

## UNDERSTAND THE USE OF PREPOSITION

### PREPOSITIONS

A preposition is a word placed before a noun or a pronoun to show in what relation the person or thing denoted by it stands in regard to something else. For example:

- (i) There is a dog **in** the street.
- (ii) I am fond **of** coffee.
- (iii) The boy jumped off the wall.

In sentence (i), the word **in** shows the relation between two things—dog and street.

In sentence (ii), the word **of** shows the relation between the attribute expressed by the adjective fond and coffee.

In sentence (iii), the word **off** shows the relation between the action expressed by the verb jumped and the wall.

The words **in, of, off** are used here as prepositions.

Please notice that:

In sentence (i), the preposition joins a noun to another noun;

In sentence (ii), the preposition joins noun to an adjective;

In sentence (iii), the preposition joins a noun to a verb.

The noun, or pronoun, which is used with a preposition is called its Object.

A preposition may have two or more objects, for example:

The car ran **over** the cat and the dog.

A preposition is usually placed before its object, but sometimes it follows it, for example:

What are you looking **at**?

Remember three thumb rules :

When the object is a relative pronoun the preposition is always placed at the end.

For example: Here is the book that you were looking **for**.

Sometimes the object is placed first for the sake of emphasis.

For example, He is known the world **over**.

The prepositions for, from, in, on are often omitted before nouns of place or time. For example, We did it last week; I cannot walk a yard; Wait a minute.

### Some widely used prepositions

Commented [n1]: Typesetter! Underline these words as here.

Over	Above	Till	Beyond	Beneath	On
In	At	With	Besides	Below	Near
Under	From	Round	For	Through	Never
Into	Among	Until	Across		

### Types of Prepositions

There are several types of prepositions. They are as follows:

(i) Prepositions of Time : The following words are used as prepositions of time: in, at, on, within, in time, on time, at the end, in the end, after, behind, during, throughout, until.

(ii) Prepositions of place and directions: The following words are used as prepositions of place and direction: through, up, upon, on the left, about, by, over, against, to round, on the right, at the back, in the front, in the rear, in the corner.

(iii) Phrase prepositions: The following words are used as phrase prepositions: on account of, according to, by means of, for the sake of, in case of, in spite of, in front of, in order to, due to, instead of, with reference to, on behalf of.

### Task : Do as directed

**Activity :** Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions in the sentences given below:

- The letter was written \_\_\_\_\_pencil, not pen. (with, in)
- This tool is very useful \_\_\_\_\_boring holes. (to, for)
- This kit is very useful \_\_\_\_\_me. (to, for)
- The five sisters are always fighting \_\_\_\_\_themselves. (among, between)
- Let us divide his money \_\_\_\_\_the two of us. (between, among)
- I am proud \_\_\_\_\_my new job. (about, of)
- Satish's shoes were made \_\_\_\_\_leather. (of, from)
- Hemant is married \_\_\_\_\_my sister. (to with)
- Flour is made \_\_\_\_\_wheat. (of, form)
- Monika is very interested \_\_\_\_\_gardening. (in, with)

**Commented [n2]:** Rubrics of all 8 exercises below are the same. The sentences could be classified for different kinds of prepositions described above.

### Task : Do as directed

**Activity :** Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions in the sentences given below:

- We were all sorry \_\_\_\_\_the flood victims. (about, for)
- My father is ill \_\_\_\_\_fever. (with, from)
- We have eaten nothing \_\_\_\_\_yesterday. (since, from)

4. Mohan has been ill \_\_\_\_\_ three days. (for, since)
5. Seema started \_\_\_\_\_ six \_\_\_\_\_ the morning. (at, in)
6. You must start \_\_\_\_\_ dawn to reach the station \_\_\_\_\_ time. (at, in)
7. The flight is \_\_\_\_\_ time. (in, on)
8. Meena was born \_\_\_\_\_ a small village \_\_\_\_\_ Rajasthan. (at, in)
9. My sister is afraid \_\_\_\_\_ ghosts. (of, from)
10. This medicine will cure you \_\_\_\_\_ Chikungunya. (of, from)

**Task : Do as directed**

**Activity :** Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions in the sentences given below:

1. This book is different \_\_\_\_\_ the other. (than, from)
2. I disapprove \_\_\_\_\_ your behaviour. (of, about)
3. The box was full \_\_\_\_\_ clothes. (of, with)
4. They were very glad \_\_\_\_\_ her success. (of, about)
5. She told me that she lived \_\_\_\_\_ A-15, Kamla Nagar. (at, on)
6. The boy jumped \_\_\_\_\_ joy. (with, for)
7. He died \_\_\_\_\_ heart failure last night. (of, with)
8. Prem is blind \_\_\_\_\_ one eye. (of, in)
9. She left her luggage \_\_\_\_\_ the station. (at, on)
10. Kalam was born \_\_\_\_\_ humble parents. (from, of)

