

22HS001- FOUNDATIONAL ENGLISH

UNIT-I- SELF-EXPRESSION

SUBJECT-VERB CONCORD

Subject-Verb Concord refers to the agreement between the subject of a sentence and the verb in terms of number (singular or plural) and person (first, second, or third). This means that a singular subject takes a singular verb, while a plural subject takes a plural verb.

Examples:

1. **Singular Subject and Verb:**
 - *The dog barks.* (singular subject "dog" and singular verb "barks")
2. **Plural Subject and Verb:**
 - *The dogs bark.* (plural subject "dogs" and plural verb "bark")
3. **Collective Nouns:**
 - *The team is winning.* (collective noun "team" treated as singular)
 - *The team are arguing among themselves.* (when emphasizing individual members)
4. **Indefinite Pronouns:**
 - *Everyone is invited to the party.* (singular)
 - *Many are interested in the topic.* (plural)
5. **Compound Subjects:**
 - *Tom and Jerry are friends.* (plural subject "Tom and Jerry" and plural verb "are")
 - *Either the cat or the dog is making noise.* (when the subjects are joined by "or," the verb agrees with the nearer subject)

Exercise Questions:

1. The cat (chase/chases) the mouse.
2. The children (is/are) playing outside.
3. Either the teacher or the students (is/are) responsible for the project.
4. Each of the cars (have/has) been washed.
5. The committee (decide/decides) on the new policy next week.
6. Many of the cookies (was/were) eaten.
7. One of the books (is/are) missing.
8. The team (is/are) ready for the match.
9. Neither the cat nor the dogs (is/are) in the garden.
10. A number of players (has/have) joined the game.
11. Everyone (was/were) excited about the trip.
12. The pair of shoes (was/were) on sale.
13. Both of the options (seems/seem) reasonable.
14. Each student (have/has) to submit their assignment.

15. The flock of birds (is/are) flying south.
16. Either the manager or the assistants (is/are) going to lead the meeting.
17. None of the information (was/were) useful.
18. The committee members (has/have) reached a decision.
19. Either my sister or my parents (is/are) coming to visit.
20. The number of attendees (is/are) increasing each year.

Answers:

1. chases
2. are
3. are
4. has
5. decides
6. were
7. is
8. is
9. are
10. have
11. was
12. was
13. seem
14. has
15. is
16. are
17. was
18. have
19. are
20. is

TENSES

Definition of Tenses

Tenses are grammatical forms that indicate the time of an action or state of being. They help convey when something happens—whether it's in the past, present, or future. Tenses can be categorized into three main types: **past**, **present**, and **future**, each having simple, continuous, perfect, and perfect continuous forms.

Examples of Tenses

1. Present Tense

- **Simple Present:** Describes habitual actions or general truths.

- Example: She **reads** every morning.
- **Present Continuous:** Describes actions currently happening.
 - Example: She **is reading** a book now.
- **Present Perfect:** Describes actions that occurred at an unspecified time before now.
 - Example: She **has read** five books this month.
- **Present Perfect Continuous:** Describes actions that started in the past and continue to the present.
 - Example: She **has been reading** for two hours.

2. Past Tense

- **Simple Past:** Describes completed actions.
 - Example: She **read** the book yesterday.
- **Past Continuous:** Describes actions that were ongoing in the past.
 - Example: She **was reading** when I called her.
- **Past Perfect:** Describes actions completed before another action in the past.
 - Example: She **had read** the book before the meeting.
- **Past Perfect Continuous:** Describes actions that were ongoing before another past action.
 - Example: She **had been reading** for an hour when the phone rang.

3. Future Tense

- **Simple Future:** Describes actions that will happen.
 - Example: She **will read** the book tomorrow.
- **Future Continuous:** Describes actions that will be ongoing at a specific time in the future.
 - Example: She **will be reading** at 8 PM tonight.
- **Future Perfect:** Describes actions that will be completed before a specific future time.
 - Example: She **will have read** the book by next week.
- **Future Perfect Continuous:** Describes actions that will be ongoing until a specific future time.
 - Example: She **will have been reading** for two hours by the time I arrive.

