Idioms and transitions: standard prepositions, set 3

English pairs particular verbs, adjectives, and nouns with particular prepositions. . .



Lesson `rw.transitions.T3`

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The idea

English pairs particular verbs, adjectives, and nouns with particular prepositions (differ FROM, accompanied BY, refrain FROM). These items test the idiomatic preposition Standard English requires in context.

Which base word governs the blank, and what preposition does Standard English idiom pair with it here?

Say the phrase aloud with each option; keep the one that is both idiomatic AND preserves the intended meaning.

Watch every step

The mountain's summit was completely obscured ___ a thick bank of clouds.

Which choice completes the text so it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

A. from ✗ *omission/contradiction*

B. by

C. with ✗ *plausible-but-wrong preposition*

D. in ✗ *unidiomatic/register error*

Why **B** — "by." Choose the preposition English conventionally requires with this word in this sense.

Now a harder one

Thick storm shutters were installed to protect the greenhouse ___ hail and high winds.

Which choice completes the text so it conforms to the conventions of Standard English?

- **A.** from
- **B.** by ✗ *plausible-but-wrong preposition*
- **C.** for ✗ *wrong-meaning preposition*
- **D.** of ✗ *unidiomatic/register error*

Why **A** — "from." Choose the preposition English conventionally requires with this word in this sense.

The method, in one line

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Say the phrase aloud with each option; keep the one that is both idiomatic AND preserves the intended meaning.

Is it the standard collocation, not merely a preposition that 'sounds okay'? Does it keep the intended meaning?

Watch out: two traps to dodge

⚠ plausible-but-wrong preposition

Selects a preposition that collocates with a related word but not this one.

⚠ wrong-meaning preposition

Selects a preposition that changes or breaks the intended meaning.

Name the trap before you pick — most wrong answers are one of these two.

Try it, then watch the walk-through

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