

*Welcome To A Session
On
Correct Uses Of Prepositions.*

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PREPOSITION

A Preposition is a word used with a noun or a pronoun to show how the person or thing denoted by the noun or pronoun stands in relation to something else; as,

1) There is a cow in the field.

2) He is fond of tea.

3) The cat jumped off the chair.

A Preposition is usually placed before its object, but sometimes it follows it.

Eg.

- 1) Here is the watch *that* you asked **for**.
- 2) That is the *boy* I was speaking **of**.
- 3) *Which* of these chairs did you sit **on**?

KINDS OF PREPOSITIONS

1) Simple prepositions:

Eg: At, By, For, From, In, Off, Of, On, Out, Through, Till, To, Up, With

2) Compound prepositions:

Eg: Amidst, , Around, , Across, Allow,, Among, Amongst, About, Above , Before, Behind, Below, Beneath, Beside, Between, Beyond, Inside, Outside, Underneath, Within, Without

3) Phrase Prepositions:

According to, Agreeably to, Along with, Away From, Because of, by dint of, by means of, by reason of, by virtue of, by way of, conformably to, for the sake of, in accordance with, in addition to, on behalf of, in case of, in comparison to, in compliance with, in consequence of, in course of, in favour of, in front of, in lieu of, in order to, in place of, in reference to, in regard to, in spite of, in stead of, in the event of, on account of, owing to, with a view to, with an eye to, with reference to, with regard to.

Eg. 1) He succeeded by dint of perseverance and sheer hard work.

2) In consequence of his illness he could not finish the work in time.

PARTICIPIAL PREPOSITIONS

Eg. Barring, Concerning, considering, during, notwithstanding, pending, regarding, respecting, touching, and a few similar words which are present participles of verbs, are used absolutely without any noun or pronoun being attached to them.

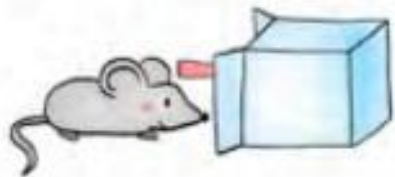
- Eg: 1) Barring accident, the train will arrive tomorrow.
2) Notwithstanding the resistance offered by him, he was arrested by the police.

ADVERB

- 1) Go, and run **about**.
- 2) I could not come **before**.
- 3) Has he come **in**?
- 4) The wheel came **off**.
- 5) Let us move **on**.
- 6) His father arrived soon **after**.
- 7) Take this parcel **over** to the post
-office.
- 8) I have not seen him **since**.

PREPOSITION

- 1) Don't loiter **about** the street.
- 2) I came the day **before** yesterday.
- 3) Is he **in** his room?
- 4) The driver jumped **off** the car.
- 5) The book lies **on** the table.
- 6) **After** a month he returned.
- 7) He rules **over** a vast empire.
- 8) I have not slept **since** yesterday.



into the box



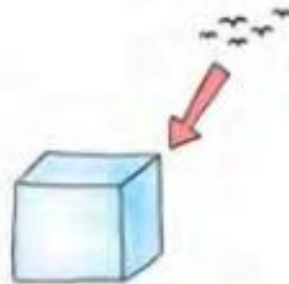
out of the box



around the box



from the box



toward the box



past the box



on to the box



off the box

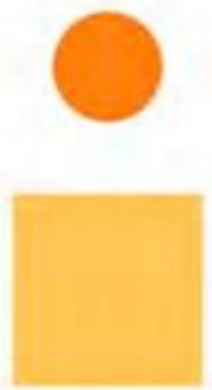


over the box

on



above



over



in front of



beside



below



under



behind

At / On / In (time)

A] Compare at, on, and in:

1. They arrived **at** 5 o' clock.
2. They arrived **on** Friday.
3. They arrived **in** October./They arrived **in** 1968.

We use:

at for the time of day:

at 11.45 at midnight at lunchtime

on for days dates:

on Friday/ on Fridays on 19 March 1991 on Christmas Day

In for longer periods:

In October in 1968 in the 18th century

At / On/ In(time)

B] We do not use at/on/in before last/next/this/every

1] I will see you **next Friday**.(not on next Friday)

2]They got married **last March**.

At the end/In the end

A] At the end and In the end

At the end (of something)=at the time when something ends. For example :

At the end of the month at the end of May at the end of the film

1] **At the end of the concert** , there was great applause.

You can not say in the end of something . So you can not say in the end of May.

The opposite of **at the end** is **at the beginning** :

1] **At the beginning** of March.