Fill in the Blanks Exercises

Present Tense

1. She _____ (to read) a book every month.
 - a) reads
 - b) is reading
 - c) has read
2. They _____ (to play) soccer right now.
 - a) play

- b) are playing
- c) have played

Past Tense

- 3. I _____ (to watch) a movie last night.
 - a) watched
 - b) was watching
 - c) have watched
- 4. He _____ (to study) when the lights went out.
 - a) studied
 - b) was studying
 - c) had studied

Future Tense

- 5. We _____ (to go) to the beach tomorrow.
 - a) will go
 - b) are going
 - c) have gone
- 6. By 10 PM, she _____ (to finish) her homework.
 - a) will finish
 - b) will have finished
 - c) finishes

Additional Exercises

- 1. They _____ (to visit) their grandparents last weekend. (Simple Past)
- 2. She _____ (to write) her thesis for the past three months. (Present Perfect Continuous)
- 3. I _____ (to learn) Spanish for two years before I traveled to Spain. (Past Perfect)
- 4. He _____ (to cook) dinner when the guests arrived. (Past Continuous)
- 5. By next year, I _____ (to complete) my degree. (Future Perfect)
- 6. Tomorrow at 3 PM, I _____ (to take) a nap. (Future Continuous)

Answers

Fill in the Blanks Answers

- 1. a) reads
- 2. b) are playing
- 3. a) watched
- 4. b) was studying

5. a) will go
6. b) will have finished

Additional Exercises Answers

1. visited
2. has been writing
3. had learned
4. was cooking
5. will have completed
6. will be taking

Fill in the Blanks Exercises

Present Tense

1. She usually _____ (to go) to the gym in the morning.
a) go
b) goes
c) is going
 2. They _____ (to watch) a movie right now.
a) watch
b) are watching
c) watched
 3. He _____ (to finish) his homework already.
a) finished
b) has finished
c) is finishing
 4. We _____ (to live) here since 2015.
a) lived
b) are living
c) have been living
-

Past Tense

5. I _____ (to travel) to Paris last summer.
a) travel
b) traveled
c) have traveled
6. She _____ (to cook) dinner when I arrived.
a) was cooking
b) cooked
c) has cooked

7. They _____ (to visit) the museum before it closed.
a) visited
b) had visited
c) were visiting
8. He _____ (to play) soccer when it started to rain.
a) played
b) was playing
c) has played
-

Future Tense

9. I _____ (to meet) you tomorrow.
a) meet
b) will meet
c) am meeting
10. She _____ (to finish) her project by Friday.
a) will finish
b) finishes
c) is finishing
11. By next month, they _____ (to move) to a new house.
a) will move
b) will have moved
c) are moving
12. We _____ (to watch) a play next week.
a) will watch
b) are watching
c) watch
-

More Exercise Questions

Present Tense

1. I _____ (to read) a great book these days. (Present Continuous)
2. They _____ (to finish) their exams this week. (Present Perfect)

Past Tense

3. She _____ (to see) that movie last year. (Simple Past)
4. We _____ (to wait) for the bus when it started to rain. (Past Continuous)

Future Tense

5. He _____ (to start) his new job next week. (Simple Future)
 6. By the time you arrive, I _____ (to clean) the house. (Future Perfect)
-

Answers

Fill in the Blanks Answers

1. b) goes
2. b) are watching
3. b) has finished
4. c) have been living
5. b) traveled
6. a) was cooking
7. b) had visited
8. b) was playing
9. b) will meet
10. a) will finish
11. b) will have moved
12. a) will watch

More Exercise Questions Answers

1. am reading
2. have finished
3. saw
4. were waiting
5. will start
6. will have cleaned

