

Errors

Use of prepositions

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Bad: We shall prove this in the end of Section 3.

Good: We shall prove this at the end of Section 3.

Comments: In the end means finally, as a result of the previous situation, e.g. Thus in the end, after all these transformations, F will be homogeneous.

Bad: We can join a with b by a path π .

Good: We can join a to b by a path π .

Some verb with preposition

Join in: take part in something.

Join with: to do something with another person, company.

Join up with: to combine with or meet other people to do something.

Use of prepositions

Bad: ..., which contradicts to Theorem 2.

Good: ..., which contradicts Theorem 2.

Comments: The verb contradict is transitive: **to contradict something**, and not “**to contradict to something**” or “**with something**”. If you want to use ‘to’ at the end of an indirect proof, you can write:

..., contrary to Theorem 2.

Bad: Continuous in the point x .

Good: Continuous at the point x .

Comments: But of course a function can be continuous **in the set A** (or **on the set A**).

Bad: Independent on x .

Good : Independent of x .

Use of prepositions

On the other hand, we have: **depending on x ; independence of $F(U; V)$ from V .**

Bad: Disjoint with X

Good: Disjoint from X

Bad: The coefficient by x_3 in the expansion

Good: The coefficient of x_3 in the expansion

Bad: Then F is greater or equal to 3.

Comments: The adjectives greater and equal require different prepositions: “greater to 3” does not make sense.

There are many ways of avoiding this clumsy construction: **F is at least/most 3; F does not exceed 3; F has no more/fewer than 3 elements; F is of degree 3 or less/more.**