

Course Name: B.A.L.L.B
(2nd Sem)

Subject : English

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Topic: **Preposition**

Preposition

Definition of Preposition

Prepositions are the part of speech that show the relationship of a noun or pronoun with other words in a sentence.

e.g.

1. There is a painting on the wall.
2. Shilpa is very smart at her work.
3. Geeta lives in New Zealand.

In example (1), the preposition on shows the relation of a noun with another noun.

In example (2), the preposition at shows the relation of a noun with adjective.

In example (3), the preposition in shows the relation of a noun with verb.

Classification of Prepositions

Prepositions can be broadly classified into three main categories as

Simple Prepositions

Simple prepositions are the basic (or fundamental) words which are not formed from any other words and which are used to denote place, time etc of the actions.

at	by	for
from	in	into
of	off	on
out	over	till
to	up	upon
with	under	down

Compound Prepositions

These are generally formed by adding prefixes (such as 'a' which means 'not', 'be' which means 'by') to simple prepositions.

above	about	across
along	among	against
after	around	between
beyond	before	behind
beside	besides	beneath
towards	since	inside
outside	within	without

Phrasal Prepositions

These are the prepositions formed by grouping one or more preposition with some other words.

according to	in course of	by means of
with the help of	in accordance with	with reference to
because of	in order to	instead of
in respect of	in place of	with regard to
in addition to	for the sake of	in spite of
at the top of	in favour of	at the end of
by dint of	in consequence of	on account of
in front of	by the side of	in the event of
on account of	in case of	in want of
alongwith	in need of	owing to
in the habit of	in search of	in the direction of
by virtue of	with a view to	by way of
with an eye to	conformably to	alongwith
in memory of	in line with	on the part of
in the middle	at the risk of	at the back of

According to the relations expressed by the prepositions, they are further classified as prepositions of

Prepositions of Time

They are used with the words expressing time to denote when an action took place.

1. In

It is used with larger periods of time such as month, year, century, era etc.

e.g.

(i) In April.

(ii) In the month of June.

(iii) In 1997.

In the 20th century.

• It is with seasons.

(i) In summer.

(ii) In winter etc.

• It is also used with parts of a day.

e.g.

(i) In the morning.

(ii) In the afternoon.

(iii) In the evening.

Except night, dawn, dusk which take 'at'

2. **On**

• It is used with

(i) Days

e.g. On Monday, On Friday etc.

(ii) Dates

e.g. On 1st March.

(iii) Days followed by parts of days.

e.g. On Monday morning.

3. **At**

• It is used with point of time,

e.g.

(i) At 6 pm.

(ii) At 9 o'clock.

(iii) At half past seven.

4. **From and To**

• It is used when 'start time' and 'end time' are known,

e.g.

(i) The guest lecture is **from** 2 pm **to** 3 pm.

(ii) Ritu organised the cultural 'events in the college from her second year to the final year.

Note: No preposition is used when the nouns of time are preceded by last, next or this',

e.g.

(i) last week, this month, next year etc.

5. **Since**

• It is generally used in 'Perfect tense' and 'Perfect Continuous tense', with the **point of time** (i.e. When the action started)

e.g.

(i) Annie has been awaiting the bus since 9 o'clock.

(ii) We have been living here since 2002.

6. **For**

• It is also used in 'Perfect tense' and 'Perfect Continuous tense', with the **period of time** (i.e. the total duration for which the action continued).

e.g.

(i) Annie has been awaiting the bus for half an hour.

(ii) We have lived here for 13 years.

7. **By**

• It is used to express the deadline,

e.g.

(i) You must complete your work by this evening,.

Prepositions of Place

Difference Between 'In' and 'Within'

1. **In** It shows the end of time.

e.g. (i) I will see you in 20 minutes,

(i.e. after 20 minutes)

2. **Within** It shows before the end of a particular time,

e.g. (ii) This work should be completed within an hour.

(i.e. before the hour ends).

They are used with the names of places to denote where an action took place or where a thing is located.

1. **In**

- It is used with cities, towns, states, countries, continents .etc.

e.g.

(i) I live in Madhya Pradesh.

(ii) The headquarter of SAARC is in Kathmandu.

(ii) The temperature is too low in Antarctica.

- It is used with street, road etc.

e.g. Some people are standing in the street.

- It is used with directions etc.

e.g. Kanyakumari is in the South of India.

2. **At**

- It is used with parts of bigger places.

e.g.

(i) Shishir lives at Nehru Nagar.

(ii) I will wait at the airport.

- It is used for parts of road, street etc.

e.g.

(i) Some people are standing at the corner of the street.

(ii) My house is at the end of this lane.

Exceptions

When bigger places (like city, country) represents, smaller place or a part of it, then we have to use 'at' instead of 'in' with its name.

e.g.

1. Our train stopped **at** Raipur (means Raipur Railway Station) for 20 minutes.
2. We landed **at** Vancouver at 6 pm. (Vancouver Airport)

Prepositions of Position

1. In

When the things are inside something,

e.g.

- (i) There is a diamond in her ring.
- (ii) In this room, there are 7 items of furniture.

