# 14 Prepositions

36 **Listen and repeat. Then act out.**



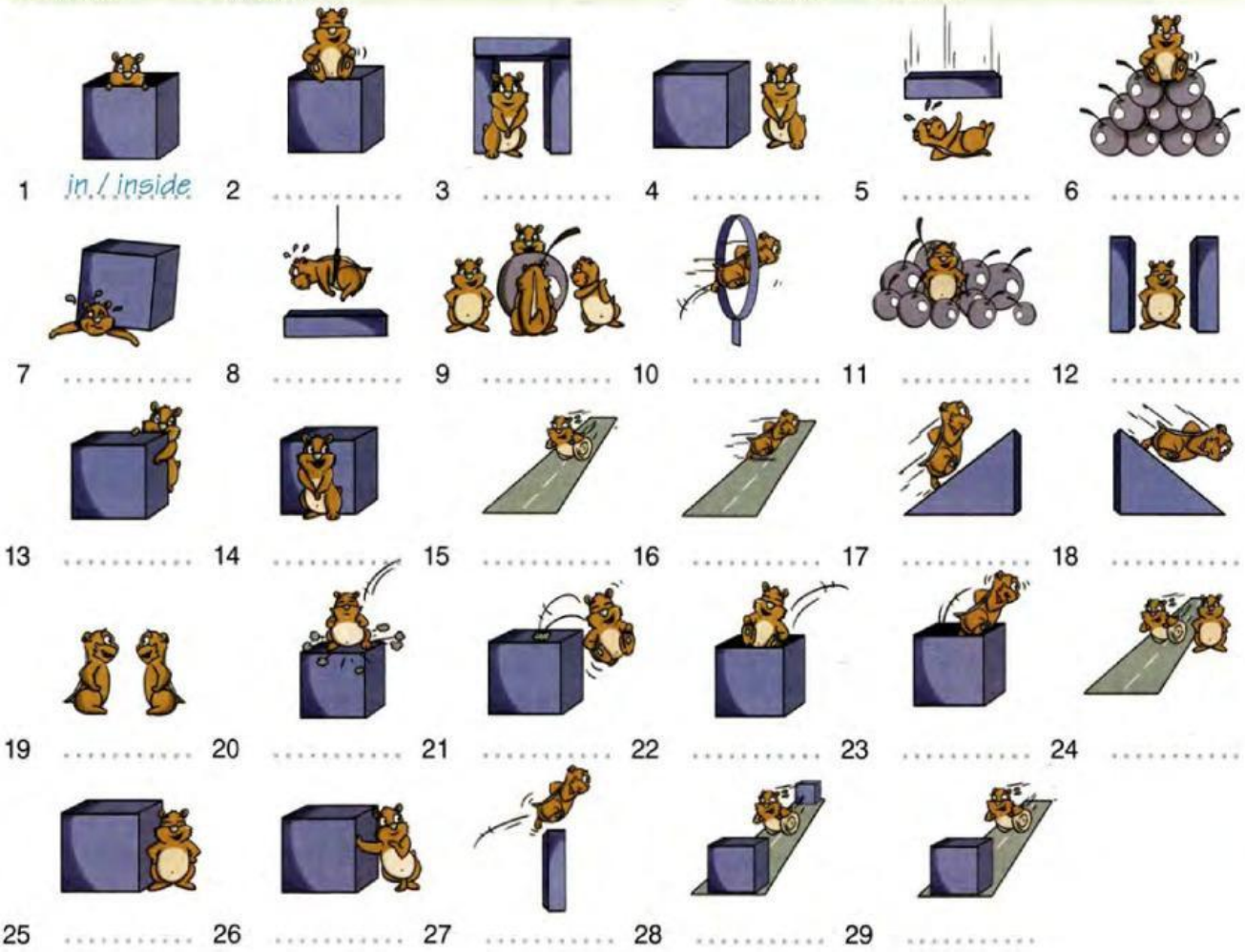

**1** 37 **Match the words with the pictures. Listen and check.**

**Prepositions of Place**

- between
- on top of
- in / inside
- above
- in front of
- outside
- among
- next to / by / beside
- on
- under
- below
- against
- behind
- opposite
- at
- around / round
- near

**Prepositions of Movement**

- off
- down
- over
- past
- up
- across
- into
- from ... to
- through
- along
- onto
- out of
- to / towards / in the direction of



1 in / inside 2 ..... 3 ..... 4 ..... 5 ..... 6 .....

