

Prepositions of Place

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Grammar Notes

INTRODUCTION TO PREPOSITIONS

Prepositions are short words that show *time, place, direction*, etc.
 Some examples of prepositions are *at, on, in, of, to*, and *from*.
 In this lesson, we will study prepositions of place.

A. Common Prepositions of Place

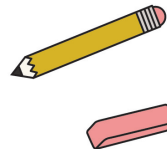

in

 The fruit is **in** the bowl.

on

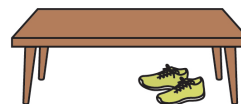
 The owl is **on** the branch.

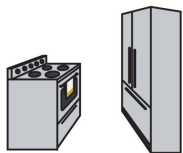
next to / beside

 The movie tickets are **next to** the popcorn.

near

 The pencil is **near** the eraser.

above

 The painting is **above** the sofa.

under

 The shoes are **under** the table.

across from

 The fridge is **across from** the stove.

between

 The apple is **between** the strawberry and the banana.

in front of

 The girl is **in front of** the boy.

behind

 The teacher is **behind** the desk.

Grammar Notes cont.

B. Common Sentence Patterns for Prepositions of Place

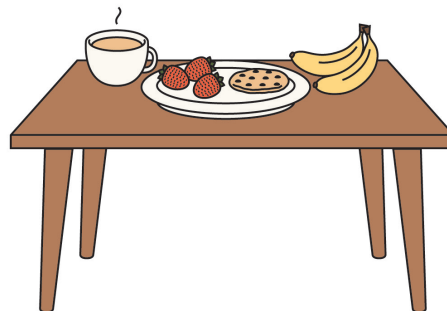
There are two common sentence patterns that we use with prepositions of place.

1. The + noun + verb + preposition + the + noun.

- The cookie is **on** the plate. (*singular*)
- The strawberries are **on** the plate. (*plural*)

2. There + is + (a) + noun + preposition + the + noun.

- There is a cup of coffee **on** the table. (*singular*)
- There are bananas **on** the table. (*plural*)



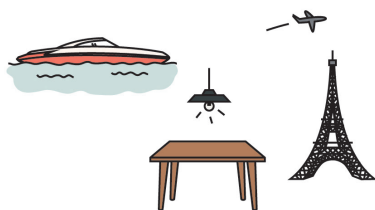
C. Prepositions of Place with Similar Meanings

Some prepositions have similar meanings.



1. *Next to* and *beside* have the same meaning.

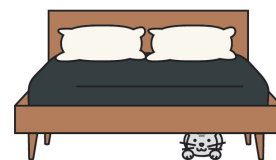
- The sunglasses are **next to** the sunscreen.
- The sunglasses are **beside** the sunscreen.



2. *On*, *above*, and *over* have similar meanings.

Use *on* when the two nouns are touching and *above* when they aren't. Use *over* when there is movement.

- The boat is **on** the water.
- The light is **above** the table.
- The plane flew **over** the Eiffel Tower.



3. *Under*, *beneath*, and *below* have similar meanings.

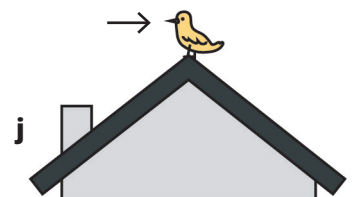
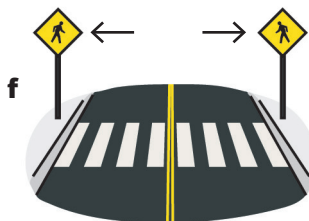
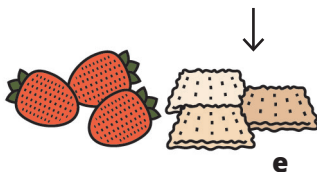
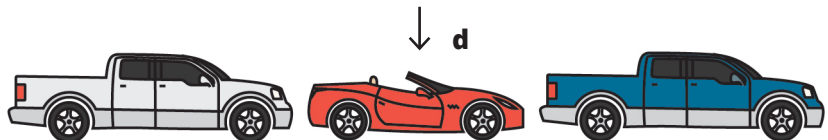
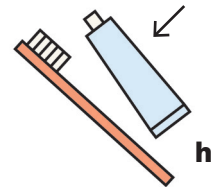
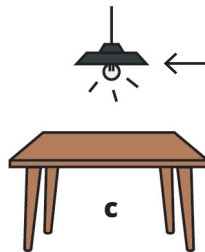
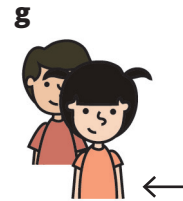
- The cat is **under** the bed.
- The cat is **beneath** the bed.
- The cat is **below** the bed.

Exercise 1

MATCHUP

Write the letter of the picture that matches the preposition of place.

