

PREPOSITIONS

A preposition introduces a noun or pronoun, linking it to other words in the sentence.

USING PREPOSITIONS

Prepositions express several different kinds of information, such as:

- Relation to time (at eight o'clock, gone until Monday)
- Place (in the ocean, over the fence, underneath the bed)
- Association (he went with Buddy)
- Purpose (he went for me)
- To introduce objects of verbs (laughed at the joke, dreams of being rich, looked in the book)

Commonly Used Prepositions

About	But	Off	Until	Below
Between	Next	Toward	Before	In
Into	Through	As	For	Outside
Past	After	During	Opposite	Within
Above	By	On	Unto	Beside
Beyond	Of	Unlike	Behind	Inside
Near	To	At	From	Over
Than	Against	Except	Out	Without
Across	Despite	Onto	With	

Rules

A sentence cannot end with a preposition.

What time does the movie start *at*?

Instead use: What time does the movie start? **OR** At what time does the movie start?

Who are you going on a date *with*?

Instead use: With whom are you going on a date?

Do not capitalize a preposition in a title unless it is the first word.

In Her Shoes

Field of Dreams

Commonly Used Prepositions

"On" is used with specific dates and times.

I went to the Smithsonian Museum **on** September 1st, 2013.

Christmas is **on** December 25th every year.

"On" is also used to indicate the location of an object.

Sally put her book **on** the desk.

Brian fell and landed **on** his rear-end.

"In" is used with months, seasons, and years.

My family goes to Florida **in** the spring each year.

Mom promised we would go pumpkin-picking **in** October.

She was born **in** 1975.

"In" is also used to refer to parts of the day (in the morning, in the evening).

I wake up early **in** the morning.

The birds stop chirping late **in** the evening.

"At" is used to refer to specific parts of the day.

I wake up **at** 5 in the morning.

The birds stop chirping **at** 8 o'clock in the evening.