7 ..... 8 ..... 9 ..... 10 ..... 11 ..... 12 .....

13 ..... 14 ..... 15 ..... 16 ..... 17 ..... 18 .....

19 ..... 20 ..... 21 ..... 22 ..... 23 ..... 24 .....

25 ..... 26 ..... 27 ..... 28 ..... 29 .....



LIVEWORKSHEETS

## 2 Look at the picture and fill in the gaps with a suitable preposition from the list.

behind between in front of ~~on~~ (x2) under above



1 There are two cushions ....on.... the sofa.
2 ..... the sofa there is a small table.
3 There is a clock ..... the desk.
4 There is a lamp ..... the two chairs.
5 There is a chair ..... the desk.
6 There are two pictures ..... the walls.
7 There is a carpet ..... the sofa.

## 3 Underline the correct item.

1 A: Look, that circus lion is going to jump **into** / **through** a fire hoop!
B: Wow! How amazing!
2 A: Why are you out of breath James?
B: I've just run **up** / **across** the stairs.
3 A: Have you seen Mrs Peterson?
B: Yes, she's just gone **into** / **along** her office.
4 A: Let's walk **through** / **along** the beach.
B: Great! We can look for seashells.
5 A: Did you see where my ball went?
B: Yes, it went **over** / **up** the fence.
6 A: Where is the nearest bank?
B: It's **towards** / **down** the road to your left.
7 A: You don't expect me to ski **down** / **out of** that hill.
B: Don't be afraid. It will be fun!
8 A: Where's Julia?
B: She's just going **through** / **into** that shop over there.
9 A: Excuse me, how do I get to the train station from here?
B: Just walk straight **through** / **on** the park and you'll find it on the other side.

| | |
|---|---|
| **in** | *cities (London), towns (York), the country, a street, the suburbs, the middle of, the centre of, a queue, a line, a row, a hospital, a hotel, a book, a newspaper, an armchair, danger, the sky, the park*<br>**Idioms with in:** cash, pen, ink, pencil, writing, one's opinion, one's hand, a way, the end |
| **at** | *house number (at 23 Oxford St), home, work, school, university, the station, the bus stop, the airport, the crossroads, the seaside, the door, the match, the bottom of, the top of* (but: *on top of*), *a hotel, a table, a desk* |
| **on** | *the floor, the outskirts, a platform, foot, the streets, the way, the pavement, a wall, rivers (the River Seine), the border, a farm, the screen, an island, a beach, the coast, the right, the left, a trip, the menu*<br>**Idioms with on:** holiday, business, a journey, a trip, TV, the radio, the phone, the market *(= available to the public)*, purpose, the way *(= as I was going)* |
| **by** | *bus, taxi, car, helicopter, plane, train, coach, ship boat, air, sea*<br>BUT we say: *on a / the bus, plane, train, coach, ship, boat in a taxi, car, helicopter, plane*<br>**Idioms with by:** mistake, accident, chance |

**Compare :** *Tom is sitting* ***in*** *the café.* (He's inside the place). *He's* ***at*** *the café.* (He's drinking something).



LIVEWORKSHEETS

# 14 Prepositions

## 4 Fill in the correct preposition: *on*, *in* or *at*.

1 We spent the whole day ...at... the seaside.
2 Patty is ..... holiday until next week.
3 Meet me ..... the café ..... Fleet Street.
4 Tom is holding a shiny gold coin ..... his hand.
5 Today Helen had to go to school ..... foot.
6 Fred lives ..... 38 Franklin Road.
7 My brother is still ..... school and my sister is ..... the bus coming home.
8 Will you pay by credit card or ..... cash?
9 Is your favourite Mexican dish ..... the menu?
10 This is my class photo. I'm the one ..... the middle of the second row.

## 5 Look at the picture. Read the text and underline the correct preposition.



### I Love Skateboarding!

Hi! I'm Marco and that's me 1) **on** / **in** my skateboard. I'm flying 2) **towards** / **through** the air which feels great. I'm holding my hands 3) **up** / **near** to keep my balance. There are stairs 4) **opposite** / **below** me but I'm not afraid. I like jumping 5) **along** / **over** stairs. The blue sky is 6) **above** / **beside** me and I feel like a bird. I love skateboarding!



