

**Class: English/ 1**

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# What is a preposition?

- A preposition is a word used to link nouns, pronouns, or phrases to other words within a sentence.
- They act to connect the people, objects, time and locations of a sentence.
- Prepositions are usually short words, and they are normally placed directly in front of nouns.





# What is a Preposition?

**Preposition** a word that shows the relationship between a noun or a pronoun and some other word or element in the rest of the sentence.

- with
- at
- from
- into
- during
- including
- until
- against
- among
- throughout
- despite
- towards
- upon
- concerning
- of
- to
- in
- for
- on
- by
- about
- like
- through
- over
- before
- between
- after
- since
- without
- under
- within
- along
- following
- across
- behind
- beyond
- plus
- except
- but
- up
- out
- around
- down
- off
- above
- near
- in spite of
- regarding
- with regard to
- because of

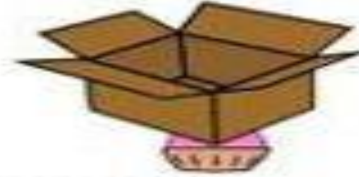




**in**



**on**



**below**



**above**



**near**



**far**



**behind**



**in front**



**onto**



**off**



**into**



**out of**



**around**



**among**



**between**



**opposite**

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## Type of Prepositions

### Prepositions of Time:

Basic examples of time prepositions include:

at, on, in, before and after. They are used to help indicate when something happened, happens or will happen.

It can get a little confusing though, as many different prepositions can be used.

Prepositions of time examples in the following sentences are in bold for easy identification.

### For example:

- I was born on July 4th, 1982.
- I was born in 1982.
- I was born at exactly 2am.
- I was born two minutes before my twin brother.
- I was born after the Great War ended.



For years, months, seasons, centuries and times of day, use the preposition ***in***:

- I first met John **in** 1987.
- It's always cold **in** January
- Easter falls **in** spring each year.
- The Second World War occurred **in** the 20th century.
- We eat breakfast **in** the morning.

holiday days, use the preposition ***on***.

1. We go to school **on** Mondays, but not **on** Sunday
2. Christmas is **on** December 25<sup>th</sup>.
3. Buy me a present **on** my birthday.



**For times**, indicators of exception and festivals, use the preposition **at**:

- Families often argue **at** Christmas time.
- I work faster **at** night.
- Her shift finished **at** 7pm.

**Before** and **after** should be much easier to understand than the other examples of prepositions of time.

Both are used to explain when something happened, happens or will happen, but specifically in relation to another thing.

- **Before** I discovered this bar, I used to go straight home **after** work.
- We will not leave **before** 3pm.
- David comes **before** Bryan in the line, but **after** Louise.



**Other prepositions of time could include:** *During, about, around, until and throughout.*

- The concert will be staged **throughout** the month of May.
- I learned how to ski **during** the holidays.
- He usually arrives **around** 3pm.
- It was **about** six in the morning when we made it to bed.
- The store is open **until** midnight.



## Prepositions of Place

To confuse matters a bit, the most common prepositions to indicate time – **on, at, in** – are also the most common prepositions to indicate position.

Prepositions of place examples in the following sentences are in bold for easy identification.

- The cat is **on** the table.
- The dogs are **in** the kennel.
- We can meet **at** the crossroads.

The guidelines can be broken down as follows:

**On** is used when referring to something with a surface:

- The sculpture hangs **on** the wall.
- The images are **on** the page.
- The specials are **on** the menu, which is **on** the table.



**In is used** when referring to something that is inside or within confined boundaries. This could be anything, even a country:

1. Jim is **in** France, visiting his aunt **in** the hospital.
2. The whiskey is **in** the jar **in** the fridge.
3. The girls play **in** the garden.

**At** is used when referring to something at a specific point:

1. The boys are **at** the entrance **at** the movie theater.
2. He stood **at** the bus stop **at** the corner of Water and High streets.
3. We will meet **at** the airport.



**Other prepositions** of place, such as *under*, *over*, *inside*, *outside*, *above* and *below* are used in English.

There is, however, a lot less confusion as they refer to rigid positions rather than abstract ones.

- The cat is **under** the table.
- Put the sandwich **over** there.
- The key is locked **inside** the car.
- They stepped **outside** the house.
- Major is ranked **above** corporal.
- He is waving at you from **below** the stairs.



## Prepositions of Movement

- Prepositions of movement are quite easy to understand as they are less abstract than prepositions of place and time.
  - Essentially, they describe how something, or someone moves from one place to another.
  - The most commonly used preposition of movement is **to**, which usually serves to highlight that there is movement towards a specific destination.
  - Prepositions of movement examples in the following sentences are in bold for easy identification.
- He has gone on vacation **to** France.
  - She went **to** the bowling alley every Friday last summer.
  - I will go **to** bed when I am tired.
  - They will go **to** the zoo if they finish their errands.

