

## PREPOSITIONS

**1. Read the following passage on New Zealand.**

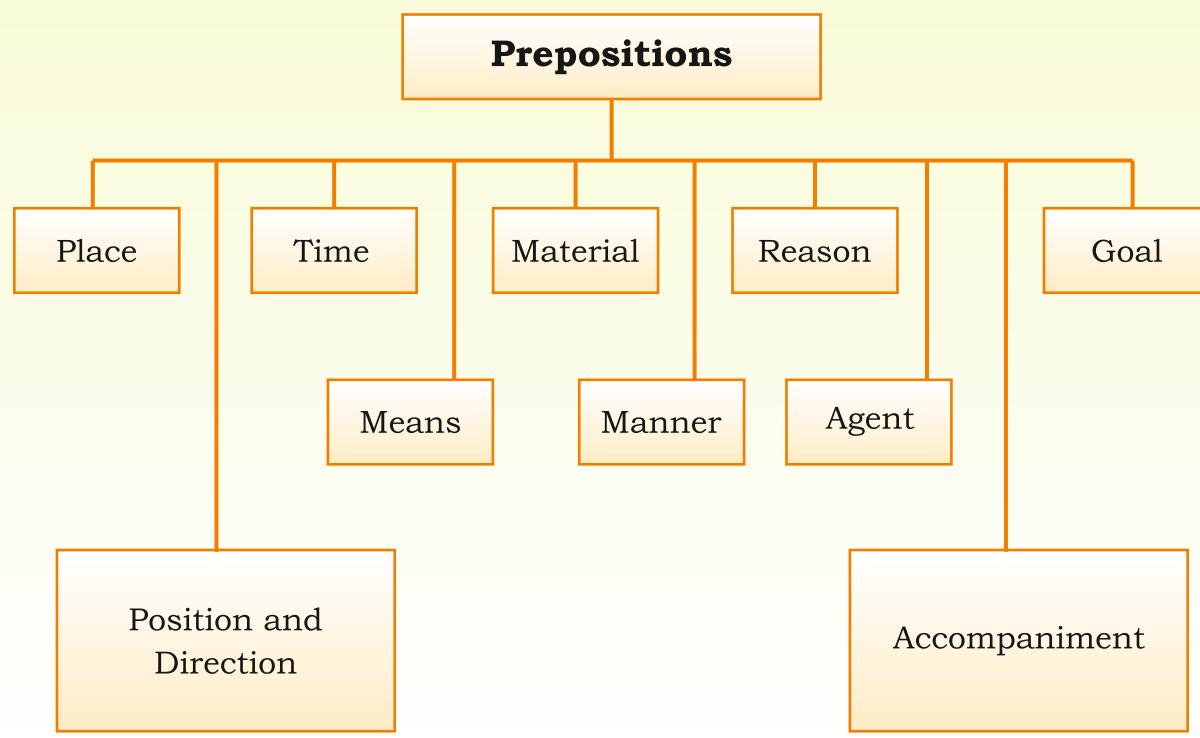
New Zealand is a Mecca for nature lovers. The islands were once part of the southern super - continent Gondwana from which they broke off around 80 million years ago. This was even before mammals had evolved and spread.

(courtesy : Terra Green Sept 2008 issue 06)

The underlined words express a relationship usually of space or time between the words with which they stand. Such 'Positional' words which are used before nouns (pre-position) are called \_\_\_\_\_

**Did you know?**

Prepositions are classified according to their function.



**2. Identify the functions of the prepositions in each of these sentences.**

1. George Washington served as the Commander-in-Chief during the American Revolutionary War.
2. The assassin shot the leader with a gun.
3. Pratap bequeathed his property to charity.
4. Manoj was awarded a certificate for his good conduct.
5. The roof is covered with fire-proof sheets.

**3. Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions.**

- a) The magician made the girl disappear \_\_\_\_\_ my own eyes.
- b) He climbed \_\_\_\_\_ the ladder.
- c) There is a super market \_\_\_\_\_ our house.
- d) The train was late \_\_\_\_\_ 3 hrs.

