PREPOSITIONS

Definition:

A **preposition** is a word placed before a **noun** or **pronoun** to show its relation to another word in the sentence.

Example:

- The cat is **under** the table.
- She arrived **after** the meeting.

Types of Prepositions:

1. Prepositions of Place/Position

Show the location or position of something.

- at a specific point *She is at the door.*
- **on** a surface

 The book is **on** the table.
- **in** an enclosed space *He is in the room.*
- under, above, behind, between, over

2. Prepositions of Time

Indicate time or when something happens.

- at specific time (at 5 p.m.)
- on specific day/date (on Monday, on 1st June)
- in months, years, centuries, long periods (in 2025, in June)
- **since** from a point of time till now (since 2020)
- **for** duration (for 2 hours)
- before, after, during, by, till, until

3. Prepositions of Direction/Movement

Show movement from one place to another.

• **to** – movement towards a specific direction *He went to school.*

- **into** movement inside something *She walked into the room.*
- onto, out of, off, from, towards

4. Prepositions of Cause/Reason

Show cause, reason, or purpose.

• because of, due to, owing to, thanks to The flight was delayed due to bad weather.

5. Prepositions of Manner/Instrument/Agent

Indicate the manner, means, or instrument used.

- **by** agent (The letter was written **by** her.)
- with instrument or tool (He cut it with a knife.)
- like, as, without

Compound Prepositions

Formed by prefixing a simple preposition with a noun, adjective, or adverb:

• according to, ahead of, because of, due to, in spite of, out of, on account of

Phrase Prepositions (Prepositional Phrases)

Group of words used as a preposition.

• In addition to, with regard to, in front of, by means of, in place of

Rules of Prepositions:

- 1. A preposition is always followed by a **noun** or **pronoun** (not a verb).
 - He is interested in music.
 - \circ X He is interested in play. \rightarrow should be in playing.
- 2. Don't use **prepositions at the end** unnecessarily in formal writing.
 - o Informal: This is the book I was looking **for**.
 - o Formal: This is the book **for which** I was looking.
- 3. Use "in" for months, years, cities/countries; use "at" for exact places/time.
 - o She lives in Delhi.

Solution Preposition Combinations:

Verb + Preposition Meaning/Example

listen **to** I listen **to** music daily.

depend on It depends **on** the weather.

agree with I agree with your idea.

believe in She believes **in** hard work.

Example **Adjective + Preposition**

He is afraid of snakes. afraid of

good at She is good at painting.

interested in They are interested in chess.

😂 Preposition vs. Adverb:

Some words can be both prepositions and adverbs depending on usage.

- **Preposition**: She walked **up** the stairs. (followed by object)
- **Adverb**: She stood **up** quickly. (no object)

Practice Sentences (Fill in the blanks):

- 1. The dog is hiding ___ the bed. (under)
- 2. We have class ___ Monday. (on)
- 3. He came ___ a poor family. (from)
- 4. They reached the station ____ time. (on)
- 5. This letter is written ___ pen. (with)

Passage 1: A Visit to the Zoo

It was a bright sunny day when we decided to go (1) the zoo. We arrived (2) 10 a.m. and waited (3) the gate for our guide. The children were excited to look (4) the animals. We walked (5) different enclosures, taking photos and reading about each animal.

Options & Answers:

Blank	Answer	Options
(1)	to	(a) in (b) to (c) on (d) at
(2)	at	(a) at (b) on (c) in (d) to
(3)	at	(a) for (b) at (c) in (d) on
(4)	at	(a) over (b) to (c) at (d) onto
(5)	through	(a) across (b) through (c) between (d) by

Passage 2: A Day at School

I reached school (1) time and went directly (2) my classroom. The teacher was already there, standing (3) the blackboard. We sat (4) our seats and opened our books. The first lesson was (5) mathematics.

