

## Finding What Follows: Patterns in verbs, adjectives, and prepositions

**Level:** Intermediate

**Age:** Teenagers

**Time needed:** 30 minutes

**Lesson aim:**

- To help students become aware of the preposition and verb patterns in the dictionary and how to use these patterns.

**Skills:** Study skills, speaking

**Materials needed:** Worksheet, Macmillan online dictionary

### Warmer

Discuss how students learn new words and if they only learn single words or complete phrases. Ask students to give you examples of phrases or expressions they learned as patterns, such as: *I like to dance. I'm good at dancing.*

### Activity 1

Ask your students to look at the screenshots from the Macmillan online dictionary and identify which prepositions follow the adjective *generous* and the verb *long*.

**Key:**

**generous:** to, with, of

**long:** for

Point out that the word *to* in *long to do* is not the preposition *to*. It is part of the infinitive.

### Activity 2

Ask students to complete the sentences with the correct prepositions. Encourage them to guess if they are not certain, and check their answers in the Macmillan online dictionary after guessing first.

**Key:**

**a** to

**d** about/over

**b** about

**e** to

**c** from

**f** in

### Activity 3

Ask the students to complete the sentences with the correct preposition from the box and their own information.

Put students in pairs to compare their sentences, then ask them to use the Macmillan online dictionary to check the correct prepositions.

### Example answers

**a** You should be tolerant **of** other people's opinions.

**b** I've always been interested **in** theatre and drama.

**c** I'm very fond **of** animals.

**d** My country is famous **for** its beaches.

**e** I'm very good **at** maths.

**f** If you work as a political correspondent, you need to be familiar **with** international politics.

**g** I usually feel guilty **about** not spending enough time with my family.

### Activity 4

Ask the students to choose between using the infinitive or the *-ing* form of the verb.

Ask them to guess if they are not sure and then to check in the Macmillan online dictionary.

**Key:**

**a** contacting

**d** going

**g** to get

**b** buying

**e** to be

**h** dressing

**c** to accept

**f** going

**i** to help