**4. Group the prepositions in the box below to indicate their use as prepositions of place (P), movement (M) or time (T). There may be more than one category for each.**

between	_____	past	_____	before	_____
along	_____	on	_____	until	_____
since	_____	behind	_____	beside	_____
up	_____	round	_____	out of	_____
among	_____	for	_____	at	_____
in front of	_____	across	_____	under	_____
after	_____	through	_____	during	_____

5. A student from a junior class asks you to help her illustrate the use of different prepositions for her class.

In groups of four, choose one of the following lists of prepositions and draw simple pictures to illustrate their meaning.

Time	Place	Movement
since	on	through
at	in	along
until	behind	across
for	beside	down
after	above	round

### Prepositions of Location

6. Picture Dictation

Work in pairs - Student A and Student B. Tag yourselves as Student A and Student B. Student A will look at the picture on page 117. Keep the picture secret from Student B. Describe exactly what you see to Student B, who must draw the picture from the information given. At the end, compare the two pictures. Draw your picture in the box below.





e.g.

*In the middle there's a small house. Behind the house there are two hills. Several birds are flying over the house...*

**7. This description is taken from a well-known film. Can you guess which one?**

A man in a red cape and blue tights is flying over a city. On his chest is the letter S. Below him a large crowd is pointing up at him.

**Imagine a scene from a play, film or TV show you have seen.**

**Describe (a) where things and people are, and (b) any movement. Follow the example.**

**Show your description to your partner. Guess each other's play or film.**

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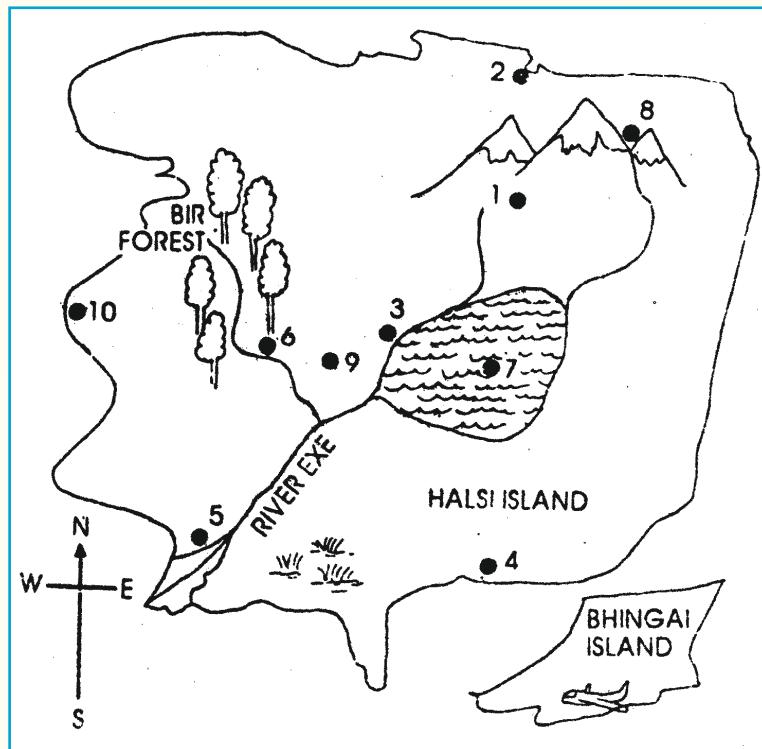
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8 Study the map and the key given below carefully, and complete the sentences that follow.



**Key**

1. Lalnagar
2. Sarkor
3. Timpur
4. Rampur (Capital)
5. Marwah
6. Chickoor
7. Strange Lake
8. Neverest Hills
9. Nafran
10. Lakshmanpur



### Complete the following

_____	is	half-way along the west coast of Halsi Island.
Rampur	is situated	
	lies _____	on the south coast of the island, north of _____
	is located	

(Note the use of words like along, north of etc.)

