



Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases Practice

Circle the prepositions in the following paragraphs, and underline the prepositional phrases.

Martha found the big box tucked away in a corner of the attic near the big chimney. As you may suspect, the little girl longed to open the big box and see what was in it. For we are all curious, and little girls are just as curious as the rest of us.

She stopped and clapped her little hands together gayly as she remembered a big basket of keys on the shelf in the linen closet. They were of all sorts and sizes; perhaps one of them would unlock the mysterious chest!

She flew down the stairs, found the basket and returned with it to the attic. Then she sat down before the brass-studded box and began trying one key after another in the curious old lock. Some were too large, but most were too small. One would go into the lock but would not turn; another stuck so fast that she feared for a time that she would never get it out again. But at last, when the basket was almost empty, an oddly-shaped, ancient brass key slipped easily into the lock. With a cry of joy Martha turned the key with both hands; then she heard a sharp “click,” and the next moment the heavy lid flew up of its own accord!

The little girl leaned over the edge of the chest, and the sight that met her eyes caused her to start back in amazement.

Slowly and carefully a man unpacked himself from the chest, stepped out upon the floor, stretched his limbs and then took off his hat and bowed politely to the astonished child.

Then another man emerged from the chest, yawning and rubbing his eyes like a sleepy schoolboy. While Martha stared open-mouthed at the remarkable sight a third man crawled from the chest.

Source:The above text is an edited excerpt from *American Fairy Tales*, a short story collection written by L. Frank Baum.

Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases Practice

*Write one COMPLETE sentence that uses at least ten prepositional phrases.
Study the example before you begin your attempt.*

Example: With a flyswatter in her hand, Mrs. Manny Brown ran out the door, down the hall, around the corner, through the double doors, across the Commons, past the office to the music wing, chasing the fly who had been a pest in her class for too long.



English Prepositions

There are more than 100 prepositions in English, yet this is a very small number when you think of the thousands of other words (nouns, verbs etc). Prepositions are important words. We use individual prepositions more frequently than other individual words. In fact, the prepositions *of*, *to* and *in* are among the ten most frequently used words in English. Here is a short list of seventy of the more common one-word prepositions. Many of these prepositions have more than one meaning. Please refer to a dictionary for precise meaning and usage.

- aboard
- about
- above
- across
- after
- against
- along
- amid
- among
- anti
- around
- as
- at
- before
- behind
- below
- beneath
- beside
- besides
- between
- beyond
- but
- by
- concerning
- considering
- despite
- down
- during
- except
- excepting
- excluding
- following
- for
- from
- in
- inside
- into
- like
- minus
- near
- of
- off
- on
- onto
- opposite
- outside
- over
- past
- per
- plus
- regarding
- round
- save
- since
- than
- through
- to
- toward
- towards
- under
- underneath
- unlike
- until
- up
- upon
- versus
- via
- with
- within
- without

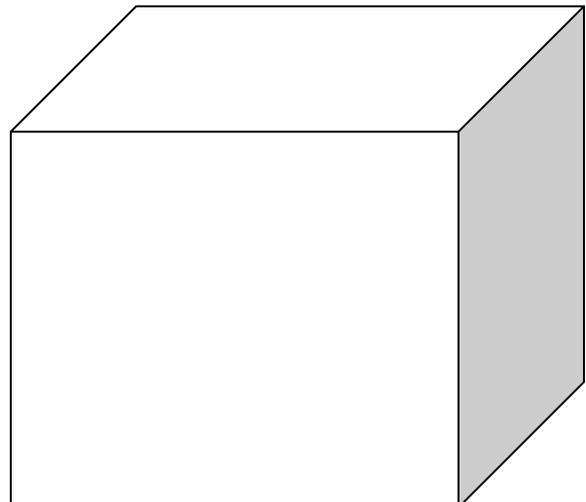
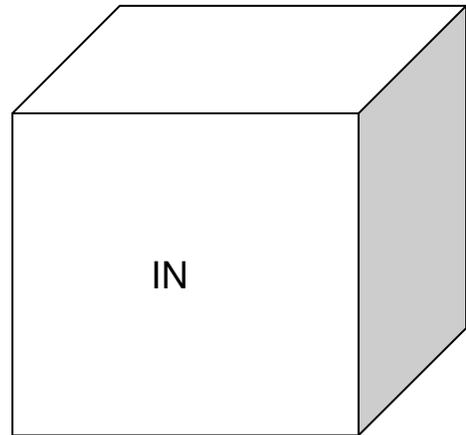
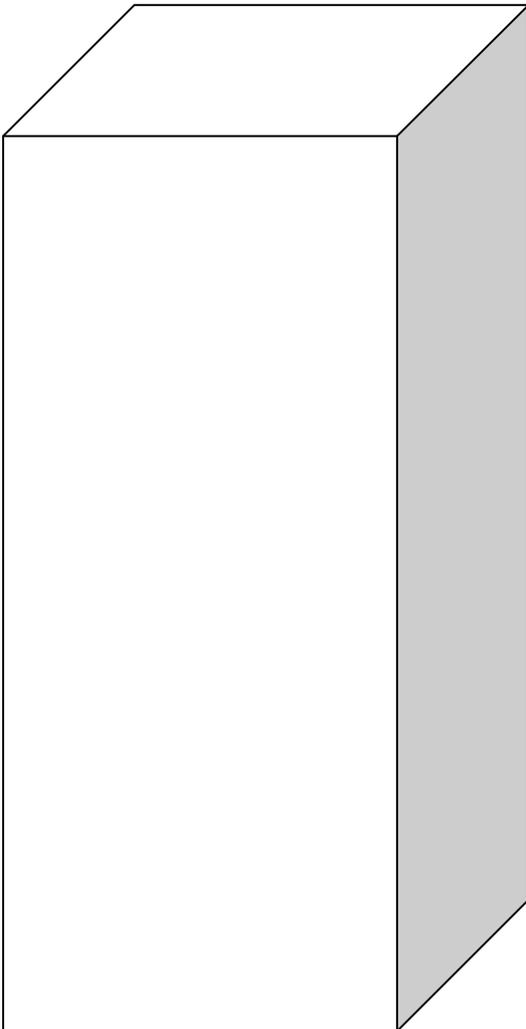
Prepositions Practice