## Speaking Activity

**Find a picture. Describe it. Use *prepositions of place* and *movement*.**

### Prepositions of Time

| At | In | On |
|---|---|---|
| **at + clock time** *(**at** 10:30, **at** noon, **at** night, **at** midnight)*<br>**at + meal time** *(**at** lunch, **at** dinner, **at** breakfast)*<br>**Phrases:** ***at** that time, **at** the moment, **at** the weekend*<br>**BUT *on*** *the weekend: American English* | **in + part of day** *(**in the** morning, **in the** evening, **in the** afternoon, **in the** night)*<br>**in + month / season / year** *(**in** January, **in** (the) winter, **in** 2002, **in** the nineteenth century*<br>**Phrases:** ***in** two hours*<br>***in** a week / few days / month / year* | **on + day** *(**on** Monday, **on** New Year's Day)*<br>**on + date** *(**on** July 30th)*<br>**on + season / day + part of day**<br>*(**on** a summer afternoon, **on** Friday night)* |

**We never use *at*, *in* or *on* before *yesterday*, *tomorrow*, *tonight*, *next*, *this*, *last*, *every*.**
*He's leaving **next** Sunday.*



LIVEWORKSHEETS

## 6 Fill in the gaps with *in*, *on* or *at* and one of the phrases from the list.

- ~~seven o'clock~~
- Friday morning
- a hot day
- a few minutes
- September
- 1945
- the eighteenth century
- May 3rd

1 Don't be late. The play starts *at seven o'clock*.
2 The plane will be landing ..... .
Please fasten your seatbelts.
3 I like going to the beach ..... .
4 My parents' anniversary is ....., the same day as my birthday!
5 School starts ..... after the summer holidays.
6 Life was very difficult ..... .
7 My dentist appointment is ..... before I start work.
8 My grandmother was born ..... .

## 7 Fill in the gaps with the correct prepositions.



*Dear Roger,*

*How are you? I'm having an amazing time here 1) ...at.... sports camp. I got here 2) ..... Tuesday and I have already made many new friends.*

*The camp is 3) ..... the seaside in Cornwall. It's so beautiful here 4) ..... the countryside. There are many activities to try such as tennis, football and volleyball. You can even go swimming 5) ..... the sea, too!*

*6) ..... the weekend, I'll be taking a horse-riding lesson for the first time. I'm excited but I hope I don't fall 7) ..... the horse. We are going to ride 8) ..... the camp 9) ..... the beach and back again. Maybe after a few lessons we will go 10) ..... the woods and try other places, too. I can't wait to meet my horse. I will send you some pictures if I can!*

*Write back soon and tell me about your summer camp.*

*Greg*

### Time Words

**for: is used to express a period of time** *She has been here* ***for*** *two weeks.*
**since: is used with Present Perfect to express a starting point** *He has been here* ***since*** *Monday.*

## 8 Fill in: *for* or *since*.

1 They haven't seen each other ....*for*..... a long time.
2 He's been on holiday ..... last Monday.
3 I've been learning Chinese ..... the last three years.
4 They've been married ..... 1998.

**ago: back in time from now** *She met Steve a week* ***ago****. (a week back in time from now)*
**before: back in time from then** *She sent me a letter last week. I had written to her a month* ***before****. (a month before last week when she sent me her letter)*

## 9 Fill in: *ago* or *before*.

1 Nina, are you sure we haven't seen this film ....*before*.... ?
2 Jennifer took up swimming three months ..... .
3 Sarah received a call from May a little while ..... .
4 Ali started work last year. He had graduated two years ..... .



LIVEWORKSHEETS

# 14 Prepositions

**yet: by this time** *Have you seen Ann **yet**? I haven't seen her **yet**.*
**already: before now** *I've **already** posted the invitations to the party. Have you **already** finished your homework? I've cooked dinner **already**.*
**still: emphasises continuity** *He's **still** working on his essay. I **still** care about him, despite what he did.*

## 10 Fill in: *yet*, *still* or *already*.

Gerry: Have you been to the bank 1) ..... *yet* ..... ?
June: No. I've 2) ..... told you, I'm 3) ..... waiting for my cheque.
Gerry: Haven't you received it 4) ..... ? Why don't you phone your parents?
June: I've 5) ..... called my dad. He says it'll take a few more days.