**Now describe the position of the other eight places, using some of the words in the box.**

at	along
to	next to
on	between
in	above
by	below
over	among
under	opposite

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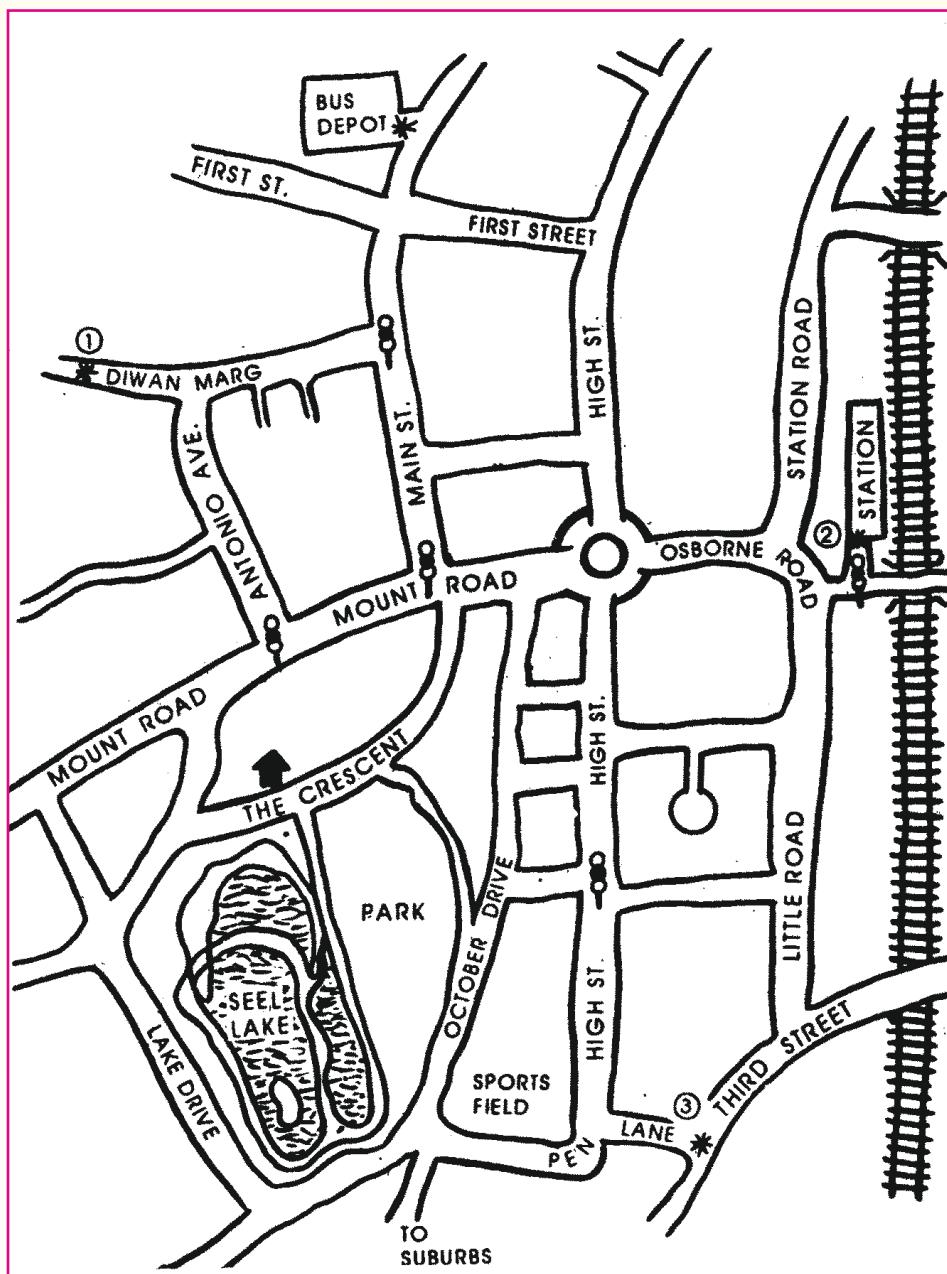
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**9. Look at the map below.**

You have invited three friends to a party at your house. Write three separate notes, giving them directions from 1, 2 and 3 to your house. You may use the words in the box.

