

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.

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



ANSWER KEY

1. at – *dependent preposition*
2. about – *dependent preposition*
3. make – *collocation*
4. about – *dependent preposition*
5. with – *dependent preposition*
6. causing – *collocation*
7. in – *fixed phrase*
8. in – *dependent preposition*
9. passing – *collocation*
10. of – *dependent preposition*

KEY

Fixed phrase – Groups of words that are used together with a specific meaning

Dependent preposition – A preposition that is fixed to a specific word without changing the meaning of the word

Collocation – A predictable combination of words which are frequently used in combination with each other