

Noun + Preposition (*reason for, cause of, etc.*)

## A

a check **FOR** (a sum of money):

- They sent me a check for \$75.

a demand / a need **FOR** . . . :

- The company closed down because there wasn't enough demand for its product.
- There's no excuse for behavior like that. There's no need for it.

a reason **FOR** . . . :

- The train was late, but nobody knew the reason for the delay. (*not* reason of)

## B

an advantage / a disadvantage **OF** . . . :

- The advantage of living alone is that you can do what you like.

But we usually say there is an advantage **in** (*or to*) doing something:

- There are many advantages **in** (*or to*) living alone.

a cause **OF** . . . :

- Nobody knows what the cause of the explosion was.

a photograph / a picture / a map / a plan / a drawing **OF** . . . :

- She showed me some pictures of her family.
- I had a map of the town, so I was able to find my way around.

## C

an increase / a decrease / a rise / a drop **IN** (prices, etc.):

- There has been an increase in the number of traffic accidents recently.
- Last year was a bad year for the company. There was a big drop in sales.

## D

damage **TO** . . . :

- The accident was my fault, so I had to pay for the damage to the other car.

an invitation **TO** . . . (a party / a wedding, etc.):

- Did you get an invitation to the party?

a solution **TO** (a problem) / a key **TO** (a door) / an answer **TO** (a question) / a reply **TO** (a letter) / a reaction **TO** . . . :

- Do you think we'll find a solution to the problem? (*not* a solution of the problem)
- I was surprised at her reaction to my suggestion.

an attitude **TOWARD** . . . :

- His attitude toward his job is very negative.

## E

a relationship / a connection / contact **WITH** . . . :

- Do you have a good relationship with your parents?
- The police want to question a man in connection with the robbery.

*but:* a relationship / a connection / contact / a difference **BETWEEN** two things or people:

- The police believe that there is no connection between the two crimes.
- There are some differences between British and American English.

# Exercises

## 125.1 Complete the second sentence so that it has the same meaning as the first.

1. What caused the explosion? What was the cause *of the explosion* \_\_\_\_\_ ?
2. We're trying to solve the problem. We're trying to find a solution \_\_\_\_\_ .
3. Sue gets along well with her brother. Sue has a good relationship \_\_\_\_\_ .
4. Prices have gone up a lot. There has been a big increase \_\_\_\_\_ .
5. I don't know how to answer your question.  
I can't think of an answer \_\_\_\_\_ .
6. I don't think that a new road is necessary.  
I don't think there is any need \_\_\_\_\_ .
7. The number of people without jobs dropped last month.  
Last month there was a drop \_\_\_\_\_ .
8. Nobody wants to buy shoes like these anymore.  
There is no demand \_\_\_\_\_ .
9. In what way is your job different from mine?  
What is the difference \_\_\_\_\_ ?

## 125.2 Complete the sentences using one of the following nouns + the correct preposition.

cause connection contact damage invitation key map photographs reason reply

1. On the wall there were some pictures and a *map of* \_\_\_\_\_ the world.
2. Thank you for the \_\_\_\_\_ your party next week.
3. Since she left home two years ago, she has had little \_\_\_\_\_ her family.
4. I can't open this door. Do you have a \_\_\_\_\_ the other door?
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ the fire at the hotel last night is still unknown.
6. I wrote to Jim last week, but I still haven't received a \_\_\_\_\_ my letter.
7. The two companies are completely independent. There is no \_\_\_\_\_ them.
8. Jane showed me some old \_\_\_\_\_ the city as it looked 100 years ago.
9. Carol has decided to quit her job. I don't know the \_\_\_\_\_ her decision.
10. It wasn't a bad accident. The \_\_\_\_\_ the car wasn't serious.

## 125.3 Complete the sentences with the correct preposition.

1. There are some differences *between* \_\_\_\_\_ British and American English.
2. If I give you the camera, can you take a picture \_\_\_\_\_ me?
3. Money isn't the solution \_\_\_\_\_ every problem.
4. When I opened the envelope, I was delighted to find a check \_\_\_\_\_ \$500.
5. The advantage \_\_\_\_\_ having a car is that you don't have to rely on public transportation.
6. There are many advantages \_\_\_\_\_ being able to speak a foreign language.
7. When Paul left home, his attitude \_\_\_\_\_ his parents seemed to change.
8. Bill and I used to be good friends, but I don't have much contact \_\_\_\_\_ him now.
9. There has been a sharp rise \_\_\_\_\_ the cost of living in the past few years.
10. You've missed three classes this week. What's the reason \_\_\_\_\_ your poor attendance?
11. What was Ann's reaction \_\_\_\_\_ the news?
12. The company has rejected the workers' demands \_\_\_\_\_ an increase \_\_\_\_\_ pay.
13. What was the answer \_\_\_\_\_ question 3 on the test?
14. The fact that Kim was offered a job has no connection \_\_\_\_\_ the fact that her cousin is the managing director.