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PREPOSITIONS



- Prepositions are the words found before nouns, pronouns, or other substantives to form phrases functioning as modifiers of verbs, nouns, or adjectives.
- A preposition is a word used to link nouns, pronouns, or phrases.
- They act to connect the people, objects, time and locations of a sentence.
- They give us more information on where, when and why things happen.
- Using the wrong preposition is a common mistake made by English learners.



PREPOSITIONS



- At, in and on: Prepositions of place
- At, in and on: Prepositions of time
- Across, along, over and through; above, over, below and under
- Between, among; by, beside, etc.





AT-PREPOSITIONS OF PLACE



We use **at** to talk about a place we think of as a point rather than an area, and about an event where there is a group of people.

1. I arrived **at** Patna Station at 7.30.
2. We were waiting **at** the far end of the room.
3. We last met **at** the conference in Mumbai.
4. There were very few people **at** Riya's party.

We usually use **at** before an address and **in** or **on** before the name of a road:

1. They've opened an office **at** 28 Boring Road.
2. The church is **in/on** Park Road.



We use on to talk about a position touching a flat **surface**, or on something we think of as a line such as a road or river:

Ex:

- Is that a spider **on** the ceiling?
- She owns a house **on** the Kali River.



We use **in** to talk about a position within a larger area, or something within a larger space.
(**enclosed space**)

Ex:

- There's been another big forest fireCalifornia.
- She looked againher bag and, to her relief, there were her keys.
- The lamp wasthe corner of the room



AT-PREPOSITION OF TIME



We use **at** with points of time or periods of time that we think of as points.

We use at:

- ☐ with exact points of time: at midnight
- ❖ at 3o'clock
- ❖ at 8.15
- ☐ with short holiday periods, such as Christmas, Easter, the weekend, etc.:
- ❖ I'll see you **at** Easter.
- ❖ We often go walking **at** the weekend.



- ❑ with other short periods that we think of as points, such as the end of January, the beginning of the year, etc.:
- ❖ I get paid at the end of the month.

- ❑ with mealtimes, such as breakfast, lunch, dinner, etc.:
- ❖ That morning at breakfast, my brother told us he was getting married.



We use in:

- ☐ when we talk about longer periods of time such as seasons (e.g. the spring), months, years, decades (e.g. the 1990's, centuries (e.g. the 16th century), and other periods such as the week before Diwali, the hours before the exam, etc.
 - ❖ **In the winter** you can only use the road with a four-wheel drive vehicle.
- when we talk about how long it will be before something happens:
- ❖ **In a few minutes** we will be arriving at Delhi Airport.
 - ☐ with parts of the day, such as the morning, the evening, etc.:
 - ❖ Temperatures today should reach 25°C **in the afternoon**.



- We use **on** when we talk about a particular day, date, or part of a particular day:
 - ❖ We're meeting again **on** Friday.
 - ❖ It's her birthday **on** the 21st.
 - ❖ I get paid **on** the last day of the month.
 - ❖ We went to a party **on** Easter Sunday.
 - ❖ I've got a meeting **on** Monday morning.



We use **through** to emphasise that we are talking about movement in a three dimensional space, with things all around.

- He pushed his way **through** the crowd of people to get to her.
- He enjoyed the peace and quiet as he walked **through** the forest.

Through often suggests movement from one side or end of the space to the other.

- She walked **through** the forest to get to her grandmother's house and She spent a lot of her free time walking **in** the forest.



ACROSS-THROUGH



We can use either above or over when we say that one thing is at a higher level than another:

Above/Over the door was a sign saying, 'Mind your head'..
She had painted thick, dark eyebrows **above/over each eye**.



Above (not over)

However, we use above, not over, when one thing is not directly over the other.

- The passengers couldn't see the sun, as it was right **over** the plane.(=directly overhead)

Over (not above)

We use over, above, when we say that something covers something else and is in contact with it, and also when we are talking about horizontal movement:

- A grey mist hung **over** the fields.
- I saw the helicopter fly out **over** the water, near the fishing boat.

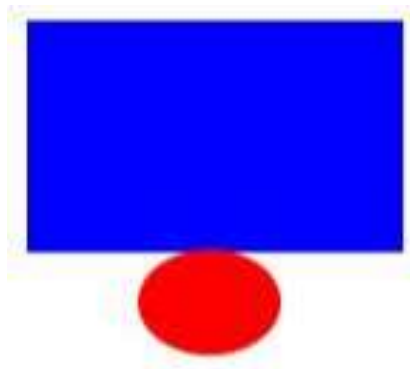


Below is the opposite of above; under is the opposite of over. The differences in the uses of below and under are similar to those between above and over.