- e 1. near
- 2. in
- 3. under
- 4. behind
- 5. on
- 6. across from
- 7. above
- 8. next to
- 9. in front of
- 10. between



Exercise 2

IN THE KITCHEN

A. Look at the Picture

Look at the picture of the kitchen below. Then answer the questions on the next page.



Exercise 2 cont.

B. Choose the Best Preposition

Look at the picture of the kitchen in Part A.
Then choose the best preposition for each sentence.

1. The stove is _____ the toaster.
a) above
☒ b) near
c) behind
d) on
2. The pot is _____ the pan.
a) in front of
b) in
c) behind
d) on
3. The kettle is _____ the microwave.
a) across from
b) above
c) under
d) next to
4. The pot is _____ the stove.
a) in
b) above
c) on
d) under
5. The cabinets are _____ the sink.
a) under
b) between
c) behind
d) on
6. The dishes are _____ the cabinet.
a) in
b) on
c) across from
d) behind
7. The kettle is _____ the microwave and the fridge.
a) across from
b) between
c) next to
d) beside
8. The fridge is _____ the stove.
a) beside
b) behind
c) next to
d) across from
9. The toaster is _____ the stove.
a) on
b) above
c) beside
d) across from
10. The flower pot is _____ the sink.
a) in front of
b) on
c) under
d) above

C. Write Sentences

Look at the picture of the kitchen in Part A. Now write two more sentences. Use a preposition of place in each sentence.

1. _____

2. _____

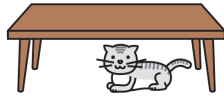
Exercise 3

IN THE LIVING ROOM

Choose the preposition from the box that matches each picture. Use each preposition only once.

Prepositions

- in
- on
- next to
- above
- ~~under~~
- between
- in front of
- behind



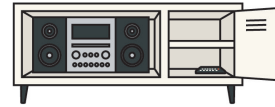
1. There is a cat under the coffee table.



5. There is a dog _____ the sofa.



2. There is a sofa _____ the recliner.



6. There is a remote control _____ the stereo cabinet.



3. There is a painting _____ the sofa.



7. There is an end table _____ the sofa and the recliner.



4. There is a stereo _____ the recliner.



8. There is a coffee table _____ the sofa.

Exercise 4

PAIR WORK

A. My Living Room

Draw the objects to the right in the empty square. When you're finished drawing your living room, describe it to your partner. (See Part B.)



