
Prepositions

You can use *at*, *on*, *in* to describe the place or position of something like this:

at a point/place: x in an area/space: x on a surface: x

These prepositions form pairs of opposites:

up	↑	down	↓
into	→ → → →	out of	→ → →
over/above	$\frac{x}{x}$	under/below	$\frac{x}{x}$
in front of	$\left \frac{x}{x} \right $	behind	$\left \frac{x}{x} \right $

Many verbs and adjectives are followed by certain prepositions. You should learn these as you meet them, e.g. *listen to*, *wait for*, *good at*

Some verbs have different meanings if they are followed by different prepositions. Always use your dictionary to check them.

Example: look after, look for, look at

a. Fill in the gaps with *at*, *on*, *in*.

- I'll meet you _____ the train station.
- He is British but he lives _____ Italy.
- She sat _____ the bed and read the letter.
- I left my keys _____ home.
- There is a lot of snow _____ the ground _____ our street.
- She is a nurse. She works _____ the General Hospital.
- They live _____ a very nice house _____ the end of the street.
- Is there any milk _____ the fridge?
- Leave the books _____ the desk, please.
- Would you like to sit _____ this table?

b. Underline the correct word(s) to complete the sentence.

- Don't stand *in front of* / *over* me. I can't see.
- We are flying *up* / *over* Paris now. Can you see the Eiffel Tower *behind* / *below* us?
- My flat is on the first floor. There are two more floors *above* / *under* me.
- I was driving *in front of* / *behind* a red car. I could see the rear number plate.
- He took off his clothes and fell *into* / *out of* the water.
- They began walking *up* / *over* the hill. They wanted to visit the castle at the top.

d. This is what someone said to children who had just arrived at a camp. Choose the correct word A, B, C or D to fill in each gap.

"Welcome to Funway Sports Camp. Before you split (1) _____ groups, let me give you some information (2) _____ the plans for this week. During your time here you will take part (3) _____ twelve different sports activities. (4) _____ the mornings there is a planned programme, but we offer you a choice (5) _____ afternoon activities. You need to sign a list before midday today, saying which sport you are interested (6) _____. You will see the list of activities (7) _____ the wall just as you come (8) _____ the changing rooms. Now, clothes. You can wear your tracksuit (9) _____ most sports but remember to bring shorts and a T-shirt as well in case it's hot. Make sure you have two pairs of sports shoes (10) _____ you, too."

Prepositions

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|-----|----------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. | a. from | b. into | c. out of | d. at |
| 2. | a. for | b. to | c. about | d. of |
| 3. | a. into | b. on | c. at | d. in |
| 4. | a. On | b. In | c. At | d. From |
| 5. | a. of | b. for | c. from | d. about |
| 6. | a. about | b. in | c. for | d. after |
| 7. | a. in | b. on | c. over | d. at |
| 8. | a. on | b. up | c. below | d. out of |
| 9. | a. with | b. for | c. in | d. about |
| 10. | a. on | b. for | c. with | d. from |