

**Preposition** is a word that shows the relationship between a noun, pronoun, or phrase and another word in a sentence. For example, in the sentence “She put the book on the table”, the word “on” is a preposition that indicates the location of the book. Prepositions can also show direction, time, manner, cause, and other types of relationships. Some common prepositions are: at, by, for, from, in, of, to, with, and without.

Prepositions are usually followed by a noun or pronoun that is called the object of the preposition. For example, in the sentence “He went to the park with his friends”, the word “to” is a preposition that has the object “the park”, and the word “with” is a preposition that has the object “his friends”. Sometimes, prepositions can have more than one object, as in the sentence “She divided the cake among the children and the adults”.

Prepositions can also form phrases with other words, called prepositional phrases, that act as modifiers or complements in a sentence. For example, in the sentence “The cat is sleeping under the bed”, the prepositional phrase “under the bed” modifies the verb “sleeping” and tells us where the cat is sleeping. In the sentence “He is the president of the company”, the prepositional phrase “of the company” complements the noun “president” and tells us which company he is the president of.

Prepositions are very common and important words in English, but they can also be tricky to use correctly. Sometimes, different prepositions can have the same meaning, such as “in” and “inside”. Sometimes, the same preposition can have different meanings, such as “on” meaning “above and touching” or “scheduled for”. Sometimes,

the choice of preposition depends on the word it follows, such as “interested in” or “afraid of”. The best way to learn how to use prepositions correctly is to read a lot of English texts and pay attention to the prepositions that are used with different words and in different contexts. You can also use online resources, such as dictionaries and grammar guides, to look up the meanings and uses of prepositions.

### **Types of prepositions:**

Prepositions indicate direction, time, location, and spatial relationships, as well as other abstract types of relationships.

Direction: Look to the left and you’ll see our destination.

Time: We’ve been working since this morning.

Location: We saw a movie at the theater.

Space: The dog hid under the table.

### **Preposition examples:**

Unfortunately, there’s no reliable formula for determining which preposition to use with a particular combination of words. The best way to learn which prepositions go with which words is to read as much high-quality writing as you can and pay attention to which combinations sound right. Here are a few examples of the most common prepositions used in sentences.

-I should rewrite the introduction of my essay.

-Sam left his jacket in the car.

-Did you send that letter to your mother?

-We’re cooking for ten guests tonight.

-Dani ate lunch with their boss.

You can also use tools like the Google Books Ngram Viewer to see which prepositions most commonly occur with particular words—but remember, this tool can't explain the difference in meaning between different prepositional phrases like “pay for” (to purchase) and “pay off” (to bribe). For that, you may want to refer to a list of prepositions that includes the meanings of common combinations, which you can find online, or to a usage guide such as *The Chicago Manual of Style*, which includes a list of words that often give writers trouble along with the prepositions that go with them in different constructions.