Options & Answers:

Blank	Answer	Options
(1)	on	(a) in (b) on (c) at (d) of
(2)	to	(a) to (b) into (c) at (d) over
(3)	near	(a) above (b) under (c) near (d) behind
(4)	in	(a) on (b) at (c) over (d) in
(5)	on	(a) in (b) of (c) on (d) at

Passage 3: A Rainy Evening

Yesterday, it started raining heavily (1) the evening. I was stuck (2) the bus stop without an umbrella. The wind blew (3) my face, and I shivered (4) the cold. After 30 minutes, I finally got a taxi and went (5) home.

Options & Answers:

Blank	Answer	Options
(1)	in	(a) on (b) in (c) at (d) over
(2)	at	(a) at (b) in (c) on (d) to
(3)	against	(a) on (b) over (c) against (d) for
(4)	in	(a) by (b) in (c) from (d) of

Blank	Answer	Option	ns		
(5)	back	(a) at	(b) to	(c) for	(d) back

Passage 4: Holiday at the Beach

We stayed (1) a beautiful resort (2) the beach. Every morning, we went (3) a walk and collected shells. The sun rose (4) the sea, painting the sky in shades of orange. We returned (5) our room before breakfast.

Options & Answers:

Blank	Answer	Options
(1)	at	(a) in (b) at (c) on (d) into
(2)	by	(a) in (b) on (c) by (d) with
(3)	for	(a) to (b) on (c) at (d) for
(4)	over	(a) over (b) under (c) across (d) on
(5)	to	(a) into (b) by (c) to (d) at

Passage 5: At the Library

Ravi sat quietly (1) a corner of the library, reading a novel. He had been there (2) two hours. Suddenly, he heard someone calling him (3) the hallway. He looked (4) his book and saw his friend waving. He kept the book back (5) the shelf and walked out.

Options & Answers:

Blank	Answer	Options
(1)	in	(a) on (b) in (c) at (d) by
(2)	for	(a) since (b) during (c) for (d) at
(3)	from	(a) at (b) from (c) by (d) on
(4)	up	(a) out (b) up (c) off (d) at
(5)	on	(a) at (b) to (c) in (d) on

✓ 1. Against

Meaning: In opposition to; touching or leaning on something.

Uses & Examples:

• Opposition:

She voted against the proposal.

• Touching / Leant on:

He was standing against the wall.

Physical force:

The wind was blowing against the windows.

2. Among

Meaning: Used when talking about more than two people or things.

Uses & Examples:

• Group (more than two):

She shared the sweets **among** her friends. There is a spy **among** us.

• Distribution in a group:

Divide the money among the team members.

Tip: Use "among" when referring to more than two.

✓ 3. Between

Meaning: In the middle of two things or people (sometimes more, when distinct individuals are involved).

Uses & Examples:

Two people/things:

The ball is **between** the two boxes. They shared the cake **between** them.

Comparison:

There is a big difference between English and Spanish.

Tip: Use "between" for **two**, or for a **clear distinction** among more.

✓ 4. By

Meaning: Used to show the doer of an action, means of something, or proximity.

Uses & Examples:

Agent (doer):

The poem was written by Rabindranath Tagore.

• Means/Method:

He came **by** car. We traveled **by** train.

• Near/Close to:

She sat **by** *the window.*

Time (deadline):

Submit your homework by Friday.

Summary Table:

Preposition	Meaning	Example
Against	Opposition / Contact	He fought against the enemy.
Among	In a group (more than 2)	Divide the apples among the kids.
Between	In the middle of two / distinct	Sit between John and Sarah.
Ву	Agent / Means / Near / Time	The book was written by her.

Passage 1: School Debate Competition

A debate was held (1) two top schools in the city. The motion was **against** the use of mobile phones in classrooms. The audience was seated (2) the participants. Each speaker was judged (3) a panel of experts. Finally, the trophy was shared (4) the two teams as it was a tie.

