

# PREPOSITION EXERCISES

Draw a circle around the correct preposition in parentheses in the exercises below:

(A) Place or Position or Direction

1. Do you live (at, **on**) Bay Street (**in**, on) Newport?
2. I hung the picture (**above**, on) the fireplace.
3. She walked (in, **into**) the kitchen and put her packages (**on**, over) the table.
4. Is Jane (**at**, in) home? No, she is (on, **at**) the library.
5. Mary is sitting (in, **on**) the sofa (at, **in**) the living room.
6. Michigan is situated (in, **between**) Lake Michigan and Lake Huron.
7. While waiting for my train, I took a walk (**around**, across) the station.
8. A formation of twelve airplanes flew (**over**, on top of) our house.
9. The artist spends many hours (**in**, on) his studio (**on**, at) 50 Charles Street.
10. John found a note pinned (in, **on**) his door which said: "Meet me (**at**, in) the corner of Pine and Fifth Streets."
11. The Blake family lives (at, **on**) Third Street (**in**, on) Cleveland, Ohio.
12. Don't forget to put your return address (in, **on**) the envelope.
13. He sat (**near**, against) the camp fire.
14. Mr. Flanagan, who is (**from**, of) Ireland, is staying (**at**, to) his sister's home in Boston.
15. Someone has spilled ink (in, **on**) this rug and has burned a hole (**in**, on) that one.
16. The door was locked; so I shoved the letter (**under**, around) the door.
17. He piled the books (above, **on top of**) the table.
18. He arrived (**in**, at) Switzerland last week.
19. You are ahead of me. Your name is (above, **at the top of**) the list.
20. Your score on the examination is well (**above**, over) average.

**(B) Time**

1. Does the movie begin (**at**, on) 6:30? No, it will not begin (**until**, for) 9:00; so do not arrive (**before**, by) that time.
2. He asked me to come (**at**, in) noon.
3. We will go to Florida (since, **during**) the month of January.
4. The stores stay open (**on**, in) Mondays (**until**, for) 9:00p.m.
5. Mary has been in the United States (**for**, during) a year.
6. John has lived in France (**for**, since) two years.
7. I read (**for**, during) three hours, (at, **from**) 9:00p.m. (**until**, by) 12:00.
8. Did you meet Mr. Green (at, **during**) your stay in Savannah?
9. No, I did not see him because I was there (**for**, during) only two hours.
10. The train is (**on**, in) time. It will arrive (**in**, by) three hours.
11. Is your birthday (**in**, on) April? Mine is (in, **on**) April 7.
12. Come (**by**, on) 8:00 if you can; no one will be seated at the theater (**after**, since) 8:30.
13. I try to get to school (in, **on**) time to have a cup of coffee before my first class.
14. He will leave for Thailand (**at**, in) the end of August. There will be a farewell party for him (in, **on**) the twentieth of August.
15. Columbus discovered America (**in**, on) 1492.
16. The projector broke down twice (for, **during**) the showing of the film.
17. He had been waiting here (during, **since**) noon.
18. I received my bill (to, **in**) the middle of the month.
19. Can you be ready (**by**, on) six o'clock?
20. We plan to finish this project (**around**, until) the first of the year.

(C) Miscellaneous

1. We accept your kind invitation (by, **with**) pleasure.
2. I should like to read that book (**by**, of) Ernest Hemingway.
3. These oranges are sold (of, **by**) the dozen.
4. The door (**of**, at) the house is painted red.
5. He says he can communicate (**by**, of) mental telepathy.
6. Always sign important papers (by, **in**) ink.
7. Would you rather write (by, **with**) a pen or pencil?
8. Over one-third (**of**, in) the oranges are spoiled.
9. The first speech will be given (**by**, of) Mr. Steele.
10. Do you like to travel (**by**, in) bus?
11. He toured the country (**in**, by) a station wagon.
12. How would you like to go (by, **with**) us (by, **in**) our car?
13. This liquid smells (**like**, as) turpentine.
14. This cake is (**for**, to) lunch.
15. We always buy olive oil (of, **by**) the gallon.
16. The sound (**of**, by) rain lulls me to sleep.
17. It looks (**like**, as) a nice day.
18. It will take four yards (**of**, by) material to make this dress.
19. He always speaks (**in**, by) a loud voice.
20. Stanley took a temporary job (**as**, like) a chauffeur.