**KEY**

- \* 3 starting points
- traffic lights
- ↑ my home

**You may use:**

- along
- up to
- at
- up
- down
- as far as
- past
- opposite
- in front of
- next to
- straight across
- go
- turn
- walk
- take



The directions from (1) are given here as an example

*Go down Diwan Marg and turn right down Antonio Avenue. Walk as far as the traffic lights then turn right into Mount Road. Turn first left into The Crescent and my house is on the left.*

10. **Work in pairs. Put one pencil on a point on the map where you live, and put another pencil on any other point. Ask your partner to tell the direction for getting to your house.**

### Prepositions of Time

after	at	before	between
by	during	for	from
on	past	since	throughout
to	towards	until	within

11. **You have recently attended a wedding. A British pen friend asks you to describe it. Using the words in the box, describe the different ceremonies. Write only the body of the letter below.**

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## Common Combinations using Prepositions

- 12.** Link the words from the different columns to produce meaningful sentences. One has been completed as an example. If you wish, write out the correct sentences in your notebook.

He went	for	love.
She is ill	by	work.
They're so much	in	hospital
The Prince came	on	foot.
The poor animal is	out of	the moment.
That's enough	at	chance.
The style is		air.
They met		pain.
My house is not		date.
He's not		sale.

- 13. Verbs and Prepositions**

**Fill in the gaps with suitable prepositions**

1. You're right. I agree \_\_\_\_\_ you.
2. The conclusions are based \_\_\_\_\_ extensive research.
3. He arrived \_\_\_\_\_ Delhi airport at 2 am and then arrived \_\_\_\_\_ the city at 4 am.
4. He angrily shouted \_\_\_\_\_ the pupil.
5. "Remember the party!" she exclaimed \_\_\_\_\_ her friend.
6. **A** differs \_\_\_\_\_ **B** in a number of ways.
7. He applied \_\_\_\_\_ the teaching job but was turned down.
8. She replied \_\_\_\_\_ his last letter.

9. They apologized \_\_\_\_\_ breaking the vase.
10. Do you believe \_\_\_\_\_ ghosts?

#### **14. Adjectives and Prepositions**

**Look at the table below. Decide which of the adjectives in Column A commonly go with which preposition. Tick the table as shown. (There may be more than one tick for each adjective)**

A	at	to	about	for
worried			✓	✓
good				
bad				
surprised				
happy				
sensitive				
puzzled				
married				
clever				
suitable				
curious				
due				
qualified				
famous				

#### **15. Use the adjectives and prepositions from the box above to fill in the gaps below. Add eight sentences of your own.**

1. Mary is bad \_\_\_\_\_ Maths.
2. Fruit is good \_\_\_\_\_ you.
3. Ram was married \_\_\_\_\_ Beena for 10 years. They were very happy.

4. This tool is more \_\_\_\_\_ planing wood
  5. What good news! I'm so \_\_\_\_\_ you.
  6. He's \_\_\_\_\_ her; she looks ill.
  7. She's ashamed \_\_\_\_\_ her bad behaviour.
  8. They are fond \_\_\_\_\_ dancing.
  9. He was absent \_\_\_\_\_ the Science Club yesterday.
  10. He is sensitive \_\_\_\_\_ criticism.

**16.** Think of a person in your class, and use adjective + prepositions from 14 to describe him/her in about two or three sentences. Don't give a name.

e.g. She's good at Maths.

She's keen on hiking.

Show your description to your partner. Let her or him guess who it is.

**The following diagram explains the use of some of these prepositions**

Destination	Position	Destination	Position	Reference
to •×	at •×	away from ×→	away from × •	Referring to a point
on (to)	on	off	off	Referring to a line or surface.
into	in	out of	out of	Referring to an enclosed area

**Notice the following peculiarities in the use of Prepositions.**

- 1) **at** relates to a small extent of space or time while **in** relates to a wider extent.
- 2) **with** relates to the instrument used for doing something.  
**by** relates to the doer
  - e.g. (1) This poem was composed by me
  - (2) I wrote with a Parker pen.
- 3) **between, among** : between is used when there are two things or persons or ideas, among is used for more than two.  
  - e.g. (1) The property was divided between the twins.
  - (2) The gossip spread among the villagers.
- 4) **beside, besides** : beside means by the side of, besides means in addition to
  - e.g. (1) Ram sat beside his grandmother.
  - (2) Besides music, he is interested in painting.
- 5) **in** and **within** : in denotes at the close of some future period, within denotes sometime short of the close  
  - e.g. (1) The project will be implemented in a week's time. (= at the close)
  - (2) The plan will be sanctioned within a fortnight (= less than)