2. Into

When the things are going (or being kept) inside from outside.

e.g.

- (i) The boy jumped into the river.
- (ii) Sara is keeping her mobile into the bag.

3. On

Used to denote position of thing with respect to surface (touching the surface).

e.g.

- (i) There is a beautiful vase on her table.
- (ii) The artist carved a nice picture on the wall.

4. Upon

To show the continuous action (of keeping a thing on a surface).

e.g.

- (i) Their marketing team are hanging the banners upon the poles.
- (ii) Sanu was keeping the bottle upon the table, when I saw her.

5. Over

When a thing is exactly upwards some other i.e. the thing..... is above something and not touching it.

e.g.

- (i) There is a bridge over the river.
- (ii) There is a chandelier over the table.

6. Above (higher in level)

When something is at a higher level than some other thing.

e.g.

- (i) Her level of intelligence is above all.
- (ii) There are two shelves above the study table.

7. Under

When something is exactly below some other thing and the two things are not touching each other,

e.g.

- (i) The man sat under the tree.
- (ii) A pen is lying under your chair.

8. Beneath

When a thing is under some other thing and it is touching its surface.

e.g.

(i) There are many minerals beneath the Earth,

(ii) A treasure is present beneath this land.

9. **Below (At a lower level with respect to something).**

e.g.

(i) Their office is located below our office.

(ii) A river is flowing below the mountain, in that picture.

10. **By (Prepositions used with vehicles).**

We use 'by' with all kinds of vehicles,

e.g.

(i) I usually go to office by bus.

(ii) Rinnie goes to school by bicycle.

Exceptions

• When we talk about specific vehicle. .

e.g. my scooty, his car, 9 o'clock train etc. then 'by' should not be used.

• When we are specific.

1. On is used with, bike, bicycle, bus, train, ship, plane, etc.
2. in is used with car, taxi, cab, lorry etc.
3. Renie took a round of the city on my scooty.
4. We generally to Allahabad on train.
5. The company provides the pick and drop facility in its cab.
6. In Jaipur, people travel to nearby places in a lorry.

Some Other Important Prepositions

1. **To**

Used for denoting movement between the places,

e.g. Nadira went to Bhopal last week.

2. **Towards**

Denotes direction

e.g.

(i) This road goes towards his home.

(ii) Bangladesh is towards the East of India.

3. **Across**

Denotes expansion

e.g. Their business is spread across the country.

4. **Behind**

At the back of something (someone).

e.g. We don't know what there is behind that door.

5. **In front of**

At the face of something.

e.g. There is an ice-cream parlour in front of my house.

6. **Between**

Used for two persons/things.

e.g.

(i) Chintu is sitting between Vibhuti and Pushkar.

(ii) There is a red box between the blue and the orange one.

7. **Among**

Used for more than two persons/things,

e.g.

(i) Saniya is the tallest among all girls.

(ii) This is one wrong sentence among these sentences. .

8. **For**

Used for purpose and reason,

e.g.

(i) All these toys are for you.

(ii) I am leaving for Manipur tomorrow.

Question 1:

Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions.

1. The weather is not good here.....
2. She got married.....
3. The kids are hiding..... the table.
4. Jack and Jill went..... the hill.
5. Send a set of papers..... with the cardboard.
6. Are you going..... the examination tomorrow?
7. The labours are working..... their working hours.
8. Read the instructions..... the top.
9. There are no vacancies.....
10. The class is..... 9:00 am today.

Answer:

1. in
2. in
3. under
4. up
5. along
6. for
7. in search of
8. in need of
9. on the move
10. instead of

Question 2:

Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions.

1. The working hours will be less tomorrow.....Diwali.
2. The customer care can be contacted..... any queries.
3. She stopped talking..... and then began to laugh.
4. Cargo ship sank..... of Ukraine.
5. You can make the arrangements for the event
6. You can wear blue.....

7. We have been travelling for a long time..... the treasure.
8. The villagers are warm clothes during winters.
9. As a young man he travelled a lot and was always
10. We have brought home somebody else's luggage yours.

Answer:

1. on account of
2. in case of
3. for a moment
4. off the coast
5. along with
6. instead of
7. in search of
8. in need of
9. on the move
10. instead of

Question 3:

Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions.

1. The teacher ordered him to stand the class room.
2. The book is..... the scientists.
3. He has made the project..... my help.
4. The competition was..... the two.
5. Complete silence should be kept the church.

Answer:

1. outside
2. about
3. without
4. between
5. inside

Question 4:

Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions.

1. Ram asked Shyam to give the letter..... his boss.
(a) with
(b) over
(c) to
(d) from
2. Delhi is famous..... its street food.
(a) from
(b) for
(c) with
(d) among
3. The family welcomed the guests.... great warmth.
(a) from
(b) to
(c) with
(d) in

4. Lalit warned his sister to be beware..... that boy.
(a) from
(b) to
(c) of
(d) with
5. The boy was not interested.....studies.
(a) for
(b) in
(c) to
(d) with

Answer:

1. (c) to
2. (b) for
3. (c) with
4. (c) of
5. (b) in