Prepositions link and relate nouns to other parts of a sentence. They often show position or placement. Write each word from the preposition list in a place which illustrates its position in relation to the boxes. For example "in" is in a box.

Around
Below
On
Against
Behind
Above
Over
Through
Beside

Between
Across
Underneath
Near
Toward
After
Within
Without
Upon

Past
Opposite
Off
Amid
Beneath
Beyond
By



Prepositional Phrases Portfolio

Underline each prepositional phrase, and circle the object of the preposition. Do not circle adjectives that modify the object; circle only the object of each prepositional phrase.



1. The boys searched the beach for sand dollars.
2. The grass behind the house and near the fence is dying.
3. A deep ditch was dug near the boundary of the factory.
4. A pretty girl with brown hair and eyes sat near me at the banquet.
5. The three contestants listened carefully to each question.
6. The early settlers were very careless of our forests.
7. We divided the candy among the children at the party.
8. I still live in that stucco house in the next block.
9. The rooms of the house were dark and dreary.
10. The sound of whispers came to us through the window.
11. The real owner of the property is not available for comment.
12. I have no time for your excuses or delays.
13. The manager came for the answer.
14. In this century we are preserving our forests.
15. You will always be one of my best friends.
16. Do you have a reason for your absence from class?
17. The veterans from the war in Spain remained loyal.
18. The class was delighted by the outcome of the story.
19. Dozens of stories about heroes are in the school library.
20. In the afternoon Henrietta went to the library.



Who/Whom and I/Me Portfolio

Use your knowledge of prepositional phrases and pronouns to circle the appropriate pronoun: **who** or **whom** or **I** or **me**.

1. (Who / Whom) raised their hand first?
2. Amanda is going with (who / whom) to the dance?
3. You have to tell them (who / whom) you are before you are allowed to enter the club.
4. You were talking to (who / whom) on the phone?
5. To (who / whom) does this backpack belong?
6. I often wonder (who / whom) will find that jar of pennies I buried in the yard years ago.
7. From (who / whom) did you get that necklace?
8. It is the faculty (who / whom) decides who/whom gets the scholarship.
9. Howard, (who / whom) is often late to class, was on time today!
10. (Who / Whom) ordered this pizza?
11. For (who / whom) did you sacrifice your dill pickle?
12. The girl with (who / whom) I danced is very light on her feet.
13. (Who / Whom) may I say is calling?
14. (Who / Whom) do you think left this mess on the table?
15. The cousin about (who / whom) I spoke is going to college in the fall.
16. Did you ever hear of Hemingway, (who / whom) wrote *The Old Man and the*
17. Do you know (who / whom) wrote *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*?
18. The writer to (who / whom) you are referring is Coleridge.
19. I admire sailors of old (who / whom) I never met.
20. I remember best the teacher (who / whom) is responsible for my love of books.
21. The fish of (who / whom) you speak isn't even real!
22. Hey! (Who / Whom) do you think you are?
23. I'm someone (who / whom) everyone believes.
24. Are you going with Maria and (I / me) to the carnival?

25. No one, especially not (I / me), likes a bully.
26. Connor and (I / me) cleaned the garage as a surprise for Dad.
26. The old gentleman and (I / me) were sitting on the park bench.
27. Is there a prize for William and (I / me)?
28. Both my husband and (I / me) would love to camp in the Boundary Waters.
29. The train eventually came for Brandi and (I / me).
30. Sasha, Edgar, and (I / me) all want to arrive on time.
31. Samantha and (I / me) often laugh too loudly in the library.
32. Jordan sat near Sarah, Deb, and (I / me) at the theater.
33. Is that letter addressed to Sheila or (I / me)?
34. The time has come for Courtney and (I / me) to turn in our reports.
35. Cole never tried calling Lily or (I / me).
36. There are many areas of the city for Bernie and (I / me) to explore.
37. The bull charged toward Lupe and (I / me).
38. Don't leave without Garrett and (I / me)!
39. Nancy and (I / me) both wanted the same job.
40. The shadow of the skyscraper fell across Ben and (I / me).

