

English Grammar Class 10

Prepositions

In today's lesson, we will discuss prepositions. We will begin with understanding the definition of prepositions. Then we will see examples of these prepositions. Moving ahead we will learn about different types of prepositions. Practice questions and solved examples are given throughout the article for better understanding and concept clarity.



Image: English Grammar

Let's begin the journey on this amazing topic.



Image: Introduction to Prepositions

What is a Preposition?

Prepositions are words that are normally used before nouns or pronouns to show time, place, location, direction, relationship, etc.

Some examples are:

1. He fell **off** a ladder.
2. I have read the chapter **on** modals.
3. Give the book **to** me.

Types of Prepositions

1. Preposition of Time:

Prepositional phrases are words that occur before a noun or pronoun and explain the relationship between two nouns. Events that happen all at once or over a long period of time might be described by a preposition of time. Simple examples of prepositions include at, on, in, before, since, till, during, by, from, and after. They are used to help signal events that have already happened, are going to happen, or will happen.

Examples:

- This has been the tradition **since** time immemorial.
- I will send the mail **after** this meeting.
- The bloodshed **during** the Mahabharata was brutal.
- I will need your approval **by** today.

2. Preposition of Place:

Prepositions of place describe the relationship between two objects or people. Utilizing prepositions of place allows you to point someone in the right direction. Prepositions like above, on, on top of, beneath, underneath, below, under, in front of, behind, next to, between, alongside, near, far close to, within,

outside, out of, out, on, at, in, etc. are frequently used to express position.

Examples:

- There is a great hangout cafe just **outside** the building.
- The waterfall park is very **far**.
- The baby was seated in **between** her parents.

3. Preposition of Direction:

Prepositions of direction tell us how something moves or is pointed toward in relation to other things or persons. To refer to the act of moving from one location to another Examples include "to," "through," "toward," "into," "across," and "over," among others.

Examples:

- We will have to move **across** the city to reach there.
- Is he coming **over**?
- There is no point forcing him to head **towards** the North.

Prepositions used in different sentences:

- Prepositions can be used at the end of a sentence if the sentence is a question. For example,
 1. What film are you interested **in**?
 2. Which book are you pointing **to**?
- The preposition can also be placed before the conjunction whom or which. For example,
 1. He is the person **to** whom I can turn in need.
 2. The book **from** which I have taken this poem is Madhushala.

Use of prepositions

Prepositions are uncommon, yet they are important because they act as sentence

Prepositions are uncommon, yet they are important because they act as sentence structure markers, expressing certain links between subjects, objects, and locations. To show where the subject or object of a noun or pronoun sits in relation to other nouns or pronouns, a preposition is a word that comes before the noun or pronoun.

A word like "in" or "after" is mostly meaningless and challenging to explain in words on its own. However, because prepositions are so crucial to English, choosing the wrong one can change the meaning of a sentence. Someone who has a solid command of the English language uses prepositions correctly.



Image: Use of prepositions

Prepositions can be used for various purposes:

- **Prepositions for time:** Prepositions of time indicate how the nouns in a sentence relate to one another in terms of time.

Prepositions used to express time are **at, on, in, by, during, before, after**, etc.

For example,

1. We are leaving for Delhi **on** the morning of the tenth of July.
2. I'll complete the work **by** 2 p.m.
3. We stay in our village **during** the summer holidays.
4. I don't want to hold any meetings **before** lunch.

- **Prepositions for place:** Prepositions of place describe how one thing or person is situated with respect to another.

Prepositions used for the place are **on, at, under, over, among, between**, etc.

For example,

1. The hotel is **on** your right.
2. The river flows **under** the bridge.
3. He lives **among** the hills.
4. The school is **opposite** of my house.
5. Ram is standing **between** Mohan and Vijaya.
6. They had a discussion **over** a cup of tea.

- **Use of prepositions after adjectives:** The preposition is always placed immediately after the adjective.

Prepositions used after adjectives are **to, of, for**, etc.

For example,

1. He is qualified **for** the post.
2. She is fond **of** cooking.
3. He is not interested **in** the job.
4. He is angry **with** me.
5. I am not partial **to** anyone.
6. My father is very liberal **with** money.
7. She is fond **of** cooking.

- **Use of prepositions for tools, agency, description, etc:** Prepositions of agency or description are frequently used to describe anything that is the cause or origin of another object that appears in the phrase.

For example,

1. I have no money **with** me.
2. Cut the apple into two **with** a knife.
3. Call the boy **in** blue.
4. The hills are covered **with** snow.
5. Can you see the girl **with** brown hair?

- **Use of prepositions after verbs:** Prepositions are necessary to connect some verbs to the objects of their phrases.

Prepositions used after verbs are **up, to, of, on**, etc.

For example,

1. She climbed **up** the stairs.
2. His eyes blazed **with** anger.
3. The dog is walking **down** the stairs.
4. He objected **to** my proposal.
5. He dreams **of** teaching at IIT.
6. They were freed **from** prison last month.
7. We have resolved **on** teaching slum kids.

- **Use of prepositions after nouns:** When used with a noun, a preposition can specify the location or method of an object.

For example,

1. Have you got the details **about** the game?
2. He is an honour **to** the profession.
3. He covered his face **with** a mask.
4. Everyone admires her strength **of** character.
5. He is an honour **to** the profession.

Difficult Word Meaning

Word	Meaning
Adjectives	Adjectives are words that describe the qualities or specifications of the noun.
Verbs	In a sentence, verbs serve as the action words that describe what the subject is doing.

Summary

In this chapter, we started with the basic definition of prepositions. Prepositions are important because they act as vital markers to the structure of a sentence, they mark special relationships between persons, objects, and locations. We then learned the places where prepositions can be used, then after we saw different kinds of prepositions used in respective situations such as preposition for time, place, direction, etc. Practice Questions along with the answers and the vocabulary of difficult words used in the chapter are discussed in the end.

Practice questions:

Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions.

1. Your article is full _____ errors, (in, of, on, for)
2. Sugar dissolves _____ water, (on, in, for)
3. I will return _____ a month, (in, of, on, for)
4. The Ramayana is lying _____ the table, (in, of, on, for)
5. We shall finish this work _____ 11 a.m. today, (in, by, on, at)
6. Send me letters _____ this address, (by, in, to, on)
7. You should listen _____ your parents . (among, in, to, between)
8. Sita writes _____ on the paper, (with, on, in, at)

Answers:

Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions.

1. Your article is full **of** errors.
2. Sugar dissolves **in** water.
3. I will return **in** a month.
4. The Ramayana is lying **on** the table.
5. We shall finish this work **by** 11 a.m. today.
6. Send me a letter **on** this address.
7. You should listen **to** your parents.
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