Options:

- 1. (a) among (b) between (c) by (d) against
- 2. (a) between (b) against (c) among (d) by
- 3. (a) by (b) among (c) between (d) against
- 4. (a) among (b) between (c) by (d) at

Answers:

- 1. **(b)** between
- 2. **(c)** among
- 3. **(a) by**
- 4. (b) between

Passage 2: A Case of Justice

The lawyer argued fiercely (1) the false accusations made (2) his client. The evidence was examined carefully (3) the jury. In the end, the judgment was passed (4) the judge after hours of discussion.

Options:

- 1. (a) by (b) against (c) among (d) between
- 2. (a) against (b) between (c) by (d) among
- 3. (a) by (b) between (c) among (d) against
- 4. (a) between (b) among (c) against (d) by

Answers:

- 1. **(b)** against
- 2. (a) against
- 3. **(c) among**
- 4. **(d)** by

Passage 3: Friendship and Choices

Life is full of choices. Often, we find ourselves torn (1) two equally tempting paths. Good friends help us decide and support us even when the world is (2) us. True friendship shines (3) the challenges, not just in happiness. A friend who stands (4) you is rare and valuable.

Options:

- 1. (a) between (b) among (c) by (d) against
- 2. (a) against (b) by (c) among (d) between
- 3. (a) by (b) among (c) against (d) between
- 4. (a) by (b) against (c) among (d) with

✓ Answers:

- 1. (a) between
- 2. (a) against
- 3. **(b)** among
- 4. (d) with

Passage 4: A Famous Discovery

The Nobel Prize was awarded (1) the scientist who discovered a cure for the disease. The discovery was made (2) years of research. There was strong competition (3) research teams, but this scientist stood out (4) the rest.

Options:

- 1. (a) among (b) between (c) by (d) to
- 2. (a) by (b) between (c) among (d) after

- 3. (a) among (b) between (c) against (d) by
- 4. (a) by (b) among (c) between (d) against

Answers:

- 1. **(d)** to
- 2. **(a) by**
- 3. **(b)** between
- 4. **(b)** among

Passage 5: Teamwork at Its Best

There was complete unity (1) the group. The success of the project was not due to one person but shared (2) all. Even when challenges came (3) them, they supported each other. It was hard to choose the leader (4) them because everyone contributed equally.

Options:

- 1. (a) between (b) among (c) by (d) against
- 2. (a) by (b) to (c) among (d) between
- 3. (a) by (b) among (c) against (d) between
- 4. (a) by (b) among (c) against (d) between

Answers:

- 1. **(b)** among
- 2. **(c)** among
- 3. (c) against
- 4. (d) between

✓ 1. In

Meaning: Inside a space, within time, or part of something.

Examples:

- The keys are **in** my bag. (inside)
- I was born **in** June. (time)
- She lives **in** India. (place)

2. At

Meaning: Exact time, specific place or event.

Examples:

- We will meet at 5 p.m. (exact time)
- He is at the door. (specific place)
- She is at the party. (event)

✓ 3. On

Meaning: Surface of something, specific days or dates.

Examples:

- The book is **on** the table. (surface)
- My birthday is **on** Monday. (day)
- There's a stain **on** your shirt. (surface contact)

✓ 4. For

Meaning: Purpose, benefit, duration, or recipient.

Examples:

- This gift is **for** you. (recipient)
- I bought this **for** ₹100. (exchange)
- She waited **for** two hours. (duration)
- A pen is used **for** writing. (purpose)

✓ 5. Of

Meaning: Shows belonging, connection, amount, or type.

Examples:

- A glass **of** water. (quantity)
- The color **of** the sky is blue. (belonging)
- She is the mother **of** three kids. (relationship)

6. From

Meaning: Origin, point of time, or source.

Examples:

- I came **from** Delhi. (origin)
- He borrowed a pen **from** me. (source)
- She has been working here **from** 2010. (starting time)

Summary Table:

Preposition	Use Type	Example
In	Inside/Month/Country	I live in Mumbai.
At	Specific Place/Time	We met at the station.
On	Surface/Day/Date	It's on the wall.
For	Purpose/Recipient/Duration	This is for you.
Of	Belonging/Quantity	A piece of cake.
From	Origin/Source/Start	She came from school.

