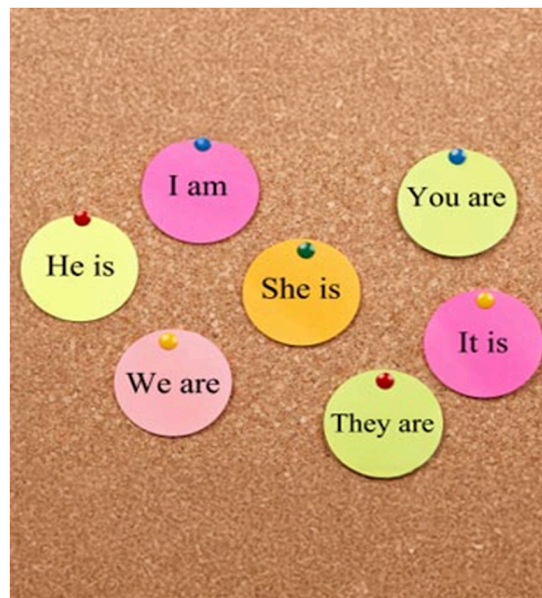


English Grammar

STUDY NOTES

Preposition (II)



Some confusing pairs of prepositions

❖ **Across Vs Through**

Across usually implies an open, horizontal plane and refers to moving from one side to the other.

- For example, "She ran across the bridge."

Through typically connotes moving from one side of an enclosed space to the other.

- For example, "She walked through the forest."
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❖ **On vs Upon**

On usually implies contact or connection and denotes touching or resting.

- For example, "The book is on the table."

A more formal form of "on," or "**upon**" can be used interchangeably in certain situations, particularly in literary or elevated language.

- For example, "Once upon a time..."
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❖ **On vs Over**

On denotes contact, usually with something below, from above.

- For example, "The lamp is on the ceiling."

Over can denote a passage from one side to another or something higher without any indicated contact.

- For example, "The plane passed over the city."
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**In vs Into**

In denotes a situation or condition that exists within something.

- For example, "The pencils are in the box."

Into suggests motion, going from the outside to the interior.

- For example, "She plunged into the swimming pool."

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**In vs Within**

In, usually means that the thing being described is enclosing or surrounding it.

- For example, "There are cookies in the jar."

Within is more precise and frequently means to be inside a given range in distance, time, or quantity.

- For example, "The park is within a mile from here."

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**By vs With**

Usually, **by** specifies the agent performing the action or proximity.

- For example, "She wrote the book by herself."

With typically refers to possessing or making use of something.

- For example, "It's easier to cut vegetables with a sharp knife."

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**Between vs Among**

Between is typically used to refer to two or more items that are distinct from one another.

- For example, "The mother shared the toffees between both her children."

When the things belong to a group or are not distinct from one another, the more general term **among** is used.

- For example, "She was unable to decide among the three dresses."



Beside vs Besides

Beside denotes adjacent to or beside:

- For example, "Seema didn't want to sit beside the boy in the class"

Besides denotes separate from or in addition to:

- For example, "Besides his hectic job, he also cares for his elderly mother."



For vs Since

The word **for** is used to indicate how long an action lasted.

- For example, "I've been waiting here for two hours."

Since is used when the moment the action began is significant or specified.

- For example, "I've been waiting since 10 AM."

Some more important prepositions:

Preposition	Usage	Example sentence
From	Used in indicating the starting point or the source of something	He walked straight home from amusement park
During	Used while referring to a period in which an event occurs.	Our family stayed indoors during unsettled weather
After	Refers to an occurrence that occurs later than another.	She took a nap after lunch
Before	Refers to an occurrence that occurs before another event.	One must finish their homework before dinner.
Till	Used interchangeably with "until" to denote the moment in time at which something ends.	The children were permitted by dean to stay up till midnight.
Amid	Describes being encircled by or in the center of something; it is frequently used to describe abstract or complicated circumstances.	Amid the hullabaloo, he remained

