8pm every day. (work until)
His rash was caused **by** some food that he ate while he was in Malaysia. (caused by)
He always sleeps **until** midday. (sleep until)
He was invited **by** his cousin to go to the beach. (invited by someone)
The book was written **by** H.G. Wells. (written by)

of/from

You are so moody - you remind me **of** my sister. (remind me of)
I have a view **of** the street **from** my hotel room. (a view of)
A: Do you know Bob Seger? B: No, I've never heard **of** him. (have heard of)
Alan is a fan **of** Manchester United. (to be a fan of)
I couldn't focus on my work because **of** the loud music. (because of)
Carol graduated **from** Harvard with a degree in Political Science. (graduate from)
I am very proud **of** my son's accomplishments. (to be proud of)
My uncle often suffers **from** backache. (suffer from)
I take care **of** my sick mother. (take care of)
My daughter is very different **from** my wife. (different from)
My favorite philosopher is Zhuang Zhou. My friends have never heard **of** him. (have heard of)
John's wife accused him **of** cheating. She thinks that he is bored **of** her. (accuse of)(bored of)
Paul reminds me **of** his father. (remind me of)
I enjoy being part **of** this team. (to be part of)
There's always the risk **of** an earthquake in Japan. (risk of)
Carol's father prohibits her **from** having a boyfriend. (prohibit somebody from)
Jane spends most **of** her time in the library. (most of)
Bob's father accused him **of** using drugs. (accuse of)
Instead **of** coffee, he drank tea, just for a change. (instead of)
Simon graduated **from** Cambridge University in 1999. (graduate from)
I need to take care **of** my little brother, because our parents have died. (take care of)
Many people discriminate against others because **of** their skin color. (because of)
I graduated **from** university one month ago. (graduate from)
I hope that being a woman won't prevent me **from** having a successful career. (prevent from)
A large tree was right in front **of** him. (in front of)

to/for

I am allergic **to** cats. (allergic to)
I am looking **for** my cell phone. (look for)
He is responsible **for** our office in China. (responsible for)
I have a question related **to** your education. (related to)
After graduation, Joan will apply **to** some local companies **for** a job as a graphic designer. (apply to a company / apply for a job)
After the accident, there was much damage **to** his car. (damage to)
John is married **to** Jane. (be married to)
My son asked me **for** a new bicycle. (ask somebody for something)
Hosni Mubarak was in power in Egypt **for** 30 years. (for - period of time)
"N.A.T.O." stands **for** "North Atlantic Treaty Organization". (stands for)
This commercial was designed to appeal **to** young women. (appeal to somebody)
I don't know his reason **for** ending the relationship. (reason for)
My son is similar **to** me. (similar to)
Kate apologized **to** Jim **for** her son's bad behavior. (apologize to somebody for something)
The policeman checked John's pockets **for** drugs. (check for)
Instead of coffee, he drank tea, **just for a change**. (expression)
Last week, I had an interview **for** a programming position at Google. (interview for)
I had a hard time paying attention **to** the interviewer. (pay attention to)
Last year Greg went **to** Vienna. (go to - destination)
My car is similar **to** the car that David Hasselhoff drove in his TV show. (similar to)
Bob went **to** the bank to withdraw some cash. (go to – destination)
The arms dealer supplied weapons **to** the rebels. (supply something to somebody)

with

The little boy hit his friend **with** a stick. (hit somebody with something)
I'm lost. I'm not familiar **with** this neighborhood. (to be familiar with something)

into

The dog ran **into** the shop before I could stop it. (run into)
Please insert this image **into** the document, on page 10. (insert into)
The cake was divided **into** four pieces. (divide into)
The kids were separated **into** boys and girls. (separate into)
When he walked **into** the bank, he noticed the very long queue. (walk into)
He split his company **into** three business areas. (split into)

under

I was able to return the product because it was still **under** guarantee. (under guarantee)
The police are keeping Tom **under** surveillance for two weeks. (under surveillance)
Don't worry – everything is **under** control. (under control)
Tom was **under** suspicion for the theft of the car. (under suspicion)
You are **under** arrest! (under arrest)

about

Lizzie doesn't care **about** politics. (care about something)
Tell me **about** baseball. I don't understand the game. (tell somebody about something)
I don't know what you are talking **about**. (talk about something)
My brother never tells me **about** his girlfriends. (tell somebody about something)

between

If I had to choose **between** going to heaven or hell, I'd choose heaven. (choose between)
A: Where's the TV control? B: It's on the floor, **between** the pouffe and the chair. (position)

against

Many people discriminate **against** others because of their skin color. (discriminate against)
They promised not to hold anything **against** me. (hold something against somebody)
I fear that I'll be discriminated **against**. (discriminate against)

'about' vs 'of'

think **about** things / think **of** people
dream **about** things / dream **of** people

I often **think about** traveling to Europe.
I've recently been **thinking of** my late father.

Last night I **dreamed about** having superpowers.
Last night I **dreamed of** my ex-wife.