

## -ing form after prepositions

### ① Fill in prepositions where necessary.

1. Your colleagues are good ... keeping a secret, aren't they? 2. You seem very fond ... saying things behind my back. 3. You seem upset ... losing Jones. 4. The man of letters is accustomed ... writing. 5. Mrs Attley was very skilful ... directing the table talk away from her daughter. 6. I don't say I'm proud ... cheating him out of 300 dollars. 7. I saw quite clearly the benefit I was capable ... getting from travel. 8. He is usually fairly careful ... making his statements. 9. I'm sick ... doing things for you. 10. But he was slow ... replying. 11. He is quite excited ... being among us again. 12. It was five minutes later than my usual bedtime and I felt ~~guilty~~ ... being still up. 13. She was quick ... finding out things. 14. Dolly seemed relieved ... not having to make a scene. 15. I tried to be as nice as possible ... refusing. 16. He selected a dingy little place where he felt sure ... not meeting any acquaintances.

②

1. Carl took the bus home instead of (wait) for his mother.
2. Instead of (stand) around here (do) nothing, you could help me.
3. Dad tried to repair the car himself instead of (take) it to the garage.
4. Lea was so tired that she went to bed without (brush) her teeth.
5. You can't come into this room without (knock)!
6. I'm not going to leave without (talk) to Mr Brown first!

③

And now English instead of German!

1. Der kleine Bub lief über die Straße, ohne nach links und nach rechts zu schauen.
2. Vater ging mit Onkel Richard fischen, anstatt mein Fahrrad zu richten.  
(richten = to fix)
3. Anstatt die Zeitung zu lesen, warf Oskar sie in den Papierkorb.
4. Oskar warf die Zeitung in den Papierkorb, ohne sie zu lesen.
5. René verließ den Raum, ohne ein Wort zu sagen.
6. Du solltest dich über Peters Pläne freuen  
(= to be happy about), anstatt dir Sorgen zu machen.

④

Choose the

correct preposition from the list below to complete the sentences.

of      after      before      without

- a They decided to warm up ... cycling on.
- b The horseman rode for over a mile ... stopping at a large camp in the mountains.
- c By about 10 am we were back on the road ... thanking the man for everything he had done.
- d David was aware ... something approaching.

⑤

Complete the following sentences by adding the correct prepositions and the gerund form of a suitable verb. (There is a list of the missing prepositions below, if you need help.)

- a I left home as soon as I was capable ... enough money to live on.
- b I would never use your telephone ... your permission first.
- c He explained that the machine was used ... bread into thin slices.
- d I'm afraid I'm awfully bad ... names. What's your again?
- e She insisted ... her share of the bill.
- f He gave up his job because he was fed up ... such long hours.
- g My parents did nothing to prevent me ... a pop music group.
- h I had some difficulty ... a taxi at the station.

at      for      from      in      of      on      with      without

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1. I am afraid \_\_\_\_\_ my keys, and so I've put them on a long chain.
2. Nobody thought that we were capable \_\_\_\_\_ it, but we showed them!
3. Stevie went to bed although he was far \_\_\_\_\_ his work.
4. My family and I are fond \_\_\_\_\_ friends to a barbeque.
5. Listen to Johnny! He's really good \_\_\_\_\_ people.
6. Who is interested \_\_\_\_\_ out how the story ends?
7. Linda says she is proud \_\_\_\_\_ my friend.
8. What a mess! Who is responsible \_\_\_\_\_ up in here?
9. Hello, Andy! I'm surprised \_\_\_\_\_ you here!
10. Let's go home. I'm tired \_\_\_\_\_ to this boring speech.
11. What's the matter with you, Mike? You don't look well. – Nothing!  
I'm just tired \_\_\_\_\_ football all afternoon.
12. Mike is not used \_\_\_\_\_ around so much.

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1. Martin fährt gut Schi. (= Er ist sehr gut im Schifahren.)
2. Er ist stolz darauf, daß er so viele Rennen gewinnt.
3. Er ist daran gewöhnt, viele Stunden in der Woche zu trainieren.
4. Er interessiert sich auch für das Snowboardfahren.
5. Manchmal ist er sehr müde vom Schifahren.
6. Und manchmal hat er Angst vorm Stürzen.
7. Aber er ist weit davon entfernt aufzuhören (= to quit).
8. Manchmal hat er es satt, so viele dumme Fragen zu beantworten.

8

1. I apologized \_\_\_\_\_ late, but they had started without me.
2. My Dad believes \_\_\_\_\_ important things himself.
3. Modern economy depends \_\_\_\_\_ information from all over the world.
4. I think I'll stay at home today. I don't feel \_\_\_\_\_ out.
5. Two policemen prevented a young man \_\_\_\_\_ into the river.
6. If you still make mistakes, go \_\_\_\_\_ until you can do it.
7. Marion insisted \_\_\_\_\_ for her drinks herself.
8. Mum had a cold, so we had to put \_\_\_\_\_ to Munich.
9. Everybody in my class is looking forward \_\_\_\_\_ "Frankenstein" at the theatre next week.
10. Grandma sometimes talks \_\_\_\_\_ her house and \_\_\_\_\_ to our place.
11. Thanks \_\_\_\_\_ after our cats while we were away, Mrs Schneider.
12. Don't worry \_\_\_\_\_ your way. There are street signs everywhere.
13. Herbert has been talking \_\_\_\_\_ the Sahara for years.
14. David Copperfield usually succeeds \_\_\_\_\_ his audiences.  
(audience = Publikum)

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Translate, please!

example: Frank entschuldigte sich dafür, daß er meine Disketten schon wieder vergessen hatte. →

Frank apologized for forgetting my disks again.

1. Wir konnten Onkel Richard nicht daran hindern, in den Teich (= pond) zu springen.
2. Ich mache mir oft Sorgen darüber, daß ich krank werde.  
(krank werden = to fall ill)
3. William spricht oft davon, den Mt. Everest zu besteigen.
4. Der Tourist bedankte sich dafür, daß ich ihm den Weg zeigte.
5. Ich hatte nie daran gedacht, daß ich das Rennen gewinnen würde.
6. Ist euch heute nach Schwimmen zumute? – Ja! Wir freuen uns schon darauf zu sehen, wer der Schnellste ist.
7. Du liest sehr gut, Linda. Bitte lies weiter!
8. Onkel Richard bestand darauf, selbst von der Party nach Hause zu fahren.

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Finish the sentences below with a suitable gerund form:

- a There's a small entrance fee and so far no one has objected to \_\_\_\_\_
- b Although he's a champion jockey, he actually prefers breeding dogs to \_\_\_\_\_
- c Now I've got a really good camera. I'm looking forward to \_\_\_\_\_
- d Don't worry about leaving me in charge of the children, I'm quite used to \_\_\_\_\_

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Give the English for:

- 1 Ich esse sehr gern ausländische Speisen.
- 2 Er ist es müde, jeden Tag um halb fünf aufzustehen.
- 3 Judy ist sehr gut im Schreiben von Geschäftsbriefen.
- 4 Wirst du imstande sein, das Auto in die Garage zu fahren?
- 5 Onkel Fred war nicht daran interessiert, ins Museum zu gehen.
- 6 Wer ist für das Reinigen der Tafel verantwortlich?