

1.3 Vocabulary development

Vocabulary development verbs + prepositions

- Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.
 - Bad pronunciation is more likely to result *on* / **in** / *with* misunderstanding than bad grammar.
 - My Polish language course consists *in* / *of* / *for* twenty weekly one-hour classes.
 - Students of English often confuse 'quite' *for* / *to* / *with* 'quiet', as they look and sound similar.
 - Have you heard *of* / *on* / *by* Nheengatu? It's a Native American language indigenous to Brazil.
 - In the UK, moving your finger from side to side shows you disapprove *with* / *on* / *of* something.
 - Moving to a country very different from your own can bring *up* / *over* / *on* 'culture shock'.
- Complete the text with the missing dependent prepositions.

Should we save dying languages?

You may not have heard ¹ *of* the Alaskan language of Eyak, but it is just one example of a language that has disappeared in recent years. Globalization is one factor that has resulted ² _____ the growth of dominant languages like Mandarin Chinese, Spanish and English, and has led ³ _____ the decline of many minority languages. It is estimated that two languages die out every week.

But does it really matter? Tell us your views.

Jane: We should always preserve dying languages because language contributes ⁴ _____ a person's sense of identity. To let someone's language die is to let part of their identity die, too.

Tim: Languages contain all kinds of human knowledge, including medical and environmental information. Our understanding of that information depends ⁵ _____ our understanding of the language.

Pete: Languages have come and gone throughout history. It's called evolution, and we shouldn't prevent it ⁶ _____ taking its natural course. Most languages don't die because people have been banned ⁷ _____ using them. They die because people have chosen to speak another language in order to adapt ⁸ _____ modern life.

Vocabulary extension

- Match the sentence halves.
 - She gave up work because she couldn't cope with e
 - I can't **comment on** the situation ____
 - They haven't **decided on** a name ____
 - He **insisted on** ____
 - It never **occurred to me** ____
 - The hotel was sold and **converted into** ____
 - for the new company yet.
 - that he might leave.
 - luxury flats.
 - because I don't know enough about it.
 - the pressure of the job.
 - paying for the meal.
 - Match the verbs and dependent prepositions in bold in exercise 3a to definitions a-f.
 - change from one thing into another 6
 - choose from a number of possibilities ____
 - come into your mind ____
 - deal successfully with sth. difficult ____
 - demand that something happens ____
 - express an opinion about sth. ____
 - Complete the sentences with a verb and preposition from exercise 3a.
 - Have you *decided on* a wedding venue yet?
 - The hospital has been _____ a hotel.
 - Lots of people _____ the photo I posted on Facebook today.
 - I find it hard to _____ this very cold weather.
 - The teacher _____ us always speaking English in class.
 - An interesting idea _____ me while I was walking to work.
- ➔ **STUDY TIP** Look out for verbs which take a different preposition from verbs in your language and make a note of them, e.g. *depend on* NOT *depend of*.