

Prepositions

USE OF AT:

Parts of the day: at night, at noon, at dawn, at midnight, at dusk, at sunrise, at sunset

Time shown by watch: at 3 o'clock, at 5 pm, at quarter to one, at 9:15

With specific time: at lunch time, at tiffin time, at mealtimes, at the weekend,

Expressions with 'end': at the weekend, at the end of this month

Names of festivals: at Dashain, at Tihar, at Id, at Fagu

Before age: at fifteen, at the age of forty

Before points: at the bus stop, at the airport, at the platform, at the traffic lights, at the top, at the bottom, at the end of the party

Small areas: at Bagbazar, at Lagankhel, at Pulchowk, at Dallu

Other places: at the door, at the end, at the corner of the street, at reception, at home, at campus, at the meeting

With price, speed, degree: at 90 mph, at 300, at 0 degree C, at 100 degree C

What somebody is doing or happening: I am at lunch. The country is now at war. I am at work.

Where somebody works: at bank, at school/collage, at T.U

With time adverbials: at present, at this moment, at the same time

Superlatives: at least, at the worst, at its best

Order: at first, at last, at the first attempt, at the third attempt

Rate/price: I bought rice at the 90 rupees a kilo.

Towards: She looked at me. I waved at her.

USE OF IN:

Months: in January, February, in Baishakh, Mangsir

Years: in 1995, in 2078, in 1920s, in May 2022

Parts of the day: in the morning, in the afternoon, in the evening

Centuries, Ages: in the next century, in the Ice Age,

Duration/within a certain time: in a twenty minutes time, in five years, in a week, in two months

Place (larger ones): in Nepal, in Kathmandu, in Asia, in the world

Wearing: in a blue sari, in a red cap, in a tie

Somebody's job or profession: in the army, in the navy

State or condition: in doubt, in love, in trouble, in good repair, in a hurry, in debt, in misery, in poverty

Stages of life: in the childhood, in the womb, in the adulthood

In a line/ queue/row/street: I am standing in a queue.

Colors and types: I printed her name in red in capital letters.

With means of exchange: in cash

USE OF ON:

Days of the week: on Sunday, on Monday, on Saturday

Dates: on 5th Sept., on 24th of this month

Special or days or occasions: on my birthday, on Christmas day, on the parents' day

About: on pollution, on dowry system, on democracy, on environment

Through the medium: on the radio, on television, on computer

Over something: on the wall, on the table, on the notice board, on my head

To denote position: on the floor, on the ground, on the menu, on the list, on a map

Means of transportation: on a bus, on a cycle, on a train, on a motorcycle, on foot

State or condition: on vacation, on loan, on a holiday, on strike, on sale, on fire, on credit

As soon as something happens: On reaching the station, I called my parents.
On returning from abroad, I joined the club.

Rides: on a bicycle, on a horse, on an elephant

Physical positions: on the right, on the left

USE OF TO:

In the direction of something: I walk to the office. It was on the way to the station. He's going to Paris. It is my first visit to Africa

Comparison: I like tea to milk.

Until: My school opens from 9 to 4.

As far as something: The meadows lead down to the river. Her hair fell to her waist.

person or thing that receives something: He gave it to his sister. Who did she address the letter to? To whom did she address the letter?

USE OF FOR:

In support or on behalf of somebody /something: Are you for or against the proposal?
They voted for independence in a referendum.

To show a reason or cause: Pokhara is famous for its natural beauty. I gave him a pilot pen on his 5th birthday. She won the prize for her novel.

Period/length/duration of time: He has been suffering from Covid-19 for 3 days. We walked for three hours.

Purpose: We are requesting some amount for earthquake victims. I am eligible for this post. Soldiers are fighting for their country.

Possession : This pen is for Rabina.

In exchange for : He paid Rs. 500 for a tie.

With regard to (concern) : Her parents are anxious for her safety.

In favour of: They are going to cast vote for her.

In the direction of: He left for Pokhara yesterday.

USE of From

Cause:

Shanta is suffering from pneumonia. He suffered from nervousness.

Showing difference:

Her manner is different from her father.

Place of origin or starting point: I usually walk from home to school. I have to walk from nine to ten. She is from Canada.

After or onwards: The school resumes from Sunday.

Source: This saying is taken from Shelly's novel.

USE OF BY

Near: His house lies by the river. I was sitting by my father

Point of time/not later than: I will have got appointment by 2075 BS. She will have bought a car by next month.

In passive voice before an agent: I was helped by my students. They were helped by me.

Means of transport or a route system: travel by bus/ car / train/ plane/ travel by air/ land / sea, etc.

With the means of doing something through: I was paid by cheque. You can contact me by letter/ telephone.

Divide/multiply: Divide 20 by 5. Multiply 60 by 6.

USE OF FROM:

Place or direction from which somebody/something starts: I am from Nepal. The bus goes from Bhairahawa to Pokhara.

who sent or gave something: I got a letter from my boss. There was a gift from my friend.

protection or prevention: Protect people from robbery. Save the children from abuses.