On time / In time

B] On time and in time

On time = punctual ,not late. If something happens **on time**, it happens at the time which was planned :

1]The 11.45 train left **on time**.(=it left at 11.45)

The opposite of on time is late:

1]Be **on time** .Don't be **late** .

In time (for something/to do something)= soon enough

1]Will you be home **in time for dinner**?(=soon enough for dinner)

The opposite of **in time** is **too late**:

1]I got home **too late** to see the football match.

In/at/on (place)

***In** study these examples:

1] There is no one **in the garden**.

2] What have you got **in your hand**?

***In** We say that somebody/something is:

1] who is the woman **in that photograph**? (not on that photograph)

2] I live **in King street**. Tom lives **in Queen street**.

***At** study these examples:

1] Who is that man standing **at the bus stop**?

2] Write your name **at the top** of the page.

In/at/on (place)
*~~On~~ study these examples:

1] I sat **on the grass**.

2] Have you seen the notice **on the notice board**?

***On** We say that somebody/something is:

1] Our flat is **on the first floor** of the building.

2] Have you ever worked **on a farm**?

We say that somebody is **in bed/in hospital/in prison**:

1]Mark isn't up yet .He is still **in bed**.

We say that somebody is **at home/at work/at school/at university/at college**:

1]Tulsi is studying English **at university**.

At a party/at a concert etc.

We say that somebody is **at** an event:

1]I saw John **at a concert** last Saturday.

1]The meeting took place **at the company's headquarters**.

We say **at the station/at the airport**:

1]Don't meet me **at the station**.

At a party/at a concert etc.

We use **in** when we are thinking about the building itself:

1] I enjoyed the film but it was cold **in the cinema**. (not at the cinema)

We normally use **in** with cities ,towns and villages:

1] Tom's parents live **in Nottingham**. (not at Nottingham)

But you can use **at** or **in** when you think of the place as a point or station on a journey:

1] We stopped **at(or in)** a small village on the way to London.

To/at/in/into

We say go/come/travel(etc)to a place or event. For example:

1] When are your friends **returning to** Italy?(not returning in Italy)

2] **Welcome to** our country! (not welcome in)

Been to

We usually say I've **been to** a place :

1] I have **been to Italy** four times but I've never **been to Rome**.

Get and arrive

We say **get to** a place:

1] What time did they **get to London/get to work/get to the party?**

But we say **arrive in** or **arrive at** (not arrive to)

1] When did they **arrive in Britain/arrive in London**

To/at/in/into

Into

Go into ,get into etc.=enter (a room/ a building/a car etc.):

1]She **got into** the car and drove away.

Note that we say **enter** a building /enter a room etc.(**not enter into**)

On/in/at (other uses)

A] On holiday etc.

(be/go) on holiday/on business/on a trip/on a tour etc.:

1]Tom's away at the moment. He's **on holiday** in France.(**not in holiday**)

Note that you can also say:

1]Tom has gone to France **for a holiday**.(**not for holiday**)

On/in/at (other uses)

B] Other expressions with on

On television/on the radio:

1] I didn't watch the news **on television** ,but I heard it **on the radio**.

(be /go) on strike/ on a diet:

1] There are no trains today . The railway workers are **on strike**.

(be) on fire :

1] Look! That car is **on fire!**

C] Expressions with in

In the rain/in the sun/in the shade/in the dark etc.:

1]We sat **in the shade**. It was too hot to sit **in the sun**.

(write) in ink/in pencil:

1]when you do the exam, you are not allowed to write **in pencil**.

By

We use **by** in a number of different ways :

A] We use by ...in many expressions to say how we do something.

For example,you can: send something **by post**.

1]Did you pay **by cheque or in cash?**(not **by a chance/ by a cheque**)

In this expression we use **by + noun** without **a or the**.

B]We use by... to say how somebody travels:

By car/by train/by plane/by boat/by ship/by bus/by bicycle etc.
and **by road/by rail/ by air/by sea/by underground**

1]Do you prefer to travel **by air** or **by train**?

But we say **on foot**:

1]Did you come here **by car** or **on foot**?

You can not use **by** if you say **my car/the train/a taxi** etc.We use **by +noun without a /the/my** etc.

We say:

By car but **in my car(not by my car)**

By train but **on the train(not by the train)**

By

We use **in** for cars and taxis:

1] They did not come **in their car**. They came **in a taxi**.

We use **on** for bicycles and public transport:

1] We travelled **on the 6.45 train**.

