

Unit 3: Phrases

Lesson 19

Prepositional Phrases

A prepositional phrase begins with a preposition and ends with a noun or a pronoun called the object of the preposition. Some common prepositions are *against, at, for, in, to, on, by, and with*.

A prepositional phrase can function as an adjective, modifying a noun or a pronoun.

Darcy chose the bedroom **above the garage**. (*Above the garage* modifies the noun *bedroom*.)

It may also function as an adverb when it modifies a verb, an adverb, or an adjective.

That poem is meaningful **to me**. (*To me* modifies the adjective *meaningful*.)

▶ Exercise 1 Underline the prepositional phrase or phrases in each sentence.

Architects design buildings and other structures for their clients.

1. Architecture is considered a form of art.
2. It is one of the oldest of the fine arts.
3. More is known about the structures of ancient times than about the builders.
4. Before the invention of construction equipment, architects relied on huge labor forces.
5. Examples of early architecture include the Egyptian pyramids and tombs of stone.
6. Mesopotamians used clay bricks in ziggurats at Uruk.
7. Ancient Greeks built magnificent palaces and the huge complex of Knossos.
8. Greeks used masonry and decorated the walls of their structures with frescoes.
9. Columns and beams were also among the Grecian trademarks.
10. Marble was widely used as a construction material during this classical period.
11. The Acropolis and the Parthenon are examples of the fine techniques of the Greeks.
12. The Romans later added their expertise to the Greek technology.
13. During the second century, Romans built structures made from concrete, terra cotta, and bricks.
14. Architectural refinements by the Romans included the arch, the vault, and the dome.
15. Aqueducts, the Colosseum, and the Pantheon are examples of Roman structures.
16. Gothic architecture originated in Northern Europe.

17. The use of buttresses, arches, and vaults characterizes this style.
18. Gothic architecture is seen in many cathedrals in Paris.
19. Examples of Gothic architecture are found throughout Europe.
20. Many of the traditions of the past are reflected in modern architecture.

► **Exercise 2** Draw one line under each prepositional phrase and two lines under the object of each preposition.

The name Frank Lloyd Wright is well known among architects.

1. American architect Frank Lloyd Wright was a key figure in modern architecture.
2. Wright produced designs for residences and commercial buildings.
3. His designs are known for their originality.
4. With a style based on natural forms, Wright's work is unique.
5. Though he studied civil engineering for a time, Wright worked in a design department.
6. On the side, Wright designed houses for clients of the firm.
7. The homes have low roofs and walls of windows.
8. Huge stone fireplaces are a central part of his home designs.
9. His commercial buildings have heavy walls with skylights for the primary light source.
10. At Robie House in Chicago, Wright blended the architecture with the surrounding landscape.
11. After 1893, Wright went out on his own.
12. He would become one of the most famous architects in the United States.
13. Taliesin West is a complex near Phoenix that became Wright's home, workshop, and school.
14. It is a series of structures with roofs of canvas and wood resting on walls of boulders.
15. The Guggenheim Museum in New York is another of Wright's creations.
16. It has a spiral design similar to the structure of seashells.
17. His designs are marked by the use of forms from nature.
18. One of his most famous buildings, Fallingwater, is located in a small town in Pennsylvania.
19. Cantilevers, or beams supported at one end, suspend the living room and terrace over a waterfall.
20. Fallingwater is now one of the most popular tourist attractions in Pennsylvania.