Exercise

1. By the time we get to the station, the train _____ (leave) and we _____ (miss) it.
2. She _____ (finish) her homework before she _____ (go) out with her friends.
3. They _____ (meet) us at the park tomorrow if it _____ (not rain).
4. He _____ (already start) working when his boss _____ (arrive) at the office.
5. I _____ (read) the book by the time the movie _____ (come) out.
6. If you _____ (study) harder, you _____ (pass) the exam easily.
7. By the end of this year, they _____ (complete) the project and we _____ (celebrate) together.
8. She _____ (be) excited when she _____ (hear) the news yesterday.
9. We _____ (travel) to Europe next summer if we _____ (save) enough money.
10. He _____ (work) at that company for five years before he _____ (decide) to change jobs.
11. They _____ (not finish) their dinner before they _____ (leave) for the concert.

12. By the time you _____ (arrive) at the party, everyone _____ (already have) a great time.
13. She _____ (write) the letter when she _____ (realize) she didn't have the address.
14. They _____ (go) on vacation next month if they _____ (get) their bonus.
15. I _____ (call) you when I _____ (get) home tonight.
16. If it _____ (snow) this weekend, we _____ (build) a snowman.
17. She _____ (not understand) the lesson until the teacher _____ (explain) it again.
18. By next week, we _____ (finish) all the preparations and we _____ (be) ready for the event.
19. He _____ (visit) the museum before he _____ (move) to a new city.
20. When she _____ (come) to the party, everyone _____ (already be) there.
21. I _____ (make) dinner while he _____ (set) the table.
22. They _____ (study) for the test when their friend _____ (call) them.
23. We _____ (not know) the answer until the teacher _____ (give) a hint.
24. By the time you _____ (see) her, she _____ (already leave) the office.
25. If I _____ (be) you, I _____ (take) that job offer immediately.
26. She _____ (plan) the trip before they _____ (announce) the new policy.
27. We _____ (celebrate) their anniversary last year when we _____ (go) on a cruise.
28. When they _____ (arrive) at the restaurant, we _____ (already order) our food.
29. I _____ (look) for my keys while my friend _____ (help) me search.
30. If you _____ (finish) your assignment early, we _____ (have) more time to relax.

'BE' VERBS

What are 'Be' Verbs?

The 'be' verbs are a set of verbs that include "am," "is," "are," "was," "were," "be," "being," and "been." These verbs serve several important functions in English:

1. **Linking Verbs:** They connect the subject of a sentence to a subject complement, which can be a noun, pronoun, or adjective.
 - Example: She **is** a teacher.
2. **Auxiliary Verbs:** They help form continuous (progressive) and passive verb tenses.
 - Example (Continuous): They **are studying** for the exam.
 - Example (Passive): The book **was written** by the author.
3. **Indicating Existence:** They show that something exists or is present.
 - Example: There **are** many stars in the sky.

Uses of 'Be' Verbs

1. **Present Simple:**
 - "I am happy."
 - "You are a student."

- "He is a doctor."
 - 2. **Past Simple:**
 - "I was tired."
 - "They were friends."
 - 3. **Present Continuous:**
 - "She is running."
 - "We are watching a movie."
 - 4. **Past Continuous:**
 - "They were playing soccer."
 - "He was studying."
 - 5. **Present Perfect:**
 - "She has been sick."
 - "I have been to Paris."
 - 6. **Past Perfect:**
 - "They had been friends."
 - "He had been working there."
 - 7. **Future Simple:**
 - "I will be there."
 - "They will be happy."
 - 8. **Future Perfect:**
 - "She will have been here for an hour."
 - "We will have been waiting."
-

Exercise Questions

Fill in the Blanks

1. I _____ (am/is/are) a teacher.
2. They _____ (was/were) at the party last night.
3. She _____ (am/is/are) going to the store.
4. We _____ (was/were) happy with the results.
5. He _____ (am/is/are) very tall.
6. The students _____ (was/were) studying in the library.
7. It _____ (am/is/are) raining outside.
8. You _____ (was/were) late for class yesterday.
9. I _____ (am/is/are) excited about the trip.
10. The cookies _____ (was/were) delicious.
11. She _____ (am/is/are) my best friend.
12. They _____ (was/were) very tired after the hike.
13. The car _____ (am/is/are) blue.
14. We _____ (was/were) at the concert last week.
15. He _____ (am/is/are) the team captain.
16. It _____ (am/is/are) important to study.
17. You _____ (was/were) right about the answer.