**Task : Do as directed**

**Activity :** Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions in the sentences given below:

1. I prefer oranges \_\_\_\_\_ bananas. (to, than)
2. He was killed \_\_\_\_\_ a dagger \_\_\_\_\_ a terrorist. (by, with)
3. What is the time \_\_\_\_\_ your watch? (in, by)
4. The food was distributed \_\_\_\_\_ poor as well. (between, among)
5. \_\_\_\_\_ being fined, Amit was sentenced to imprisonment. (besides, beside)
6. Sonakshi came and sat \_\_\_\_\_ her husband. (beside, besides)
7. Open your book \_\_\_\_\_ page 10. (at, on)
8. The snake crawled \_\_\_\_\_ its hole. (in, into)
9. She agreed \_\_\_\_\_ my request. (with, to)
10. Health is preferable \_\_\_\_\_ wealth. (to, than)

**Task : Do as directed**

**Activity :** Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions in the sentences given below:

1. Mannat is engaged \_\_\_\_\_ my cousin. (to, with)

2. Beware \_\_\_\_\_ dogs. (about, of)
3. Pooja comes \_\_\_\_\_ a poor family. (of, from)
4. These mangoes are superior \_\_\_\_\_ those. (than, to)
5. Take care \_\_\_\_\_ your health. (about, of)
6. Anju got angry \_\_\_\_\_ me. (at, with)
7. Do not go \_\_\_\_\_ the fire. (on, near)
8. Raju jumped \_\_\_\_\_ the wall. (across, over)
9. Chandu sat \_\_\_\_\_ a chair. (in, on)
10. The coolie saw a snake \_\_\_\_\_ his foot. (over, on)

**Task : Do as directed**

**Activity :** Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions in the sentences given below:

1. Raghav sat \_\_\_\_\_ them. (beside, besides)
2. My father is sick \_\_\_\_\_ fever. (of, with)
3. You will be punished \_\_\_\_\_ your fault. (for, of)
4. It is raining; do not go \_\_\_\_\_ umbrella. (without, beside)
5. Shagun is fond \_\_\_\_\_ music. (of, for)
6. Take care \_\_\_\_\_ your books (of, with)
7. The camel can live \_\_\_\_\_ water for days. (among, without)
8. We cut cloth \_\_\_\_\_ scissors. (of, with)
9. We took shelter \_\_\_\_\_ a tree. (under, over)
10. London is \_\_\_\_\_ the Thames (over, on)

**Task : Do as directed**

**Activity :** Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions in the sentences given below:

1. My father hates to part \_\_\_\_\_ his money. (from ,with)
2. Rakesh parted \_\_\_\_\_ his wife in tears. (with, from)
3. I do not approve \_\_\_\_\_ your action. (about, of)
4. We are sorry to hear \_\_\_\_\_ your mother-in-law's illness. (about, for)
5. The train is \_\_\_\_\_ time. (in, on)
6. What is the time \_\_\_\_\_ your watch? (in, by)
7. My brother is not \_\_\_\_\_ home just now. (in, at)
8. She is married \_\_\_\_\_ her cousin. (with, to)
9. She is far superior \_\_\_\_\_ her husband in intelligence. (to, than)
10. Your statement does not correspond \_\_\_\_\_ hers. (to, with)

**Task : Do as directed**

**Activity :** Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions in the sentences given below:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ being fined, he was sent to prison. (beside, besides)
2. The cat came and sat \_\_\_\_\_ the killer. (beside, besides)
3. He was born \_\_\_\_\_ a small village \_\_\_\_\_Gujarat. (in, at)
4. He boasted \_\_\_\_\_ his accomplishments. (of, about)
5. He was killed \_\_\_\_\_ a highwayman \_\_\_\_\_ a hatchet. (by, with)
6. That edition is very different \_\_\_\_\_ the other. (to, from)
7. We all agreed \_\_\_\_\_ her proposal. (with, to)
8. I don't agree \_\_\_\_\_ her on this issue. (to, with)
9. I differ \_\_\_\_\_ you on this topic. (from, with)
10. My friends congratulated me \_\_\_\_\_ my success in the examination. (on, with)