

Wh-questions part 7 – prepositions

a) Which of these words are prepositions?

at on up for down about
in the after a some with

b) Copy these instructions and examples in your notebook.

How to ask wh-questions when there is a preposition after the verb:

1. Begin your question with a wh-word or phrase that refers to the unknown information.
2. Put the auxiliary verb before the subject, and leave the preposition after the verb (often at the end of the question):

They're searching for a phone number.

What are they searching for?

The boy shouted at his sister from the tree.

Who did the boy shout at from the tree?

3. If the unknown information is the subject, or part of it, use the same word order as in the affirmative structure (S + V):

The government is going to look into the question.

Who is going to look into the question?

IMPORTANT: sometimes a wh- question can begin with a preposition, the same as in Spanish, especially with IN and ON:

In which country do they speak Dutch?

On which platform do we have to wait for the train?

d) Write wh-questions so that the underlined information is the answer.
Use these wh-words:

how much, how many, what (x3), which, who (x3), whose

1. I was talking to my maths teacher.
2. We're waiting for bus number ten.
3. They're talking about the English exam.
4. We're looking at Joan's wedding photographs.
5. I'm looking for three words in the dictionary.
6. I must ask the bank for £2,000.
7. He has to look after his baby sister.
8. She's worried about her biology exam.
9. He's going out with Sarah.
10. The child's playing with a red ball.