18. I _____ (am/is/are) learning English.
19. The flowers _____ (was/were) beautiful.
20. She _____ (am/is/are) happy with her grades.
21. They _____ (was/were) excited for the match.
22. He _____ (am/is/are) my neighbor.
23. The children _____ (am/is/are) playing in the park.
24. We _____ (was/were) at the beach last summer.
25. I _____ (am/is/are) a bit tired today.
26. It _____ (am/is/are) time to go home.
27. You _____ (was/were) the last one to arrive.
28. She _____ (am/is/are) the winner of the contest.
29. The presentation _____ (was/were) informative.
30. They _____ (am/is/are) waiting for the bus.
31. I _____ (am/is/are) here to help you.
32. He _____ (was/were) surprised by the news.
33. The team _____ (am/is/are) winning the game.
34. We _____ (was/were) planning a surprise party.
35. You _____ (am/is/are) responsible for this project.
36. It _____ (am/is/are) a lovely day outside.
37. She _____ (was/were) at the meeting yesterday.
38. The baby _____ (am/is/are) sleeping peacefully.
39. They _____ (was/were) given an award for their efforts.
40. I _____ (am/is/are) looking forward to the weekend.
41. The house _____ (am/is/are) very old.
42. He _____ (was/were) not feeling well last week.
43. She _____ (am/is/are) studying hard for her exams.
44. The results _____ (was/were) announced last night.
45. I _____ (am/is/are) not sure about the answer.
46. They _____ (was/were) excited to see their friends.
47. You _____ (am/is/are) going to love this movie.
48. We _____ (was/were) in the same class last year.
49. It _____ (am/is/are) essential to exercise regularly.
50. The teacher _____ (was/were) very kind to us.

Answers

1. am
2. were
3. is
4. were
5. is
6. were
7. is
8. were
9. am
10. were

- 11. is
- 12. were
- 13. is
- 14. were
- 15. is
- 16. is
- 17. were
- 18. am
- 19. were
- 20. is
- 21. were
- 22. is
- 23. are
- 24. were
- 25. am
- 26. is
- 27. were
- 28. is
- 29. was
- 30. are
- 31. am
- 32. was
- 33. is
- 34. were
- 35. are
- 36. is
- 37. was
- 38. is
- 39. were
- 40. am
- 41. is
- 42. was
- 43. is
- 44. were
- 45. am
- 46. were
- 47. are
- 48. were
- 49. is
- 50. was

51. Choose the correct Be verb to complete each of the following sentences:

- 1. They ____ taking the first bus tomorrow.
 - a) are
 - b) is
 - c) were

2. Where ____ the twins during the auction yesterday?

- a) was
- b) are
- c) were

3. You're right. I ____ in an awesome mood this morning.

- a) am
- b) is
- c) were

4. I ____ thinking about you since the trip.

- a) have been
- b) has been
- c) will be

5. They ____ hoping to see Satu but she had already left.

- a) are
- b) were
- c) am

6. ____ that your cousin at the gala wearing Dior?

