

PREPOSITION EXERCISE #1

A word used to show the relationship of a noun or a pronoun to another word in the sentence is called a preposition.

The following words may be used as prepositions. Some may also be used as adverbs or conjunctions.

at	before	by	in	up	upon
about	behind	concerning	like	since	with
above	below	down	near	through	without
after	beneath	during	of	to	
against	beside	except	off	toward	
along	between	for	on	under	
among	beyond	from	over	underneath	
around	but (meaning except)		past	until	

A group of words beginning with a preposition and ending with a noun or a pronoun is called a prepositional phrase.

through a ravine	before breakfast	for you
around the red barn	beside the lake	between you and me

EXERCISE (A)

Underline each prepositional phrase in the following sentences.

1. The books of poetry are on the top shelf.
2. Do your work in the study hall or do it at home.
3. After the dance we went to Larry's house.
4. His home near Daytona Beach has a fine view of the ocean.
5. Behind the fence I found my bicycle with a flat tire.
6. Since September he has been headmaster of our school.
7. As I walked from the building, I met the principal on the steps.
8. For social studies I read a book about Lincoln.
9. Margaret lives two blocks down the street near the corner.
10. Beyond the valley the mountains were black against the sky.

A preposition relates its object to some other word in a sentence. A preposition never appears alone. It is always used with a word or word group of word called its object.

EX:

The car stalled *on* the *bridge*. Your ticket is *in* this *envelope*.

preposition: on
object: bridge

preposition: in
object: envelope

Here are some frequently used prepositions:

at	before	by	since	off
about	behind	concerning	through	in
above	down	to	like	on
after	beneath	during	toward	near
against	beside	except	under	of
along	between	for	underneath	with
among	beyond	from	until	up
around	without	upon	past	over

EXERCISE (B)

Underline each preposition in the following sentence, and circle its object.

Remember, there are many more prepositions than those listed above.

EX: *John found his baseball glove under the apple tree.*

1. Turn at the first light.
2. Can you come to my house after school?
3. They fought gallantly against the foe.
4. My father always takes a nap after dinner.
5. This is a painting by an unknown artist.
6. Bob watched the performance through a peephole.
7. The wise old owl sat in the oak tree.
8. Near the lake, the weather is always cooler.
9. The man in the blue suit is a car salesman.
10. For six years that house has been empty.
11. My grandfather tells fascinating stories about his years in the Navy.
12. Gordon crept cautiously up the wall, then peered below.
13. The sunken galleon now rests at the bottom of the sea.
14. My cat sleeps during the day, then prowls at night.
15. Before the game, the officials explained the rules.
16. The water leaked through the dam and spread across the fields.

17. Mother treated her fragile china with great care.
18. I come from Alabama with a banjo on my knee.
19. The manuscript was hidden among a stack of papers.
20. I found a wallet without any identification in it.
21. It rained hard during the night.
22. The boy climbed carefully up the tree.
23. Mary and Betty were the best golfers on the team.
24. I'd like a red jacket like yours.
25. Our basketball team will play against yours tonight.
26. They lived in Wisconsin across the state line.
27. The gift was placed inside a beautifully decorated box.
28. For six summers I've vacationed in Colorado.
29. What is the name of your favorite book?
30. The dome above our heads looked like the sky.
31. If you sit near me, you may catch my cold.
32. Have you seen the new exhibit in the Field Museum?
33. They live down the street from us.
34. Put the camera on the table.
35. The boxer fell outside the ring.
36. She waited through the long night at the hospital.
37. Don't go without your briefcase.
38. Phil jumped from the porch onto the grass below.
39. We've lived behind the store for ten years.
40. Everyone except Sue took the test.