## Other more specific prepositions of movement include:

*through, across, off, down* and *into*. These prepositions can sometimes get mixed up with others. While they are similar, they have individual meanings that add context to the movement.

**Across** refers to moving from one side to another.

- Mike travelled **across** America on his motorcycle.
- Rebecca and Judi are swimming **across** the lake.

**Through** refers to moving directly inside something and out the other end.

- The bullet Ben shot went **through** the window.
- The train passes **through** the tunnel.

**Into** refers to entering or looking inside something.

- James went **into** the room.
- They stare **into** the darkness.

**Up, over, down, past** and **around** indicate directions of movement:

- 1.Jack went **up** the hill.
- 2.Jill came tumbling **down** after.
- 3.We will travel **over** rough terrain on our way to Grandma's house.
- 4.The horse runs **around** the track all morning.
- 5.A car zoomed **past** a truck on the highway



# Prepositions

at	in	on	by	for
home	the morning	Mondays...	car	a walk
work	the evening	the weekend (American)	train	a change
school	the afternoon	Monday morning...	ship	an hour...
the airport	1978...	Wednesday evening...	plane	two days...
university	March...	on my birthday	sea	three weeks ...
5 o'clock...	the (spring)	on holiday / vacation	air	two months ...
night	the (summer)	time	land	five years...
noon	the (autumn)	Christmas Day	underground	breakfast
midnight	the (winter)	New Year's Day	by (him / her ...)	lunch
midday	the 1980s...	May 11* ...	tomorrow	dinner
the weekend (British)	a minute/second ...	the bus	next week	
the station	an hour/two hours ...	the plane	next month	
the bottom	two days...	the ship		



# PREPOSITION LIST



- About
- Above
- According to
- Across
- After
- Against
- Ahead of
- Along
- Amidst
- Among
- Amongst

- Because of
- Before
- Behind
- Below
- Beneath
- Beside
- Besides
- Between
- Beyond
- By
- By means of

- In addition to
- In case of
- In front of
- In place of
- In spite of
- In to
- Inside
- Instead of
- Into
- Except
- Except for

- Next to
- Past
- Per
- Prior to
- Round
- Since
- Off
- On
- On account of
- On behalf of
- On to



- Throughout
- Till
- Times
- To
- Toward
- Towards
- Under
- Underneath
- Unlike
- Until
- Unto

**Time**

# IN - ON - AT

**Location**

**Centuries** The 1800's  
**Decades** The 80's  
**Years** 1970, 1981  
**Months** July, May  
**Weeks** 2 weeks

**General**  
**IN**  
**Bigger**

England **Country**  
London **City**  
Chinatown **Neighborhood**

May 7th, 1964  
**Days** My Birthday  
**Weekend** Friday  
The Weekend

**More Specific**  
**ON**  
**Smaller**

Oxford Street **Streets,**  
The Corner **Avenues**

**Hours** 7 am  
12 o'clock  
5 pm

**Very Specific**  
**AT**  
**Smallest**

734 Oxford Street **Address,**  
The Store **Specific Location**



# Prepositions of Time

IN	ON	AT
<b>In The Afternoon</b> 	<b>On Friday Afternoon(s)</b> 	<b>At Dusk</b> 
<b>In The Evening</b> 	<b>On Monday Evening(s)</b> 	<b>At Night</b> 
<b>In (the) Summer</b> 	<b>On a Summer Evening</b> 	<b>At Sunset</b> 
<b>In (the) Winter</b> 	<b>On a Cold Day</b> 	<b>At Bedtime</b> 
<b>In (the) Fall/ Autumn</b> 	<b>On My Birthday</b> 	<b>At Dinner Time</b> 
<b>In (the) Spring</b> 	<b>On My Wedding Day</b> 	<b>At Lunch Time</b> 

# Prepositions

*in/at/on*

12 Complete the sentences with the correct preposition – *in, at, or on*.

- 1 I get up at 7.00.
- 2 I don't work \_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday.
- 3 I get up late \_\_\_\_\_ the weekend.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ the evening I watch TV.
- 5 I don't like getting up \_\_\_\_\_ Monday morning.
- 6 I start work \_\_\_\_\_ 8.30.
- 7 I usually go to the mall \_\_\_\_\_ Wednesday evening.

Do we need a preposition in these sentences?

- 8 I have a shower \_\_\_\_\_ every morning.
- 9 Come and see me \_\_\_\_\_ next weekend.
- 10 Are you at home \_\_\_\_\_ this evening?

**Thank you**