- a) is
- b) was
- c) were

7. I'm not sure why but they said he ____ here.

- a) had been
- b) weren't
- c) isn't

8. It ____ a nice day at the beach yesterday.

- a) being
- b) was
- c) been

9. They ____ instructed to close all exits.

- a) been
- b) was
- c) were

10. The staff ____ given their orders so don't worry.

- a) had been
- b) have been
- c) aren't

52. **Fill in the blanks with the correct form of helping verbs (is/am/are).**

11. Penny ____ my sister.

12. I ____ very interested in the new project.

13. We ____ best friends.

14. Vinit __ my friend since class 2.
 15. __ you happy here?
 16. __ this your book?
 17. I __ going to meet my granny today.
 18. __ you aware of this poem written by William Shakespeare?
 19. India __ a secular country.
 20. The children __ studying for their exams.
 21. The boy __ very mischievous.
 22. I __ feeling very sleepy.
 23. The dog __ barking at the stranger.
 24. The cats __ fighting for food.
 25. __ you sure what you said is true?
-

Question Tags

Question tags are short questions that are added at the end of a statement to confirm or check information. They usually echo the auxiliary or modal verb used in the main sentence and reflect the subject. The main purpose of question tags is to engage the listener and seek agreement or clarification.

Structure of Question Tags

1. **Affirmative Statement + Negative Question Tag**
 - Example: *You're coming to the party, **aren't you?***
2. **Negative Statement + Affirmative Question Tag**
 - Example: *She doesn't like coffee, **does she?***

Rules for Forming Question Tags

1. **Subject and Verb Agreement:**
 - The subject of the tag must match the subject of the statement.
 - Example: *They are friends, **aren't they?***
2. **Use of Auxiliary/Modal Verbs:**
 - If the main statement has an auxiliary verb, use it in the tag.
 - Example: *He has finished his work, **hasn't he?***
 - If there is no auxiliary verb, use "do," "does," or "did."
 - Example: *You like ice cream, **don't you?***
3. **Negation:**
 - If the statement is positive, the question tag is negative, and vice versa.
 - Example: *It's a nice day, **isn't it?***
4. **Intonation:**
 - If you are genuinely asking for confirmation, use a rising intonation.

- If you are certain and expecting agreement, use a falling intonation.

Common Uses of Question Tags

- **Seeking Confirmation:** To confirm information or opinions.
 - Example: *You're from Canada, **aren't you?***
- **Encouraging Response:** To prompt the listener to agree or provide input.
 - Example: *This movie is great, **isn't it?***
- **Checking Understanding:** To ensure that the listener has understood the statement.
 - Example: *We meet at 6 PM, **don't we?***

Examples

1. **Affirmative Statement:** *She is coming, **isn't she?***
2. **Negative Statement:** *You haven't seen that movie, **have you?***
3. **Modal Verb:** *You can help me, **can't you?***
4. **No Auxiliary Verb:** *They play soccer, **don't they?***

Practice Exercise

Try forming question tags for the following statements:

1. It's a beautiful day, _____?
2. You have finished your homework, _____?
3. They won the match, _____?
4. She can speak Spanish, _____?
5. We are late, _____?

Answers to the Exercise

1. isn't it?
2. haven't you?
3. didn't they?
4. can't she?
5. aren't we?

Sentences with blanks where question tags need to be filled in:

1. She's coming to the party, ____?
2. They can't speak French, ____?
3. You've finished your homework, ____?
4. He doesn't like pizza, ____?
5. We're going to the beach tomorrow, ____?
6. The weather is nice today, ____?

7. She hasn't called you, ____?
8. They won't be late, ____?
9. You've met his brother, ____?
10. It's your birthday next week, ____?
11. He should have been here by now, ____?
12. They weren't expecting us, ____?
13. You don't know the answer, ____?
14. She can drive, ____?
15. The meeting is at 3 PM, ____?
16. We haven't missed the train, ____?
17. He was very tired, ____?
18. She won't forget to bring the tickets, ____?
19. You're not interested in the movie, ____?
20. They've finished their dinner, ____?
21. The book is on the table, ____?
22. You didn't see the email, ____?
23. He's been working hard lately, ____?
24. We shouldn't be here, ____?
25. She was late for the meeting, ____?
26. They've already left for the airport, ____?
27. You can help me with this, ____?
28. The kids are asleep now, ____?
29. You're coming to the concert, ____?
30. It wasn't easy to solve the problem, ____?