To make a distinction: Why are living things different from non-living things?

Indicating a cause: I'm suffering from fever.

USE OF ONTO :

To a particular place or position in motion: As soon as he gave me the pen, I put it onto the table. He jumped onto the wall.

USE OF TOWARDS

In the direction of: I am heading towards Tundikhel. She was coming towards me.

USE OF AGAINST

Opposing or disagreeing: He was committing this mistake against the law. I was forced to work against my will. Today's youths are against the principles of ethics.

Close to, touching or hitting: Put the guitar against the wall.

Prevent from happening: There is an injection against rabies. They took precautions against fire. Are we assured against burglary?

USE OF PAST

Gone by recently; just ended: I haven't seen much of her in the past few weeks. The past month has been really busy at work.

Up to and beyond: He walked past the temple.

USE OF UP

To or in a higher position somewhere: She climbed up the flight of steps. The village is further up the valley.

USE OF OVER

Partly or completely covering the surface: She put a blanket over the sleeping child. He wore an overcoat over his suit. She put her hand over her mouth to stop herself from screaming.

In or to a position higher than but not touching: They held a large umbrella over her. The balcony juts out over the street. There was a lamp hanging over the table.

Across something: There is a bridge over the river. They ran over the grass. They had a wonderful view over the park.

By means of something: We heard it over the radio. She would tell me over the phone.

USE OF ABOVE:

At or to a higher place or position than something/somebody: The water came above our knees. We were flying above the clouds. The captain in the navy ranks above a captain in the army. They finished the year six places above their local rivals.

More than something: Temperatures have been above average. We cannot accept children above the age of 10.

USE OF BELOW

At or to a lower level or position: He dived below the surface of the water. Please do not write below this line. Skirts will be worn below the knee.

Of a lower amount, standard, rank or importance: The temperatures remained below freezing all day. Her work was well below average for the class. A police sergeant is below an inspector.

USE OF UNDER

In, to or through a position that is below something: Have you looked under the bed? She placed the ladder under the window.

Less than; younger than: An annual income of under Rs. 10,000 is not sufficient for survival. It took us under an hour. Nobody under 18 is allowed to buy alcohol.

who or what controls, governs somebody /something: The country is now under martial law. She has 20 staff working under her.

Experiencing a particular process: The hotel is still under construction. The matter is under investigation.

USE OF BENEATH

Under somebody /something: They found the body buried beneath a pile of leaves. The boat sank beneath the waves.

Not good enough for somebody: He considers such jobs beneath him. They thought she had married beneath her.

USE OF OFF

Down or away from a place: I fell off the ladder.

USE OF INTO

To a position in or inside something: Come into the house. She dived into the water. He threw the letter into the fire.

to show a change in state: The fruit can be made into jam. Can you translate this passage into German? They came into power in 2008. She was sliding into depression.

About or concerning something: I had an inquiry into safety procedures.

Used when you are dividing numbers: Five into five is twenty five.

USE OF AMONG and BETWEEN

Surrounded by somebody/something: There is a house among the trees. They strolled among the crowds. I found the letter among his papers. You're among friends now.

Being included or happening in groups of things or people: A British woman was among the survivors. He was among the last to leave.

USE OF ABOUT:

On the subject of somebody/something: We are talking about the book. I am writing an essay about 'nationalism'.

At a time near, at approximately: There are about 500 students in my school. We reached there at about 5:30.

Near to a place: I was lost somewhere about Ratna Park yesterday.

USE OF WITH:

Having or carrying something: a boy with curly hair, a man with a stick, a coat with a belt, a child with a broken leg

Indicating the tool or instrument used: draw with a pencil, cut it with a knife, feed the baby with a spoon

In the company of something/somebody: I live with parents. They went on holiday with a friend.

USE OF THROUGH

Moving or passing from one side to the other: A river flows through my village. You can see the germs through microscope.

By means of; because of: You can get success through persistent hard work.

Beginning to the end: The children cannot stay in the concert through the night.

USE OF OF

Belonging to somebody or something: He is a friend of Mohan. It is the love of a mother for her child. There is a great role of the teacher. **Coming from a particular with measurements and expressions of time, age:** two kilos of potatoes, an increase of 2%, a girl of 12, the fourth of July, the year of his birth, have a walk of an evening

1. Bipana was born January 4, 2012. (*on/in/at*)
2. He cut a tree an axe. (*by/with/over*)
3. Some boys didn't give smoking. (*in/of/up*)
4. The sunlight came *into* the room the window. (*by/through/from*)
5. He was leaning the wall. (*from/on/against*)
6. Ramesh is indifferent me. (*with/against/to*)
7. Sugar is selling 75 rupees a kilo. (*in/on/at*)
8. Sagar is true his name. (*to/for/with*)
9. All the students must abidethe school rules. (*with/by/for*)
10. You can stay here I come back. (*until/since/to*)
11. He is staring me. (*at/in/to*)
12. Babisha always goes to school (*on/by/in*) foot.