

# PREPOSITIONS

A **preposition** shows the relationship between a noun, pronoun, or another word in the sentence. It establishes the relationship between its object and another part of the sentence such as space or time. *At, between, into, of, on, over, through, to, up, and with* are examples of prepositions.

EXAMPLE: *The man looked \_\_\_\_\_ the car.*  
Sensible choices to complete the blank: *over, at, around, or beneath.*

**NOTE:** These prepositions link the verb **looked** to the **object** car. Therefore, any word that fits *sensibly* into the blank is a preposition. It establishes the relation *where* the man looked and the car.

## Common Prepositions:

aboard	about	above	across	after	against
among	along	around	at	before	behind
below	beneath	beside	besides	between	beyond
but	by	concerning	down	during	except
for	from	in	inside	into	like
near	of	off	on	out	over
past	since	through	throughout	till	to
toward	under	underneath	until	up	upon
with	within	without			

A prepositional phrase is a group of words made up of a preposition, its object, and any other words that describe or modify the object.

EXAMPLE:

<b>preposition</b>	+	<b>modifier (describes object)</b>	+	<b>object</b>	=	<b>prepositional phrase</b>
to	+	the	+	store	=	to the store
by	+	the neighborhood	+	park	=	By the neighborhood park

## Compound Prepositions (consist of more than one word):

according to	as to	aside from	because of	by means of
in addition to	in front of	in place of	in spite of	instead of
on account of	out of	owing to	prior to	with regards to

EXAMPLE:

**We bought a magazine**

compound prepositional phrase		
<b>in addition to</b>	<b>some</b>	<b>groceries.</b>
compound preposition	modifier	object

Below is a list of common and compound prepositions with examples of their usage.

<b><u>Preposition</u></b>	<b><u>Usage Example</u></b>	<b><u>Preposition</u></b>	<b><u>Usage Example</u></b>
<i>aboard</i>	He climbed <u>aboard</u> the ship.	<i>in</i>	The old lady sat <u>in</u> the pool.
<i>about</i>	I read a good book <u>about</u> dogs.	<i>inside</i>	Two books were <u>inside</u> the box.
<i>above</i>	Birds flew <u>above</u> the cornfield.	<i>into</i>	Next, put the onions <u>into</u> the pot.
<i>across</i>	They went <u>across</u> the street.	<i>like</i>	He fixes things <u>like</u> cars.
<i>after</i>	She went home <u>after</u> the party.	<i>near</i>	My car is parked <u>near</u> the curb.
<i>against</i>	Bill is playing <u>against</u> his brother.	<i>of</i>	That is Brian Noskasi <u>of</u> GSU.
<i>along</i>	He walked <u>along</u> the sidewalk.	<i>off</i>	Be careful getting <u>off</u> the bus.
<i>among</i>	He is the smartest <u>among</u> us.	<i>on</i>	Place the book <u>on</u> the top shelf.
<i>around</i>	Let's run <u>around</u> the block.	<i>out</i>	Sue ran <u>out</u> the door.
<i>at</i>	The fire started <u>at</u> the gas station.	<i>over</i>	The horse jumped <u>over</u> the fence.
<i>before</i>	He slept <u>before</u> the soccer game.	<i>past</i>	My house is just <u>past</u> the school.
<i>behind</i>	Kerry hid <u>behind</u> the oak tree.	<i>since</i>	She has been ill <u>since</u> Monday.
<i>beneath</i>	Don't stand <u>beneath</u> mistletoe.	<i>through</i>	The knife cut <u>through</u> the butter.
<i>beside</i>	John sat down <u>beside</u> his date.	<i>throughout</i>	Joy spread <u>throughout</u> the world.
<i>besides</i> (meaning "in addition to")	<u>Besides</u> flowers, he also gave her candy.	<i>to</i>	I gave the letter <u>to</u> the postman
<i>between</i>	He sat <u>between</u> two girls.	<i>toward</i>	I ran <u>toward</u> the shelter.
<i>beyond</i>	Our field is <u>beyond</u> the house.	<i>under</i>	The puppies slept <u>under</u> the table.
<i>but</i> (meaning "except for")	She passed everyone <u>but</u> me.	<i>underneath</i>	His keys were <u>underneath</u> the hat.
<i>by</i>	My alarm clock is <u>by</u> my bed.	<i>until</i>	I can't drive <u>until</u> I get glasses.
<i>concerning</i>	Here is a letter <u>concerning</u> Jo.	<i>up</i>	He climbed <u>up</u> the fire escape.
<i>down</i>	He slid <u>down</u> the pole.	<i>upon</i>	He set the vase <u>upon</u> the mantle.
<i>during</i>	Grandpa slept <u>during</u> church.	<i>with</i>	Stop the girl <u>with</u> the backpack!
<i>except</i> (meaning "but")	I like all seafood <u>except</u> shrimp.	<i>within</i>	Hope lies <u>within</u> each of us.
<i>for</i>	I'm going home <u>for</u> lunch.	<i>without</i>	He opened the door <u>without</u> a key.
<i>from</i>	Bob is my cousin <u>from</u> Utah.		

<b><u>Compound Preposition</u></b>	<b><u>Usage Example</u></b>	<b><u>Compound Preposition</u></b>	<b><u>Usage Example</u></b>
<i>according to</i>	He's cute <u>according to</u> his mom.	<i>in place of</i>	Eat more fruit <u>in place of</u> candy.
<i>aside from</i>	Jo has no pals <u>aside from</u> Bob.	<i>in spite of</i>	He raced <u>in spite of</u> his illness.
<i>because of</i>	He is late <u>because of</u> his flat tire.	<i>instead of</i>	I eat tofu <u>instead of</u> meat.
<i>by means of</i>	The children go to school <u>by means of</u> a school bus.	<i>on account of</i>	He left <u>on account of</u> my rudeness.
<i>due to</i>	We cancelled the picnic <u>due to</u> the rain.	<i>out of</i>	<u>Out of</u> 30 runners, he came in third.
<i>in addition to</i>	I am thin <u>in addition to</u> being tall.	<i>prior to</i>	<u>Prior to</u> my wedding, I was busy.
<i>in front of</i>	My car is <u>in front of</u> a big van.		