- It's hard to believe that there is a railway line **below/under** the building.
- Her head was **below** the level of the counter and the shop assistant didn't notice her.
- I was so hot, I stood **under** a cold shower for ten minutes.
- She hid the presents **under** a blanket.



BELOW/UNDER



When the teacher commented that her spelling was poor Lynn replied All the members of my family are poor spellers. Why not me?

- a) When the teacher commented that her spelling was poor, Lynn replied, "All the members of my family are poor spellers. Why not me.
- b) When the teacher commented that her spelling was poor Lynn replied, All the members of my family are poor spellers. Why not me?"
- c) When the teacher commented that her spelling was poor, Lynn replied, "All the members of my family are poor spellers. Why not me?"
- d) When the teacher commented ,that her spelling was poor Lynn replied "All the members of my family are poor spellers, Why not me?"

ANSWER:C

QUESTION: 02



He used the phrase you know so often that I finally said No I don't know.

- a) He used the phrase "you know" so often that I finally said, "No, I don't know".
- b) He used the phrase ,you know, so often that I finally said, "No, I don't know".
- c) He used the phrase "you know" so often that I finally said No, I don't know.
- d) He used the phrase "you know" so often that I finally said "No, I don't know“?

ANSWER:A

The automobile dealer handled three makes of cars Volkswagens Porsches and Mercedes Benz

- a) The automobile dealer handled three makes of cars, Volkswagens, Porsches, and Mercedes Benz.
- b) The automobile dealer handled three makes of cars: Volkswagens, Porsches, and Mercedes Benz.
- c) The automobile dealer ,handled three makes of cars”Volkswagens Porsches, and Mercedes Benz.”
- d) The automobile dealer handled three makes of cars: Volkswagens, Porsches, and Mercedes Benz?

ANSWER:B

QUESTION: 04



Though Phil said he would arrive on the 9 19 flight he came instead on the 10 36 flight

- a). Though Phil said he would arrive on the 9 19 flight, he came instead on the 10 36 flight.
- b). Though Phil said he would arrive on the 9:19 flight he came instead on the 10:36 flight
- c). Though Phil said he would arrive on the 9:19 flight, he came instead on the 10:36 flight.
- d). Though Phil said, he would arrive on the 9:19 flight, he came instead on the 10:36 flight?

ANSWER:C



QUESTION: 05



Whoever thought said Helen that Jack would be elected class president

- a) . "Whoever thought said Helen, "that Jack would be elected class president?"
- b) . "Whoever thought," said Helen, that Jack would be elected class president.
- c) . "Whoever thought," said Helen, "that Jack would be elected class president?"
- d) . "Whoever thought, said Helen, "that Jack would be elected class president"

ANSWER:C



In baseball, a show boat is a man who shows off

- a) In baseball, a "show boat" is a man who shows off.
- b) In baseball a show boat , is a man who shows off.
- c) In baseball a "show boat" is a man who shows off?
- d) In baseball, a "show boat" is a man who shows off?

ANSWER:A



QUESTION: 07



The minister quoted Isaiah 5 21 in last Sundays sermon

- a). The minister quoted Isaiah 5:21 in last Sunday's sermon.
- b) . The minister quoted Isaiah 5 21 in last Sundays sermon.
- c). The minister quoted Isaiah 5:21 in last Sundays sermon.
- d). The minister quoted Isaiah 5 21 in last Sunday's sermon?

ANSWER:A

QUESTION: 08



Montaigne wrote the following A wise man never loses anything if he has himse

- a). There was a very interesting article entitled "The New Rage for Folk Singing" in last Sunday's New York Times newspaper
- b). There was a very interesting article entitled "The New Rage for Folk Singing in last Sunday's New York Times newspaper.
- c). There was a very interesting article entitled "The New Rage for Folk Singing" in last Sunday's New York Times newspaper.
- d). There was a very interesting article entitled ,The New Rage for Folk Singing" in last Sunday's New York Times newspaper?

