

11. Prepositions

A preposition is a word that establishes the relationship in between nouns, pronouns or a noun and pronoun in a sentence.

The usages of a few prepositions are given below:

- **At:** It expresses the relationship in the meaning of -
 - Small extent of space inside some other space.
 - Commencement of time with regard to an event or a programme.
 - Nearness of place.
 - Expressing attendance of a work place or institution.
 - Denoting a particular point or segment or a scale. (Referring to one's age)
 - Expressing a relationship between individual and skill.
 - Expressing the object or target of a look, shot, action or plan.
- Usage of "**Beside, Besides**": The word "beside" is used in the sense of "by the side of", whereas the word "besides" is used in the sense of in addition to.
- **By:** It expresses the relationship in the meaning of an agent or doer to the person or a thing employed for doing anything -

Example:

→ Othello was written by Shakespeare.

This preposition is also used:

- Indicating the end of a time period.
- Near to or beside i.e.; past and beyond.
- In the meaning of according to.
- In mild oaths.
- Expressing multiplication especially in dimensions.
- **Before:** This word is used signifying the relationship of -
 - Time in the meaning of "earlier than".
 - In the meaning of "in front of".
- **After:** As a preposition it signifies -
 - After "sometimes".
 - "After something" in the meaning of place.
 - In the meaning of reference to.
- Usage of "**Between, Among**": The first word represents two persons, things or ideas whereas the second relates more than two.
- **For:** This preposition is used -

- In favour of.
- In the meaning of purpose i.e.; reason or cause.
- In the meaning of "on behalf of or to the benefit of".
- In the meaning of a purpose or a function.
- In the meaning of destination.
- In the meaning of representing.
- In the meaning of in exchange for.
- Indicating the extent of a distance or the length of period of time.
- **In:** This preposition is used -
 - In the sense of expressing the existing of something inside some other thing.
 - To express a period of time during which an event happens.
 - To express the length of time before a future event is to happen.
 - To express a state, condition or quality.
 - To express inclusion or involvement.
 - To indicate someone's occupation or profession.
 - To indicate the language of or medium used.
 - In the meaning of expressing arrival.
 - Before the name of the bigger place in wider range in which smaller range is preceded by "at".
- **Into:** This preposition is used while denoting motion towards the inside of anything -
Example:
→ The frog fell into the well.
This preposition is also used:
 - Indicating a route to a destination.
 - Indicating an object of interest.
 - Expressing a change of state.
 - Expressing the result of an action.
 - Expressing division.**Note:** When the word "into" is used in a sentence the word enter must not be used in any form.
- **Of:** This preposition is used –
 - In the relation of ownership or belongingness or association.
 - To express the relationship between the part and whole.
 - To express relationship in between a scale or measure and a value.
 - To express the relationship in between a direction and a point of reference.

- To express the relationship between an abstract concept and a noun denoting the subject or object of the underline verb.
- To indicate the relationship between a verb and an indirect object.
- **Off:** This preposition is used -
 - To show the relationship in between the things that get detached or separated from each other
 - In the meaning of so as to be removed or separated from.
 - To express a temporary dislike of.

Example:

→ The boy fell off his bicycle

→ The power supply went off from the leverages

- **On:** This preposition is used –
 - To express location of something in the surface area of a place.
 - In the meaning of concerning i.e.; having a basis
 - In the meaning of as a number of a committee or a jury or some organization.
 - In the meaning of having something as a target, aim or focus.
 - In the meaning of "in the course of a journey"
 - Indicating the day or part of a day during which an event takes place i.e.; at a time of.
 - In the meaning of engaged in.
 - In the meaning of regularly taking i.e.; on drug or medicine.
- **Over:** This is used in the meaning of -
 - Extending towards from or above.
 - Expressing movement of a route or course.
 - Expressing movement or across.
 - Expressing duration.
 - Expressing "on the subject of".
 - Expressing "beyond and falling or hanging from a point.
 - Expressing "higher or more than" of a number or quantity.
 - Expressing authority or control
- **Above:** This is used in the meaning of -
 - A higher level than
 - In a high level when compare to the value of something.
- **To :** This preposition expresses -

- The relationship in the meaning of the place towards which the action of a person or a thing is intended to.
- The meaning of identifying the person or thing affected.
- The meaning of identifying the relation between one person or thing and another.
- The meaning of indicating the two things are attached.
- The meaning of governing a phrase expressing someone's reaction.

Example: To her astonishment he smiled.

- **Up:** This is used in the meaning of -
 - Towards higher place or position.
 - At or for to a higher level or value.
 - Into the desire or proper condition than.
 - In the meaning of referring to motion up.
- **Under, Below:** The word under expresses the presence of something exactly under some other thing where as the word below expresses the presence of something below some other thing at somewhere.
The word under also expresses -
 - At a lower level, layer or grade than.
 - Expressing submission or subordination.
 - Grouping or classification.
 - Lower than a specified amount, rate or norm.
 - Undergoing a process.
- **With:** This preposition is used in the meanings and relations of -
 - Accompanied.
 - By instrument used to perform an action or the material used for a purpose
 - In opposition to.
 - Indicating the way or attitude in which a person does something.
 - Indicating responsibility.
- **From, To:** The word "from" expresses commencement or the beginning of an event, an action or period preceded, by "from" and the termination or the end of programme or time or period is preceded by "to".
- **Down:**
 - In the meaning of lower place or position.
 - In the meaning of more basic state.