

GMAT Preposition List : Most common preposition pairs

In the Sentence Correction (SC) portion of the GMAT exam, you should not be spending more than an average of 40 seconds per question. To get to this speed level while maintaining a high accuracy rate, you need to be able to identify the errors in the answer options fast.

One of the most common rules that is tested on the GMAT is ‘**Preposition mismatch**’. In the English language, there are preposition pairs – it means that a word will take only one preposition. For example, the verb ‘encourage’ takes only the preposition ‘to’; the preposition pair is ‘encourage – to’. *My teacher encouraged me to participate in the Math Olympiad.* If we use any other preposition with ‘encourage’, it’s wrong.

There are thousands of such preposition pairs in the English language. However, the GMAT tests your knowledge about a limited number of these pairs.

We, at Jamboree, have researched the GMAT exam for the last 25 years, and we have compiled a list of **preposition pairs** that is most commonly tested on the GMAT. If you are thorough with this list, you will be able to identify and eliminate the answer options in Sentence Correction questions which do not have the right preposition pairs.

GMAT PREPOSITION LIST

Preposition pair	Preposition
able/ability	to
access	for (somebody)
access	to (something)
act	as
adept	at
admiration	for
aid	in (doing)
aim	at
allocated	to
allow	to
argue	for
as a means	to
associate	with
attempt	to

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attribute	to
authority	on
award	for (someone)
award	for (something)
basis	for
capable	of
claim	to
distinguish	between
domains	in
efforts	to
elect	as
employ	as
enable	to
encourage	to
endured	for
enough	to
equal	to
essential	to
estimated	of
evidence	of
examination	of
expected	to
expended	on
extent	to
failed	to
fashionable	to be
forbid	to
native	to (animals/plants)
need	for
occur	when
perceive	as
perceive	in/as
permission	to (do something)
permit	to
persist	in
plan	on (doing)

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plan	to (do)
possibility	of/for
possible	to
precision	in
prefer	to
prevent	from
prohibit	from
promise	of(something)
range	from A to B
rates	for
ratio	of A to B
refers	to