

Verb + preposition 3 **about and of**

A

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

- ☐ Did you **hear about** the fire at the hotel yesterday?

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 ... = *be in contact with somebody*

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

B

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:

- ☐ It was my idea. I **thought of** it first. (*not thought about it*)
☐ I felt embarrassed. I couldn't **think of** anything to say. (*not think about anything*)

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

- ☐ 'What did you **think of** the movie?' '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)

C

dream ABOUT ... (when you are asleep)

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

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

- ☐ Do you **dream of** (*or 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)

D

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.

E

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**?

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 or OF a danger, something bad which might happen later

- ☐ Scientists have **warned** us **about** (*or of*) the effects of climate change.