

HSK 4 Grammar 28: Comparing Similar Prepositions

HSK 4 关于/对于 and 离/从 pairs, taught from the reviewed topic handout;
classroom examples, not official exam items.

One question per pair

Two “about”s, two “from”s — one question settles each: is a feeling attached?
Are you measuring or setting off?

关于 vs 对于: the topic vs the target

Naming it vs aiming at it

关于这个问题，大家有什么看法？(Guānyú zhège wèntí, dàjiā yǒu shénme kànfǎ?) —
On this question, what are everyone's thoughts?

对于我们的工作，老板很满意。(Duiyú wǒmen de gōngzuò, lǎobǎn hěn mǎnyì.) —
The boss is very satisfied with our work.

Try it: the weekend discussion

- 1 **The situation** Opening a weekend-plan discussion.
- 2 **Ask the question** Is a feeling attached? No — only a topic.
- 3 **Choose** 关于 (guānyú).
- 4 **Build it** 关于周末的计划，大家有什么想法？(Guānyú zhōumò de jìhuà, dàjiā yǒu shénme xiǎngfǎ?)

Decision

A topic on the table — no attitude aimed, so 关于 leads.

离 vs 从: the gap vs the start

Word	Job	Signature
离	Measures the gap	我家离公司很近。 — My home is close to the office.
从	Marks the start	从明天开始, 我不抽烟 了。 — Starting tomorrow, I quit smoking.

Try it: the same commute, twice

- 1 **Measure the gap** 我家离学校两公里 (wǒ jiā lí xuéxiào liǎng gōnglǐ) — two kilometres away.
- 2 **Mark the start** 我每天从家骑车去 (wǒ měitiān cóng jiā qíchē qù) — I cycle from home.
- 3 **Check** 两公里 + 近-family context took 离; the ride's origin took 从.
- 4 **The time version** 从下周起 — starts mark beginnings; 离 only measures.

Decision

One commute, two prepositions, each doing its one job.

Check yourself

Your turn

Which pair is right? (1) "Strict about homework" takes 关于 or 对于? (2) Fill: 我家 _____ 地铁站很近。

- A. 关于; 从
- B. 对于; 离
- C. 对于; 从
- D. 关于; 离