By	Indicates a due date or the individual carrying out an action.	The report was submitted by Th
Under	Means to be under something's control or in a lower position.	The cat has been hiding under
Behind	To follow something or to be behind it.	She stood for a minute behind curtain
Over	shows a position or movement above something	The bird flew over the hill.
Above	Means to be in a higher position than something.	The temperature is above the f point of the water
Along	It is used to describe linear motion, typically in pursuit of an object.	Seema walked along the beach midnight
Against	It is used to describe being against or near something.	He leaned against the wall thin deeply about something
Up	It is used to describe progress toward a higher level or position.	She climbed up the ladder to re cat
Down	It means to go in the direction of a lower place.	He slid down the steep hill.
Towards	Refers to the direction in which an object faces or moves.	Seema walked towards the red
Without	Alludes to something's lack or absence.	He left without his phone being charged
Off	It is used to describe leaving a position or surface.	He jumped off the fence to get neighbour's garden
Around	It refers to motion or placement in a circular region.	They walked around the horticult park.
About	It refers to having a connection to a subject or general area.	The book is about the ancient h India
Except	Refers to leaving anything out of a broad assertion.	Everyone except John went to t birthday party

Practice Questions

1. Choose the correct preposition to fill in the blank:

The product manager was upset because the meeting was delayed ___ almost two hours.

- a) by
- b) for
- c) with
- d) to

Answer: a) by

Explanation: Since "by" is used to indicate how much time something is delayed, it is the right response. The statement indicates that there was a two-hour delay in the meeting.

2. Identify the error in the following sentence:

The students were angry on the teacher for postponing the test.

- a) The students
- b) were angry
- c) on the teacher
- d) for postponing the test

Answer: c) on the teacher

Explanation: The correct preposition is "with" not "on." The phrase should be "angry with the teacher" to express anger directed toward someone. The corrected sentence is: "The students were angry *with* the teacher for postponing the test."

3. Fill in the blank with the correct preposition:

Kevin will meet you ___ the airport at 7 PM.

- a) in
- b) at
- c) on
- d) by

Answer: b) at

Explanation: The preposition "at" designates a particular point or place. "At" is the appropriate preposition because "airport" refers to a specific location. While "on" and "by" are not appropriate in this context, "in" would be used for enclosed environments.

4. Choose the correct preposition:

She has been living in this city____ five years.

- a) since
- b) from
- c) by
- d) for

Answer: d) for

Explanation: Since "for" denotes the length of time, it is the appropriate preposition. While "for" is used for periods like "five years," "since" is used to refer to a starting point (e.g., "since 2018").

5. Correct the following sentence:

She is good in mathematics, but weak in English.

Answer: She is good **at** mathematics, but weak **in** English.

Explanation: The preposition "at" is used to describe aptitudes or capabilities in fields such as "mathematics" (e.g., "good at"). But when referring to fields of knowledge, such

as "English" (e.g., "weak in"), "in" is used. Thus, "He is good at mathematics, but weak in English" is the correct statement to use.

Choose the right option. (Do yourself)

1. **Choose the correct preposition to complete the sentence:** The meeting will begin promptly ___ 9 AM.
(a) on
(b) at
(c) in
(d) by

2. **Identify the incorrect preposition in the following sentence:** She has been living in the United States since ten years.
(a) in
(b) since
(c) the
(d) years

3. **Fill in the blank with the appropriate preposition:** He is fond ___ playing cricket in the evening.
(a) at
(b) of
(c) with
(d) for

4. **Select the correct preposition for the sentence:** The cat is hiding ___ the sofa.
(a) behind
(b) between
(c) in
(d) under

5. **Find the suitable preposition to complete the sentence:** The train arrived ___ the station on time.
(a) at

- (b) in
- (c) by
- (d) to

6. Identify the preposition error in this sentence: He has been working here from six months.

- (a) from
- (b) has
- (c) been
- (d) working

7. Choose the correct preposition: The book was written ____ a famous author.

- (a) from
- (b) of
- (c) by
- (d) on

8. Fill in the blank with the correct preposition: They are waiting ____ the bus stop.

- (a) at
- (b) in
- (c) on
- (d) by

9. Choose the correct preposition for this sentence: He was accused ____ cheating during the exam.

- (a) at
- (b) of
- (c) in
- (d) on

10. Select the preposition to complete the sentence: I prefer coffee ____ tea.

- (a) in
- (b) to
- (c) for
- (d) on

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