Fixed phrases, dependent prepositions and collocations

A. Speak with a partner. What can you see in the picture?



B. Read the example description of the picture. For each question, write the correct answer. Write one word for each gap.

In this picture, we can see a teacher who is really good **1.** _____ reading. She has the attention of the young students, and they seem excited **2.** _____ the story. The teacher is **3.** _____ a decision to share an interesting book with the kids. The children are probably curious **4.** _____ the illustrations in the book. The teacher might be pleased **5.** _____ the students because they are listening and not **6.** _____ any problems.

7. _____ my opinion, it is important to do activities that students are interested **8.** _____, not only think about **9.** _____ exams. It's a lovely picture that makes me proud **10.** _____ teachers who take the time to create these experiences for young students.

C. Identify whether each gap is a fixed phrase, a dependent preposition or a collocation.

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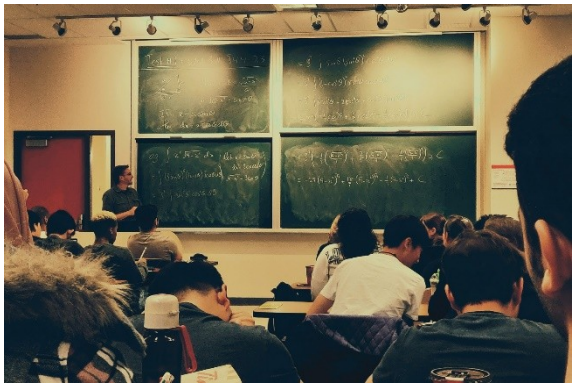
D. Write a description of each picture. Use fixed phrases, dependent prepositions and collocations. Share your descriptions with a partner.

















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ANSWER KEY

1. at – *dependent preposition*
2. about / by – *dependent preposition*
3. making – *collocation*
4. about – *dependent preposition*
5. with – *dependent preposition*
6. causing / creating – *collocation*
7. in – *fixed phrase*
8. in – *dependent preposition*
9. passing / taking / doing – *collocation*
10. of – *dependent preposition*

KEY

Fixed phrase – A group of words used together with a particular meaning

Dependent preposition – A preposition normally used after a particular verb, adjective or noun

Collocation – Words that are often used together and sound natural

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