

Unit 128

Verb + Object + preposition (1)

Study this list of *verbs + object + preposition*:

accuse someone **OF** (doing) something (see also **Unit 60b**):

- Tom **accused** Ann **of** being selfish.
- Three students were **accused of** cheating in the examination.

ask (someone) **FOR** something:

- I wrote to the company **asking** them **for** more information about the job

but: 'ask (someone) a question' (no preposition)

blame someone/something **FOR** something:

- Everybody **blamed** me **for** the accident.

or: **blame** something **ON** someone/something:

- Everybody **blamed** the accident **on** me.

We also say: '(someone is) **to blame for** something':

- Everybody said that I **was to blame for** the accident.

borrow something **FROM** someone:

- I didn't have any money. I had to **borrow** some **from** a friend of mine.

charge someone **WITH** (an offence / a crime):

- Three men have been arrested and **charged with** robbery.

congratulate someone **ON** (doing) something (see also **Unit 60b**):

- When I heard that he had passed his examination, I phoned him to **congratulate** him **on** his success.

divide/cut/split something **INTO** (two or more parts):

- The book is **divided into** three parts.
- **Cut** me meat **into** small pieces before frying it.

do something **ABOUT** something (= do something to improve a bad situation):

- The economic situation is getting worse and worse. The government ought to **do** something **about** it.

explain (a problem / a situation / a word etc.) **TO** someone:

- Can you **explain** this word **to** me? (*not* 'explain me this word')

a/s/o: 'explain (to someone) **that/what/how/why** ...' (note the word order):

- Let me **explain to you what** I mean.

invite someone **TO** (a party / a wedding etc.):

- Have you been **invited to** any parties recently?

leave (a place) **FOR** (another place):

- I haven't seen her since she **left** home **for** work this morning.

point/aim something **AT** someone/something:

- Don't **point** that knife **at** me! It's dangerous.

charge someone **WITH** (an offence / a crime):

- Three men have been arrested and **charged with** robbery.