Here are the answers for the question tags:

1. She's coming to the party, **isn't she?**
2. They can't speak French, **can they?**
3. You've finished your homework, **haven't you?**
4. He doesn't like pizza, **does he?**
5. We're going to the beach tomorrow, **aren't we?**
6. The weather is nice today, **isn't it?**
7. She hasn't called you, **has she?**
8. They won't be late, **will they?**
9. You've met his brother, **haven't you?**
10. It's your birthday next week, **isn't it?**
11. He should have been here by now, **shouldn't he?**
12. They weren't expecting us, **were they?**
13. You don't know the answer, **do you?**
14. She can drive, **can't she?**
15. The meeting is at 3 PM, **isn't it?**

16. We haven't missed the train, **have we?**
17. He was very tired, **wasn't he?**
18. She won't forget to bring the tickets, **will she?**
19. You're not interested in the movie, **are you?**
20. They've finished their dinner, **haven't they?**
21. The book is on the table, **isn't it?**
22. You didn't see the email, **did you?**
23. He's been working hard lately, **hasn't he?**
24. We shouldn't be here, **should we?**
25. She was late for the meeting, **wasn't she?**
26. They've already left for the airport, **haven't they?**
27. You can help me with this, **can't you?**
28. The kids are asleep now, **aren't they?**
29. You're coming to the concert, **aren't you?**
30. It wasn't easy to solve the problem, **was it?**

“Framing Questions including WH-Questions”

What are Wh-Questions?

Wh-questions are a type of question that begins with a "Wh" word (or "how") and are used to gather specific information. The "Wh" words include:

- **Who:** Used to ask about people.
- **What:** Used to ask about things, ideas, or actions.
- **Where:** Used to ask about places.
- **When:** Used to ask about time.
- **Why:** Used to ask for reasons.
- **How:** Used to ask about the manner, condition, or process.

Structure of Wh-Questions

1. **Wh-Word + Auxiliary Verb + Subject + Main Verb + (Rest of the Sentence)**

Basic Structure

- **Who:** Who is coming to the party?
- **What:** What did you eat for lunch?
- **Where:** Where are you going?
- **When:** When will they arrive?
- **Why:** Why did you leave early?
- **How:** How do you solve this problem?

Framing Wh-Questions

1. **Identify the Information Needed:**
 - Determine what specific information you want to gather.
2. **Choose the Correct Wh-Word:**
 - Select the appropriate "Wh" word based on the information you seek.
3. **Use the Correct Verb Form:**
 - Use an auxiliary verb if necessary (e.g., is, are, did, have) depending on the tense and subject.
4. **Construct the Question:**
 - Follow the structure: Wh-word + Auxiliary verb + Subject + Main verb + (Rest of the sentence).

Examples of Each Type

1. **Who:**
 - Statement: *She is my friend.*
 - Question: *Who is your friend?*
2. **What:**
 - Statement: *He is reading a book.*
 - Question: *What is he reading?*
3. **Where:**
 - Statement: *They are going to the park.*
 - Question: *Where are they going?*
4. **When:**
 - Statement: *The meeting starts at 10 AM.*
 - Question: *When does the meeting start?*
5. **Why:**
 - Statement: *She left because she was tired.*
 - Question: *Why did she leave?*
6. **How:**
 - Statement: *He solved the problem quickly.*
 - Question: *How did he solve the problem?*

Tips for Framing Wh-Questions

- **Use Context:** Consider the context of the conversation to choose the right Wh-word.
- **Be Clear and Specific:** Make sure your question is clear to avoid confusion.
- **Adjust for Tense:** Pay attention to the tense used in your statement to frame the question correctly.

Practice Exercise

Frame Wh-questions for the following statements:

1. She is studying French.
2. They will arrive at 5 PM.
3. He went to the concert.

4. The book is on the table.
5. She left because she was feeling sick.

Answers to the Exercise

1. What is she studying?
2. When will they arrive?
3. Where did he go?
4. Where is the book?
5. Why did she leave?

Frame Wh Questions for the following sentences.