**Draw a circle around the correct preposition in parentheses in the following paragraphs:**

1. John Doe, who graduated (of, **from**) the University of North Carolina two years ago, is now doing graduate work (**in**, on) engineering (**at**, to) Georgia Tech. He expects to receive his Master's degree (**by**, in) next June. After that, he plans to accept a job (**as**, like) a technician (by, **with**) an oil company (**in**, at) South America.

2. Jim was walking (**across**, over) the campus (in, **at**) noon when he met a friend whom he had not seen (**since**, during) summer. They stopped (**in front of**, around) the gymnasium and sat down (in, **on**) the steps. After they had talked (**for**, during) about ten minutes, Jim said, "I must go (toward, **to**) Jefferson Hall this semester. Why don't you drop by some afternoon (over, **after**) classes?"

3. Mr. Hill arrived in New York (**on**, in) May 10 (**at**, on) eight o'clock (**in**, on) the evening. He decided to call on his uncle who lived (**on**, in) Fifth Avenue. He got on a bus (**at**, of) the station and put his fare (on, **into**) the farebox. The bus was very crowded, so Mr. Hill had to stand up all the way.

When he reached 85th Street, Mr. Hill got off the bus and walked a short distance (in, **to**) the apartment building (**in**, of) which his uncle lived. He knocked (**at**, in) the door (**of**, on) his uncle's apartment. He waited (**for**, during) a few minutes, but no one came (**to**, at) the door. He was disappointed to find no one (to, **at**) home. He didn't know where to go because his uncle had promised to reserve a room for him (**at**, by) a downtown hotel. He saw a bench (**at**, to) the end of the hall, and he sat down (**on**, in) it to wait for his uncle.

**Insert an appropriate preposition in the blanks in the following sentences:**

1. They arrived **in** Bombay **at** 8:00p.m. **on** July 30.
2. Charles lives **on** College Avenue **in** an apartment.
3. Phoenix is located **in** the state **of** Arizona.
4. John asked me to go **with** him to buy a pair **of** shoes.
5. Put a pad **under** the hot dish to protect the table.
6. Mr. Walker has **on** a grey suit today.
7. This story was written **by** Conan Doyle.
8. My aunt stayed at our house **for** two weeks.
9. Mary is a good housekeeper; she always sweeps **under** the bed.
10. They had to drive **around** the block four times before they found a parking place.

11. There is an ink spot **on** the collar **of** your shirt.
12. Please write **in** ink, and don't forget to write **above** every other line.
13. Did you receive a letter **from** your brother yesterday?
14. The bus will not leave **for** fifteen minutes.
15. Elections are held **on** the first Tuesday **of** November.
16. Maximo always entertains us **with** stories of his experiences.
17. Does this bus go **to** Central City?
18. Mr. And Mrs. Simpson have lived **in** Chesnut Street **for** six years.
19. Dr. Parks has been living **in** Mobile **during** October. His home is **there**.
20. He dived **into** the lake and swam **to** the boat.

**Fill in the blanks with the appropriate preposition in the following paragraphs.**

1. Would you please tell me how to get **to** the baseball park?  
Certainly. You go down Arch Street two blocks and turn left **on** King Street. Stay **on** King Street **for** about two miles. You will go **to** a bridge and **through** a tunnel. You will come to Ocean Avenue about four blocks after you leave the tunnel. Turn right **on** Ocean Avenue, and **in** the middle of the block you will see the main entrance **of** the ball park. I would suggest that you drive your car **to** the block and park **in** the parking lot behind the field.
2. **On** June 13 the Circle Players will open **at** Star Theater a revival **of** George Bernard Shaw's play, Major Barbara. When the play opened **in** Philadelphia a week ago, the critics gave the Circle Players enthusiastic reviews. Good reviews are not unusual for the Circle Players, who have thrilled audiences **with** their performances **for** the past decade. In fact, they were so loudly acclaimed **in** London for their performance of Major Barbara that the play ran **for** three years. Tickets are now on sale **in** the box office **at** the Star Theatre **during** the three week engagement. There will be a performance every night, except Sunday **at** 8:30p.m., and a matinee **on** Wednesday and Saturday **at** 2:30p.m. Reservations may be made **by** mail or telephone.