**on time: not late / at the right time** *The train left **on time**. (not earlier or later than the stated time)*
**in time: early enough to do something or for something** *He was **in time** for the 5 o'clock train. (some time before 5 o'clock)*

## 11 Fill in: *on time* or *in time*.

1 Beth is never late. She always gets to school ...*on time*... .
2 You can visit Bob but make sure you're home ..... for supper.
3 The performance must start ..... .
4 I got home just ..... to see my favourite game show.

**during (prep) + noun: from the beginning to the end of a period of time** ***During*** *the summer he worked as a waiter in a restaurant.*
**while (conj) + clause: when, during the time that** ***While*** *she was on holiday, she sent me a postcard.*

## 12 Fill in: *during* or *while*.



We visited a few tropical islands in the Caribbean 1) ...*during*... our summer holidays last year. My parents spent most of their time sunbathing on the beach 2) ..... I was windsurfing. 3) ..... a boat trip from St Lucia to Barbados there was a terrible storm. My mother and I were seasick 4) ..... the trip 5) ..... my father and the captain were trying to steer the boat.

**by (prep): any time before and not later than** *You must be back **by** 12:00. (not later than 12:00)*
**by the time: before** *They had finished packing **by the time** the taxi came. (before the taxi came)*
**until / till (conj): up to the time when** *She was at work **until / till** 3:30. (up to 3:30, not later than 3:30)*
***Till / Until* can be used in the negative with verbs that show a point in time** *(e.g. leave, finish, start ...).*
**Compare:** *He won't start working **until** Friday. (on Friday, not before that) He won't have started working **by** Friday. (He won't begin till after Friday.)*
**at: exactly at a stated time** *She'll be back **at** 9:00. (9:00 sharp)*


LIVEWORKSHEETS

## 13 Fill in: *by, by the time, until / till* or *at*.



When I went out last Saturday, I told my father I'd be back 1) ...*by*... 11 o'clock at the latest. However, I was having such a good time that I didn't even look at my watch 2) ..... 12 o'clock! 3) ..... I found a taxi to take me home it was already 1 o'clock and I finally arrived home 4) ..... 2 o'clock. My parents were furious and told me I'd have to be home 5) ..... 7 o'clock every night of the week 6) ..... the end of the month!

- **within (prep): before the end of** *You must finish this project* ***within*** *a week. (in a week's time)*
- **after (prep/conj): following sth in time** *You can watch TV* ***after*** *you've tidied your room.*
- **afterwards (adv): then, after that** *He went for a walk* ***afterwards.***
- **from ... to / till / until:** *The restaurant serves customers* ***from*** *12:00* ***to*** *8:00 pm.*

## 14 Fill in: *within, after, afterwards* or *from ... to / until / till*.

Dear Lucy,

I'm so worried! My Science teacher gave us a project to finish 1) ...*within*... a week and I haven't started it yet. I was planning to start it 2) ..... dinner on Tuesday but my friends invited me to the cinema. Then on Wednesday Fran begged me to go shopping with her. She didn't tell me we were going to a party 3) .....! We stayed at the party 4) ..... 8 o'clock 5) ..... 11, so naturally I was exhausted when I got home.

Now it's Thursday and my project is due tomorrow at 2 pm. If I don't finish it, then my teacher will probably make me stay 6) ..... school.

Wish me luck,

Jen

- **at the beginning (of): at the point / time sth starts** *There's a contents page* ***at the beginning of*** *the book.*
- **in the beginning: at first, originally** *I found computer programming difficult* ***in the beginning.***
- **at the end (of): at the point / time sth finishes** *There is a revision section* ***at the end of*** *the book.*
- **in the end: eventually** *We were thinking about going to Germany but* ***in the end*** *we went to Austria.*

## 15 Fill in with: *at the beginning, at the end, in the beginning*, or *in the end*.

1 There's a short poem ...*at the beginning*... of every unit.

2 We were planning to go to a dinner party but ..... we decided to stay home.

3 Stella didn't know anyone ..... but then she made a lot of friends.

4 ..... of the day Sarah likes to relax with a good book.



LIVEWORKSHEETS