sofa



recliner



rug



coffee table



remote control



TV



stereo



lamp



cat



dog



painting

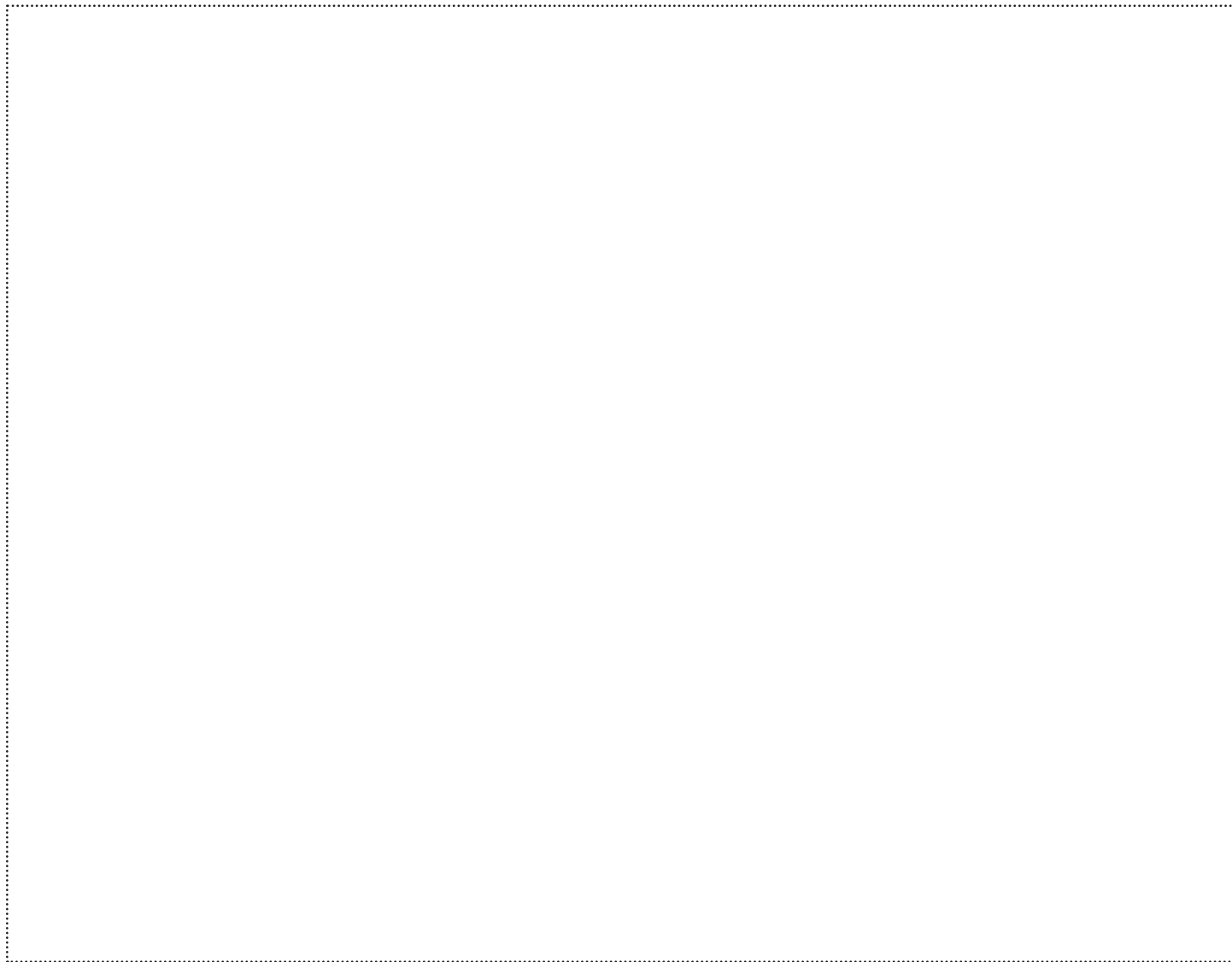


end table

Exercise 4 cont.

B. My Partner's Living Room

Listen as your partner describes his/her living room, and draw the objects to match the description in the empty box below.



C. Compare Drawings

Compare your Part B drawing with your partner's Part A drawing. Do your drawings match?

Exercise 5

WRITING

Write two sentences for each picture. Use a preposition in every sentence.
The second sentence must begin with *There is* or *There are*.



1. *The books are under the TV.* _____
There are books under the TV. _____



5. _____



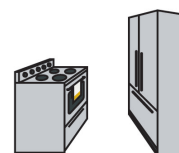
2. _____



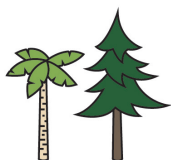
6. _____



3. _____



7. _____



4. _____



8. _____

Exercise 6

CLASS SURVEY

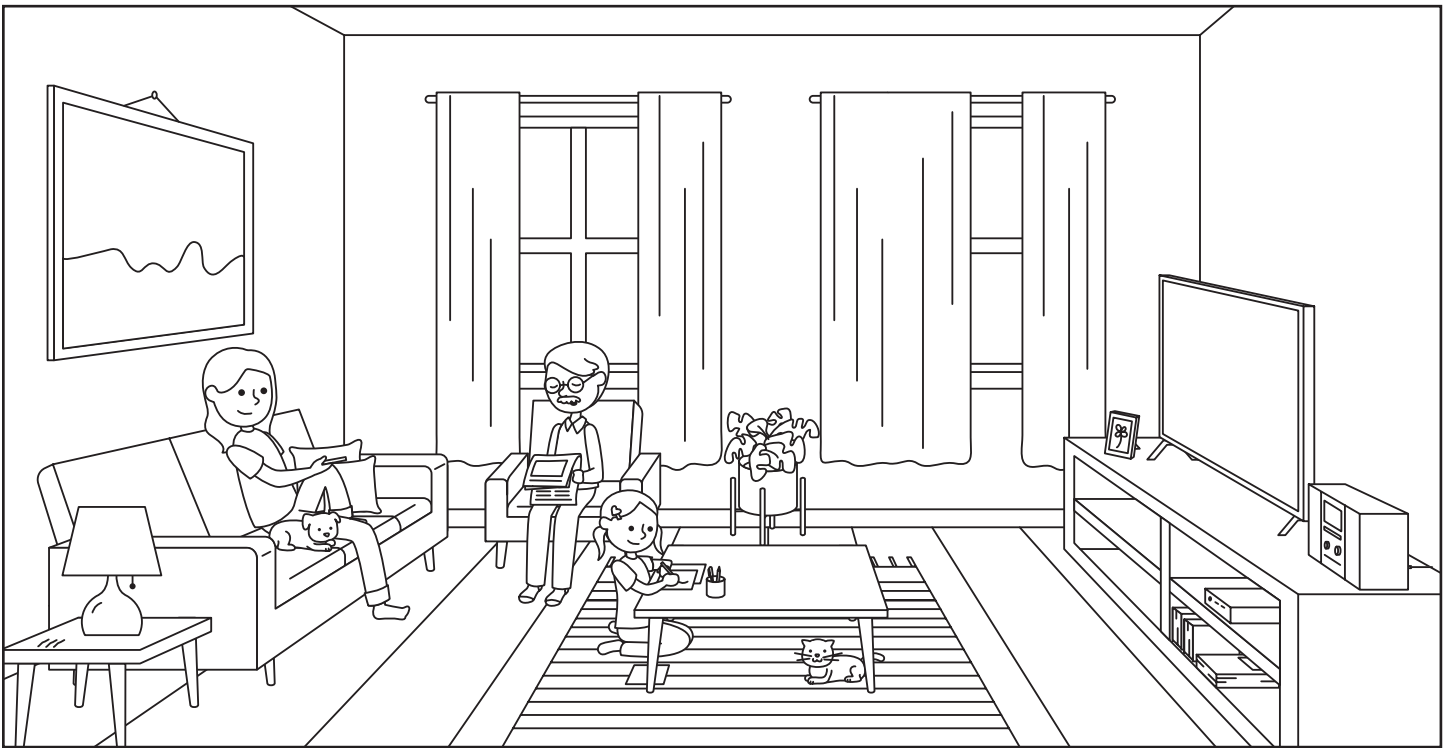
Ask your classmates these questions. Write their answers in the boxes below. Try to talk to a different classmate for each question. Practice using prepositions of place in your answers.