C] We say something is done **by somebody/something:**

1] Have you ever been bitten **by a dog**?

Compare **by** and **with**:

1] The door must have been opened **with a key**. (not **by a key**)

We say a play **by** Shakespeare, a novel **by** Tolstoy

D] **By also means next to/beside:**

1] Come and sit **by** me. (=beside me)

Noun + preposition(reason for , cause of etc.)

A]Noun + for...

a cheque **FOR** (a sum of money):

1]They sent me **a cheque for** \$75.

A reason FOR...

1]The train was late but nobody knew the **reason for** the delay.(not reason of)

B]Noun + of...

An advantage/a disadvantage OF...:

1]The **advantage of living alone** is that you can do what you like

A cause OF...:

1]Nobody knows what the **cause of** the explosion was.

a photograph/a picture/a map/a plan/a drawing (etc.)OF...:

1]She showed me some **photographs of** her family.

Noun + preposition(reason for , cause of etc.)

C]Noun + in...

An increase/a decrease/a rise/a fall IN (prices etc.):

1] There has been **an increase in** the number of road accidents recently.

D]Noun + to...

damage TO...:

1] The accident was my fault, so I had to pay for the **damage to** the other car.

an attitude TO...(or TOWARDS...):

1] His **attitude to** his job is very POSITIVE.

E]Noun + with.../between...

a relationship/a connection/contact WITH...:

1] Do you have a good **relationship with** your parents?

But: a relationship/a connection/contact/a difference **BETWEEN** two things or people:

1] There are some **differences between** British and American English.

Adjective + preposition

A] It was nice of you to...

nice/kind/good/generous/polite/silly etc. **OF** somebody (to do something):

1] Thank you. It was very **nice/kind of you** to help me.

but (be) nice/kind/good/generous/polite/friendly/cruel etc.

TO somebody:

1] They have always been very **nice/kind to me**. (not with me)

B] Adjective + about/with

angry/annoyed/furious

1] It is stupid to get **angry about** things that do not matter.

excited/worried/upset/nervous/happy etc. **ABOUT** something:

1] Are you **excited about** going on holiday next week?

delighted/pleased/satisfied/disappointed **WITH** something:

1] I was **delighted with** the present you gave me.

Adjective + preposition

C] Adjective + at/by/with

surprised/shocked/amazed/astonished AT/BY something:

1] I hope you were not **shocked by** (or **at**) what I said.

impressed WITH/BY somebody/something:

1] I am very **impressed with** (or **by**) her English. It is very good.

fed up/bored WITH something:

1] I do not enjoy my job any more. I am **bored with** it.

D] sorry about/for

sorry ABOUT something:

1] I am **sorry about** the noise last night. We were having a party.

but usually **sorry FOR doing** something:

1] I am **sorry for shouting** at you yesterday.

Adjective + preposition

A] Adjective + **of** (1)

afraid/frightened/terrified/scared OF...:

1] Are you **afraid of** dogs?

fond/proud/ashamed/jealous OF...:

1] Why are you always so **jealous of** other people?

B] Adjective + **of** (2)

aware/conscious OF...:

1] Did you know he was married? No, I was not **aware of** that.

typical OF...:

1] He is late again. It is **typical of** him to keep everybody waiting.

Adjective + preposition

C] Adjective + **at/to/from/in/on/with/for**

good/bad/excellent/brilliant/hopeless (etc.) **AT...:**

1] I am not very **good at** repairing things. (**not good in repairing things**)

married/engaged TO...:

1] Tina is **married to** an American. (**not married with**)

but 2] Tina is married **with three children**. (=she is married and has three children)

interested IN...:

1] Are you **interested in** art?

dependent ON... (but **independent OF...**)

1] I don't want to be **dependent on** anybody.

famous FOR...:

1] The Italian city of Florence is **famous for** its art treasures.

VERB + PREPOSITION – At & To

A: VERB + AT

Look/ have a look/ Stare/Glance (etc.) At.....

1. Why are you **looking at** me.

Aim/Point (Smth.) AT....,shoot/fire (a gun) AT..(=in the direction of).