Passage 1: A Day at the Market

Yesterday, I went (1) the market to buy vegetables. I saw a crowd gathered (2) a stall. They were waiting (3) fresh fruits to arrive. I found a bag (4) apples and bought it. Then I returned home (5) a friend's car.

Options:

- 1. (a) in (b) at (c) to (d) on
- 2. (a) at (b) in (c) on (d) from
- 3. (a) in (b) for (c) on (d) at
- 4. (a) from (b) for (c) of (d) in
- 5. (a) on (b) by (c) in (d) from

✓ Answers:

- 1. (c) to
- 2. (a) at
- 3. **(b) for**
- 4. **(c)** of
- 5. **(d) from**

Passage 2: At the Library

Rita was sitting quietly (1) the corner, reading a book (2) science. She found the information very useful (3) her project. She noted everything (4) her notebook. Then she borrowed a book (5) the librarian.

Options:

- 1. (a) at (b) in (c) on (d) from
- 2. (a) of (b) from (c) in (d) on
- 3. (a) for (b) of (c) from (d) at
- 4. (a) in (b) from (c) on (d) of
- 5. (a) to (b) at (c) from (d) of

Answers:

- 1. **(b) in**
- 2. **(a) of**
- 3. **(a) for**
- 4. (a) in
- 5. **(c) from**

Passage 3: Birthday Surprise

My birthday is (1) 12th July. This year, my parents planned a surprise party (2) me. All my friends arrived (3) time and gathered (4) the hall. I received a lot (5) gifts and cards.

Options:

- 1. (a) in (b) on (c) at (d) of
- 2. (a) at (b) for (c) of (d) to
- 3. (a) on (b) by (c) in (d) at
- 4. (a) in (b) on (c) at (d) from
- 5. (a) of (b) from (c) for (d) in

Answers:

- 1. **(b)** on
- 2. **(b)** for
- 3. **(a) on**
- 4. **(c)** at
- 5. **(a) of**

Passage 4: Studying Abroad

Aman is studying (1) Canada. He is enrolled (2) a computer science course. He received a scholarship (3) the university. He lives (4) a small town near Toronto and learns a lot (5) his professors.

Options:

- 1. (a) at (b) on (c) in (d) from
- 2. (a) for (b) in (c) at (d) on
- 3. (a) from (b) of (c) by (d) for
- 4. (a) at (b) in (c) on (d) of
- 5. (a) for (b) from (c) by (d) of

Answers:

- 1. **(c) in**
- 2. **(b) in**
- 3. **(a) from**
- 4. **(b)** in
- 5. **(b) from**

Passage 5: Mobile Phone Use

Mobile phones have become an important part (1) our lives. We use them (2) communication, learning, and entertainment. But using phones constantly (3) long hours can be harmful. Students should keep their phones away while studying and only use them (4) useful purposes. A balance must be maintained (5) screen time and real-world activity.

Options:

- 1. (a) in (b) of (c) for (d) from
- 2. (a) at (b) for (c) from (d) of
- 3. (a) for (b) at (c) on (d) in
- 4. (a) for (b) on (c) at (d) from
- 5. (a) of (b) between (c) from (d) among

Answers:

- 1. **(b)** of
- 2. **(b)** for
- 3. **(a) for**
- 4. (a) for
- 5. **(b)** between
- **6.** Correct/Incorrect Preposition Questions