#	Question	Classmate's Name	Answer
1	Is there a clock in your classroom? Where is it?		
2	Where do you put your books at school?		
3	Where do you put your books at home?		
4	Do you have a cell phone? Where is it?		
5	What's in your backpack/bag/purse?		
6	Do you have any paintings on your walls at home?		
7	How many pillows are on your bed?		
8	Do you have a nightstand beside your bed? What's on it?		
9	How many pairs of shoes are in your closet?		
10	What's in your fridge?		

Exercise 7

QUIZ

Look at the picture of the living room. Circle the correct answer.



1. The lamp is _____ the end table.
a) near
b) on
c) next to
2. The TV is _____ the sofa.
a) across from
b) beside
c) under
3. The plant is _____ the windows.
a) above
b) between
c) in
4. The painting is _____ the sofa.
a) in front of
b) beside
c) above
5. The rug is _____ the coffee table.
a) under
b) on
c) across from
6. The dog is _____ the woman.
a) between
b) behind
c) beside
7. The cat is _____ the girl.
a) above
b) near
c) next to
8. The man is _____ the window.
a) in front of
b) across from
c) behind
9. The woman is _____ the girl.
a) between
b) behind
c) beside

Answer Key

LESSON DESCRIPTION:

In this lesson, students learn and practice common prepositions of place using themes such as furniture and food. Students will use prepositions in context as they describe various rooms in a house and conduct a class survey.

LEVEL: Beg – Low Int**TIME:** 2 hours

TAGS: prepositions, prepositions of place, in, on, at, above, below, over, under, across from, next to, beside, near, there, there is, there are, between, behind, in front of, grammar, grammar practice, house, furniture, living room, kitchen, bedroom, pets

Exercise 1

- | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. e | 3. a | 5. j | 7. c | 9. g |
| 2. i | 4. b | 6. f | 8. h | 10. d |

Exercise 2

B. CHOOSE THE BEST PREPOSITION

- | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. b | 3. d | 5. a | 7. b | 9. c |
| 2. a | 4. c | 6. a | 8. d | 10. d |

C. WRITE SENTENCES

Answers will vary.

Exercise 3

- | | | |
|------------|-----------|----------------|
| 1. under | 4. behind | 7. between |
| 2. next to | 5. on | 8. in front of |
| 3. above | 6. in | |

Exercise 4

Answers will vary. Monitor students for correct preposition usage when they explain their drawings to their partners.

Exercise 5

Answers may vary. Help your students with any vocabulary they are unfamiliar with.

- The books are under the TV. There are books under the TV.
- The sushi is on the plate. There is sushi on the plate.
- The apple is between the bananas.
There is an apple between the bananas.
- The palm tree is next to / beside / near the pine tree.
There is a palm tree next to / beside / near the pine tree.
- The painting is above the bed.
There is a painting above the bed.
- The fruit is in the bowl. There is fruit in the bowl.
- The stove is across from the fridge.
There is a stove across from the fridge.
- The shoes are on the floor / in front of the sofa.
There are shoes on the floor / in front of the sofa.

(continued on the next page...)

Answer Key cont.

Exercise 6

Answers will vary.

Exercise 7

- | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. b | 3. b | 5. a | 7. b | 9. b |
| 2. a | 4. c | 6. c | 8. a | |

SPELLING NOTE:

This lesson shows the American spelling of the word *Practice*.

Other English-speaking countries spell it this way: *Practise*

(when used as a verb; *Practice* when used as a noun).

Make it a challenge for your students to find this word
in the lesson and see if they know the alternate spelling.