

A

At, on and in

At a point or place, e.g. I met her **at** the bus stop. He's **at** work at the moment.

On a surface, e.g. The book's **on** the desk. They sat **on** the floor. I put the picture **on** the wall.

In an area, space, or inside something, e.g. He's **in** the kitchen. She lives **in** Warsaw/Poland. The knife's **in** the top drawer.

Common mistakes

I met them **at** the airport. (NOT I met them ~~on~~ the airport.)

There's a computer **on** my desk. (NOT There's a computer ~~in~~ my desk.)

The conference is being held **in** Delhi. (NOT The conference is being held ~~at~~ Delhi.)

B

Where exactly?

I know they live **in** Danvers Street, and I think they're **at** number twenty-three.



I'm sure there's a chemist on the left **before** the bank. [first there is a chemist, and then a bank; *opp after*]



Their house is **beyond** the farm [on the other side of the farm], **by** [near] the old church.



I saw your bike in the back garden **against** the wall. [touching the wall]



They've just bought a house **right** [exactly] **beside/by** [next to] the river.



I found your phone on the sofa **beneath/underneath** a pile of cushions. [under]



Their office is **above** the shop (*opp below*).



You can just see the top of the building **among** the trees. [somewhere in the middle of the trees]

C

Movement

We came **over** the bridge (*opp under*), then **through** the tunnel and **round** the lake.

The mouse ran **out of** the back door (*opp into*), **towards** the gate, then disappeared **down** a hole.



The woman came **after** us [followed in order to catch us], but we managed to climb **into** the back of my dad's van. Fortunately she went **past** the van and didn't see us.

Exercises

90.1 Complete the sentences.

- 1 I put the milk *in* the fridge.
- 2 They live the next road.
- 3 They live 34 Lawrence Street.
- 4 Your clothes are the floor.
- 5 I met her a party.
- 6 She works Moscow.
- 7 The dictionary is my desk.
- 8 I sat the bed and wrote the letter.
- 9 I left my books school.
- 10 There was snow the ground when I arrived.
- 11 The key is my jacket pocket.
- 12 Mausha's work this morning.

90.2 Put the prepositions in the box under the correct picture.

beside towards out of down among into up underneath

1 *down* 3 5 7
 2 4 6 8

90.3 Complete the dialogues so that B says the opposite to A.

- 1 A: Did you go up the hill?
B: No, *down the hill*.
- 2 A: Did you climb over the fence?
B: No, we went
- 3 A: Did you see her get into the car?
B: No, but I saw her
- 4 A: Did you say we had to turn left before the bridge?
B: No, turn left
- 5 A: Does she live in the flat above you?
B: No, she's in the flat
- 6 A: Did you say the bed was in the middle of the room?
B: No, it's the wall.

90.4 Over to you

Answer the questions, and give reasons for your answers. If possible, compare your answers with someone else.

- 1 Is it a good idea to live right beside a hospital?
- 2 Would you like to live above a restaurant?
- 3 Are you happy to drive on icy roads?
- 4 Do you like putting lots of things on your bedroom wall?
- 5 In a plane or train, do you like sitting by the window?
- 6 Would you like to live among lots of rich and famous people?