No.	Sentence	Correct/Incorrect	Explanation
1.	She is in the kitchen.	Correct	"In" is used for enclosed spaces.
2.	He is sitting at the chair.	X Incorrect	Should be " on the chair" – we sit on something.
3.	The book is on the table.	Correct	"On" is used for surfaces.
4.	I was born in July.	Correct	"In" is used with months and years.
5.	She arrived on the airport.	X Incorrect	Should be "at the airport" – use "at" for points/locations.
6.	We are going to school.	Correct	"To" shows direction/movement.
7.	He came from America.	Correct	"From" shows origin.
8.	This pen is of me.	X Incorrect	Should be " for me" – "for" shows intended recipient.
9.	She lives at MG Road.	Correct	"At" is used for specific addresses/points.
10.	The painting was made by her.	Correct	"By" is used for the doer/agent of an action.
11.	There's a crack at the wall.	X Incorrect	Should be " in the wall" – "in" is used for something inside.
12.	He waited for two hours.	Correct	"For" is used for duration.
13.	The cat is hiding under the bed.	✓ Correct	"Under" shows position beneath something.
14.	The class starts on 9 a.m.	X Incorrect	Should be "at 9 a.m." – "at" is used for exact time.
15.	She is interested in music.	✓ Correct	"In" is used after "interested".
16.	I will meet you on Sunday.	Correct	"On" is used for days and dates.
17.	They live on Delhi.	X Incorrect	Should be " in Delhi" – "in" is used for cities and countries.
18.	This letter is for you.	Correct	"For" shows the intended recipient.
19.	He is good at drawing.	✓ Correct	"At" follows "good" when referring to skills.
20.	He borrowed a pencil of me.	X Incorrect	Should be " from me" – use "from" for the source.

Top 20 Correct/Incorrect Preposition PYQs

No	. Sentence	Correct / Incorrect	Explanation
1	We will meet at 5 o'clock.	Correct	Use at for specific time.
2	The festival is celebrated in October.	Correct	Use in for months.
3	He is sitting on the chair.	Correct	Use on for surfaces, including furniture.
4	The children play at the park every evening.	X Incorrect	Correct: in the park — parks are considered enclosed/open spaces.
5	She lives on New Delhi.	X Incorrect	Correct: in New Delhi — cities use in .

No	. Sentence	Correct / Incorrect	Explanation
6	I received a letter from my friend yesterday.	Correct	From indicates the source.
7	This book is for you.	Correct	For is used to indicate the recipient or purpose.
8	The painting is of a beautiful landscape.	Correct	Of shows possession or description.
9	The cat is hiding in the box.	Correct	In is used for enclosed spaces.
10	We reached the station in 6 o'clock.	X Incorrect	Correct: at 6 o'clock — use at for exact time.
11	The children are playing on the ground.	Correct	On is used for surfaces like the ground.
12	He waited for two hours.	Correct	For is used to indicate duration.
13	The train arrives at 7 p.m.	Correct	At is used for precise times.
14	The meeting is held in the conference room.	Correct	In is used for enclosed spaces.
15	She was born on 15th August.	Correct	On is used for dates.
16	The gift is from my parents.	Correct	From shows origin or source.
17	He is good at mathematics.	Correct	Use at after "good" when referring to skills.
18	The picture is hanging at the wall.	X Incorrect	Correct: on the wall — use on for surfaces.
19	They arrived in the airport on time.	X Incorrect	Correct: at the airport — use at for points or locations.
20	I will wait for you outside the school.	∨ Correct	For shows purpose or intended recipient.

Fill in the blanks with in, at, on, for, of, from

1. We have a meeting ____ 10 a.m.

Answer: at

2. She was born ___ July.

Answer: in

3. The keys are ___ the table.

Answer: on

4. I received a letter my friend yesterday. Answer: from
5. This gift is you. Answer: for
6. The capital city India is New Delhi. Answer: of
7. They live Mumbai. Answer: in
8. The cat is hiding the box. Answer: in
9. The festival falls October. Answer: in
10. He is good mathematics. Answer: at
11. We arrived the airport on time. Answer: at
12. The painting is a famous artist. Answer: by
13. She will come Monday. Answer: on
14. He waited two hours. Answer: for
15. There is a crack the wall. Answer: in
16. The picture is hanging the wall. Answer: on
17. The students are sitting the classroom. Answer: in
18. The children play the park every evening. Answer: in
19. He took the book the shelf. Answer: from
20. The train arrives 6 p.m. Answer: at