ANSWER:C



Whoever is elected secretary of the club Ashley or Chandra or Aisha must be prepared to do a great deal of work said Jumita the previous secretary

- a). "Whoever is elected secretary of the club Ashley or Chandra or Aisha--must be prepared to do a great deal of work," said Jumita the previous secretary.
- b). Whoever is elected secretary of the club--Ashley, or Chandra, or Aisha--must be prepared to do a great deal of work, said Jumita, the previous secretary.
- c). "Whoever is elected secretary of the club--Ashley, or Chandra, or Aisha--must be prepared to do a great deal of work," said Jumita, the previous secretary.
- d). "Whoever is elected secretary of the club--Ashley, or Chandra, or Aisha--must be prepared to do a great deal of work?" said Jumita the previous

ANSWER:C

QUESTION: 10



Darwins On the Origin of Species 1859 caused a great controversy when it appeared

- a). Darwin's On the Origin of Species (1859) caused a great controversy when it appeared.
- b). Darwins On the Origin of Species ,1859 caused a great controversy when it appeared
- c).. Darwins On the Origin of Species 1859 caused a great controversy when it appeared
- d). Darwin's On the Origin of Species 1859 caused a great controversy when it appeared

ANSWER:A

QUESTION: 11



winston is one of the most laid back people i know he is tall and slim with black hair and he always wears a t shirt and black jeans his jeans have holes in them and his baseball boots are scruffy too he usually sits at the back of the class and he often seems to be asleep however when the exam results are given out he always gets an A i don't think hes as lazy as he appears to be

- a) HYPHEN (-)
- b) PERIOD (.)
- c) COMMA (,)
- d) DOUBLE QUOTATION (“”)
- e) APOSTROPHE (‘)



QUESTION: 11



Winston is one of the most laid-back people I know. He is tall and slim with black hair, and he always wears a t-shirt and black jeans. His jeans have holes in them, and his baseball boots are scruffy, too. He usually sits at the back of the class, and he often seems to be asleep. However, when the exam results are given out he always gets an "A". I don't think he's as lazy as he appears to be.



QUESTION: 12



The fan really wanted to see a great game But it was dull. One nil. His teams striker dived in the box to claim an undeserved penalty His goalkeeper sneakily handled outside the box A midfielder broke an opponents leg But the fans team won so he went home happy.

- a) PERIOD (.)
- b) APOSTROPHE (‘)
- c) COMMA (,)



QUESTION: 12



The fan really wanted to see a great game. But it was dull. One nil. His team's striker dived in the box to claim an undeserved penalty. His goalkeeper sneakily handled outside the box. A midfielder broke an opponent's leg. But the fan's team won, so he went home happy.



QUESTION: 13



Maurice loved his computer and loved internet dating. Very thorough and logical he spent months scoring every respondent out of one thousand cross-referencing virtues and failings writing hundreds of emails analysing their replies Sadly he never had time to go out and meet anyone so he married his computer instead.

- a) COMMA (,)
- b) SEMICOLON (;)
- c) PERIOD (.)

QUESTION: 13



Maurice loved his computer and loved internet dating. Very thorough and logical, he spent months scoring every respondent out of one thousand, cross-referencing virtues and failings; writing hundreds of emails, analysing their replies. Sadly, he never had time to go out and meet anyone, so he married his computer instead.



QUESTION: 14



What a task I've set myself Fifty words Now twenty six different letters
in one sentence that's an easy thing to do the quick brown fox jumps
over the lazy dog But fifty words no more no less that's not so easy I can
t do it I give up Sorry

- a) APOSTROPHE (')
- b) EXCLAMATORY (!)
- c) DOUBLE QUOTATION (“")
- d) PERIOD (.)
- e) COMMA (,)
- f) HYPHEN (-)

QUESTION: 14



What a task I've set myself! Fifty words! Now, twenty-six different letters in one sentence—that's an easy thing to do; "the quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog." But fifty words—no more, no less—that's not so easy. I can't do it! I give up! Sorry!



QUESTION: 15



I was flying with C130 cargo planes for several months moving cargo all over the world I would be gone for two to three weeks home one day then gone again for several weeks. Upon returning home late one night I knocked on our front door Who is it My wife called out Pat I answered Pat who she snarled I got her point and applied for a desk job the next day.

- a) DASH (-)
- b) PERIOD(.)
- c) COMMA (,)
- d) QUESTION MARK (?)
- e) DOUBLE QUOTATION(“)

QUESTION: 15



I was flying with C-130 cargo planes for several months, moving cargo all over the world. I would be gone for two to three weeks, home one day, then gone again for several weeks. Upon returning home late one night, I knocked on our front door. Who is it My wife called out. “Pat,” I answered. “Pat who?” she snarled. I got her point and applied for a desk job the next day.