**INTEGRATED GRAMMAR PRACTICE 7****1. Edit the following magazine article about hunting sports talent among youth.**

The Great National Sports Talent Search (a) consist of workshops and tournaments arranged in (b) any different parts of (c) a country. The talent scouts' aim (d) are to look out for local talent in the age range of eight to eighteen years. Thus, it would be far (e) wise if young sportswomen and men (f) were help so that they have plenty of time to develop their talent. Sports academies normally only (g) having students whose talents (h) is already recognized. If India does not invest in sports it can not hope to perform well at the International level.

- |     |                 |                        |                    |                    |
|-----|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| (a) | (i) consisted   | (ii) consists          | (iii) is consisted | (iv) has consisted |
| (b) | (i) much        | (ii) few               | (iii) little       | (iv) many          |
| (c) | (i) the         | (ii) these             | (iii) an           | (iv) some          |
| (d) | (i) is          | (ii) being             | (iii) has been     | (iv) been          |
| (e) | (i) wisest      | (ii) wiser             | (iii) as wise as   | (iv) too wise      |
| (f) | (i) were helped | (ii) were being helped | (iii) are helped   | (iv) helped        |
| (g) | (i) are having  | (ii) owning            | (iii) have         | (iv) has           |
| (h) | (i) are         | (ii) has been          | (iii) are being    | (iv) have been     |

**2. Below is a description of Geothermal Energy. Complete the passage by filling in the gaps choosing the correct option from the given options. The first one has been done for you.**

In volcanic areas, underground water (a) can often rise to a temperature of 200° C. Nowadays, wells (b) \_\_\_\_\_ drilled to extract the steam which is used to drive turbines. This is (c) \_\_\_\_\_ of the world's fastest growing sources of energy. (d) \_\_\_\_\_ the water is heated by enormous reservoirs of cooling rock several kilometers across, geothermal steam is (e) \_\_\_\_\_ to be a renewable energy resource. Even in non-volcanic areas, underground water can (f) \_\_\_\_\_ heated by natural radioactivity. In this case, (g) \_\_\_\_\_, it is necessary to drill deeper before the water is as hot as 200° C. This method (h) \_\_\_\_\_ used for heating homes in certain areas for many years and is cheap, clean and efficient.

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|-----|-------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| (a) | (i) could   | (ii) can    | (iii) must     | (iv) might     |
| (b) | (i) is      | (ii) been   | (iii) are      | (iv) being     |
| (c) | (i) any     | (ii) some   | (iii) one      | (iv) few       |
| (d) | (i) As      | (ii) While  | (iii) Though   | (iv) Even      |
| (e) | (i) called  | (ii) said   | (iii) regarded | (iv) told      |
| (f) | (i) be      | (ii) been   | (iii) being    | (iv) is        |
| (g) | (i) however | (ii) though | (iii) despite  | (iv) therefore |
| (h) | (i) being   | (ii) was    | (iii) be       | (iv) has been  |

**3. Study the following sentences. Select one of the underlined words which is incorrect. Write the incorrect word in the boxes provided. One has been done as an example.**

e.g. Advertisements can be extremely useful if they were honest and help you decide what to buy.

were

- a. For example, if you break your pen, but want to buy another, the first thing to do is look at advertisements.

- b. This will help you choose the good type of pen.

- c. However, advertisements can be harmful when it try to exploit the public.

- d. It had found that young people, especially teenagers, are affected the most by advertisements.

**4. Rearrange the following words and phrases to form meaningful sentences.**  
**The first one has been done for you as an example.**

was / about twenty / childhood / delight / years ago.

*Childhood was a delight about twenty years ago.*

(a) the leisure hours / of a child / of the TV / today / are spent / in front

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) of most / now - a - days / the attitude / parents is / different

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

(c) work and play / different things / they see / as / two

(c) \_\_\_\_\_

(d) playing / feel / is a / waste of / they / time / that

(d) \_\_\_\_\_