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: topic vs target.
- 离 vs 从: gap vs start.

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。(Duìyú 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.

Quick check

Your turn

"Strict about homework" – 关于 or 对于?

A. 关于
B. 对于

Check yourself

Your turn

我家 ___ 地铁站很近。

A. 从
B. 离