1. Seema decided to continue a diary.
2. Sea water contains a lot of salt.
3. They kill a cat.
4. Advertising helps to produce consistency of quality.
5. He decided to hide in his office.
6. She went to Pune yesterday.
7. The bus comes at midnight.
8. Pakistan invaded India in 1983.
9. Raju kills the tiger because he wants to save his life.
10. Seeta failed to bring the heavy bag as she was ill.
11. She gave the book to her friend.
12. She performs her duty with joy.
13. Patanadevi is 18km away from Chalisgaon.
14. Sachin hides his problem for five years.
15. That was Radh's book.
16. Sanju had two brothers.
17. Poonam buys ten kg sugar.
18. Dhoni can make a century.
19. He will choose that way.
20. She is 1.75 metres tall.
21. He is kind and generous,
22. We talked about football.
23. I saw Peter last night.
24. He has lived in London for ten years.
25. It is my Sister's bag.

Here are the WH questions for each sentence:

1. What did Seema decide to continue?
2. What does sea water contain a lot of?

3. What do they kill?
 4. What does advertising help to produce?
 5. Where did he decide to hide?
 6. Where did she go yesterday?
 7. When does the bus come?
 8. When did Pakistan invade India?
 9. Why does Raju kill the tiger?
 10. Why did Seeta fail to bring the heavy bag?
 11. To whom did she give the book?
 12. How does she perform her duty?
 13. How far is Patanadevi from Chalisgaon?
 14. How long has Sachin hidden his problem?
 15. Whose book was that?
 16. How many brothers did Sanju have?
 17. How much sugar does Poonam buy?
 18. Who can make a century?
 19. Which way will he choose?
 20. How tall is she?
 21. What is he like?
 22. What did we talk about?
 23. Who did I see last night?
 24. How long has he lived in London?
 25. Whose bag is it?
-

PREPOSITIONS

What are Prepositions?

Prepositions are words that link nouns, pronouns, or phrases to other words within a sentence. They indicate relationships in terms of time, place, direction, manner, cause, and instrumentality. Prepositions typically precede a noun or pronoun and are part of prepositional phrases.

Functions of Prepositions

1. **Indicating Location:**
 - Example: *The cat is **under** the table.*
 - Here, "under" shows the location of the cat.
2. **Indicating Time:**
 - Example: *We will meet **after** lunch.*
 - In this case, "after" indicates when the meeting will take place.
3. **Indicating Direction:**
 - Example: *She walked **to** the store.*

- "To" shows the direction of her movement.
- 4. **Indicating Manner:**
 - Example: *He spoke **with** confidence.*
 - "With" describes how he spoke.
- 5. **Indicating Cause or Reason:**
 - Example: *She was late **because of** the traffic.*
 - "Because of" explains the reason for her lateness.

Common Prepositions

Here are some commonly used prepositions categorized by their function:

1. **Prepositions of Place:**
 - **at, in, on, under, above, between, next to, behind**
 - Example: *The book is **on** the shelf.*
2. **Prepositions of Time:**
 - **at, in, on, before, after, during, since, until**
 - Example: *The meeting is **at** 10 AM.*
3. **Prepositions of Direction:**
 - **to, toward, into, across, through**
 - Example: *She ran **toward** the park.*
4. **Prepositions of Manner:**
 - **with, by, like, as**
 - Example: *He traveled **by** train.*
5. **Prepositions of Cause:**
 - **because of, due to, for**
 - Example: *He was absent **because of** illness.*

Prepositional Phrases

A **prepositional phrase** consists of a preposition followed by a noun or pronoun (the object of the preposition) and any modifiers.

- Example: *The dog jumped **over the fence**.*
 - Here, "over" is the preposition, and "the fence" is the object of the preposition, forming the prepositional phrase "over the fence."