1. We saw some people with guns **shooting at** birds.

B: VERB + TO

Talk/speak (Somebody) ('With' is also possible but less usual):

1. Who was that man you were **talking to**?

2. We spent the evening **listening to** music. (not 'listening music')

3. Did you **phone your father** yesterday? (*not 'phone to your father'*)

VERB + PREPOSITION – At & To

C. Some verbs can be followed by at or to, with a difference of meaning. Eg.

Shout at somebody (When you are angry):

1. She got very angry and started **shouting at** me.

Throw something At somebody/something (in order to hit them):

1. Somebody **threw** an egg **at** the minister

Throw something To somebody (For somebody to catch):

1. Judy shouted 'catch!' and **threw** the keys to me from the window.

D. Explain / Describe/ apologise:

We say explain something (To somebody):

1. Can you **explain** this word **to** me? (not 'explain me this word')
also **explain** (to somebody) **that/what/how/why.....**'

2. I **explained to them** what I wanted them to do. (not 'I explained them')

Note that we say 'apologise' To somebody (For...):

1. He **apologised to** me. (not 'He apologised me')

VERB + PREPOSITION : about/for /of/after

A. Verb + About

Talk about../ read About.../ tell somebody ABOUT../have a discussion ABOUT...

1. We **talked about** a lot of things at the meeting.

but 'discuss something' (no preposition):

1. We discussed a lot of things at the meeting. (not 'discussed about')

B] Care about and take care of

Care **ABOUT** somebody/something (=think that somebody/something is important):

1]He is very selfish .He dosen't **care about** other people.

Take care of...(=look after):

1] Have a nice holiday. **Take care of** yourself!(=look after yourself)

VERB + PREPOSITION : about/for /of/after

C] Verb + for

Ask(somebody) FOR...:

1] I wrote to the company **asking** them **for** more information about the job.

but 1] I **asked** her **a question**./They **asked** me the way to the station.**(no preposition)**

apply (TO a person, a company etc.)**FOR** (a job etc.):

1] I think this job would suit you. Why don't you **apply for** it?

Verb + preposition about and of

some verbs can be followed by **about** or **of**, usually with a difference of meaning:

A]dream ABOUT...:

1] I **dreamt about** you last night.(when I was asleep)

dream OF being something/doing something(= imagine):

1] I often **dream of** being singer.

Verb + preposition about and of

B] hear OF...(=know that somebody/something exists):

1]Who is Tom ? I have no idea. I have never **heard of** him.(not heard from him)

C]think ABOUT...and think OF...

When you think ABOUT something, you consider it, you concentrate your mind on it:

1]You look serious. What are you **thinking about**?

2]Will you lend me the money? I will **think about** it.

When you think OF something, the idea comes to your mind:

1]He told me his name but I can not **think of** that?(**not think about** it)

2]That is a good idea. Why didn't I **think of** that?(**not think about that**)

You can say **think of** or **think about** doing something (for possible future actions):

1] My sister is **thinking of** (or **about**) going to Canada. (= she is considering it)

Verb + preposition about and of

D]warn somebody **OF/ABOUT** a danger, something bad which might happen:

1] Everybody has been **warned of/about** the dangers of smoking.

warn somebody **ABOUT** somebody/something which is dangerous, unusual etc.:

1] I knew he was a strange person. I had **warned about** him
(not **warned of** him)

Verb + preposition of/for/from/on

A] Verb + of

Suspect somebody **OF**...:

1] Three students were **suspected of** cheating in the examination.

Consist OF...:

1] we had an enormous meal. It **consisted of** seven courses.

Verb + preposition of/for/from/on

B] Verb + for

Pay(somebody) **FOR**....:

1] I did not have enough money **to pay (the waiter) for** the meal.(**not pay the meal**)

but pay a bill/a fine/a tax/a fare/rent/ a sum of money etc. (**no preposition**)

1]I did not have enough money **to pay my telephone bill.**

C] Verb + from

suffer FROM (an illness etc.):

1]The number of people **suffering from** heart disease has increased.

D] Verb + on

congratulate (someone) **ON**....:

1] I **congratulated** her **on** her success in the exam.

Verb + preposition in/into/with/to/on

A] Verb + in

believe IN....:

1] Do you **believe in** God? (=do you believe that God exists?)

specialise IN....:

1] Helen is a lawyer. She **specialises in** company law.

B] Verb + into

break INTO....:

1] Our house was **broken into** a few days ago but nothing was stolen.

translate (a book etc.)**FROM** one language **INTO** another:

1] George Orwell's books have been translated **into** many languages.

Verb + preposition in/into/with/to/on

C] Verb + to

happen TO....:

1] What **happened to** that gold watch you used to have? (=where is it now?)

D] Verb + on

concentrate ON....:

1] Don't look out of the window. **Concentrate on** your work.

HOMWORK

Write minimum 10 sentences
of ***prepositions*** from the
book which you selected for
book review.

THANK YOU