Tips for Using Prepositions

1. **Context Matters:** The meaning of a preposition can change based on context. For example, "in" can indicate being inside something or a specific period (in the morning).
2. **Collocations:** Some verbs, adjectives, and nouns naturally pair with certain prepositions (e.g., "interested in," "good at"). Familiarizing yourself with these can improve fluency.
3. **Avoid Overuse:** While prepositions are necessary, using too many in a sentence can make it cluttered. Be concise.

Practice Exercise

Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions:

1. The cat is hiding _____ the couch.
2. We will meet _____ 3 PM.
3. She walked _____ the bridge.
4. He completed the project _____ the help of his team.
5. The concert is _____ Friday night.

Answers to the Exercise

1. under
2. at
3. over
4. with
5. on

1.Place and Position:

- **In:** in the room, in the box
- **On:** on the table, on the wall
- **Under:** under the chair, under the bridge
- **Over:** over the river, over the bed
- **Between:** between the buildings, between us
- **Behind:** behind the door, behind the house
- **Next to:** next to the car, next to the bank
- **In front of:** in front of the house, in front of the line

2.Time:

- **At:** at 5 PM, at noon
- **On:** on Monday, on January 1st
- **In:** in the morning, in 2024
- **During:** during the meeting, during the summer

3.Direction and Movement:

- **To:** to the park, to the store
- **Into:** into the room, into the car
- **Out of:** out of the building, out of the box
- **Toward:** toward the horizon, toward the city
- **Away from:** away from the danger, away from home

4.Manner and Means:

- **By:** by car, by email
- **With:** with a pen, with her friend

- **Without:** without a doubt, without money

5.Other Relationships:

- **Of:** the color of the car, a friend of mine
- **For:** a gift for you, a reason for the delay
- **About:** a book about history, talking about the movie
- **Against:** against the rules, against the wall

QUESTIONS:

1. The cat is sleeping ____ the couch.
2. She arrived ____ the airport early.
3. We'll meet ____ the cafe at noon.
4. The keys are ____ the table.
5. He walked ____ the park to get some fresh air.
6. The book is ____ the shelf.
7. She is excited ____ her new job.
8. They are sitting ____ the dining table.
9. He will be back ____ an hour.
10. The picture is hanging ____ the wall.
11. The train leaves ____ 6 PM.
12. She looked ____ the window to see the rain.
13. He went ____ the store to buy groceries.
14. The movie starts ____ 7:30 PM.
15. The dog ran ____ the yard.
16. I will call you ____ the meeting.

17. The restaurant is ____ the corner of the street.
18. The ball rolled ____ the under the sofa.
19. They have been friends ____ childhood.
20. The letter is ____ the envelope.
21. She is allergic ____ peanuts.
22. The children are playing ____ the playground.
23. He spoke ____ great enthusiasm.
24. The laptop is ____ the desk.
25. The restaurant is known ____ its excellent service.

Answers:

Here are the answers to your fill-in-the-blank questions:

1. The cat is sleeping **on** the couch.
2. She arrived **at** the airport early.
3. We'll meet **at** the cafe at noon.
4. The keys are **on** the table.
5. He walked **through** the park to get some fresh air.
6. The book is **on** the shelf.
7. She is excited **about** her new job.
8. They are sitting **at** the dining table.
9. He will be back **in** an hour.
10. The picture is hanging **on** the wall.
11. The train leaves **at** 6 PM.
12. She looked **out of** the window to see the rain.
13. He went **to** the store to buy groceries.
14. The movie starts **at** 7:30 PM.
15. The dog ran **around** the yard.
16. I will call you **after** the meeting.
17. The restaurant is **on** the corner of the street.
18. The ball rolled **under** the sofa.
19. They have been friends **since** childhood.
20. The letter is **in** the envelope.

21. She is allergic **to** peanuts.
22. The children are playing **in** the playground.
23. He spoke **with** great enthusiasm.
24. The laptop is **on** the desk.
25. The restaurant is known **for** its excellent service.