

Zoran Bingulac

PREPOSITIONS

V



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Zoran Bingulac
PREPOSITIONS

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Напомена

Књига *Prepositions* настала је инспирисана значајем правилне употребе предлога у енглеском језику и недостатком литературе сличног садржаја. Она је намењена онима који желе да самостално усавршавају енглески језик. Свакако, успех у учењу ће бити већи уз њено коришћење заједно са другим методама учења страног језика.

У великим и познатим речницима налази се око деведесет предлога, од којих се око четрдесет врло често употребљава. Предлози *in, on, at, by, up, with, or, from, between, to, over, under, about, etc.* користе се у скоро свакој реченици. Мада их у енглеском језику има мало, предлози са другим речима граде хиљаде и хиљаде предлошких израза, чија разноврсна значења нису систематски обрађена у стручној литератури.

У енглеском језику не постоје чврста правила за правилну употребу предлога, па је врло често тешко одлучити који предлог употребити у конкретној реченици.

Како учење постојећих правила може мало помоћи, чини се да је учињен оправдан напор да се на једном месту сагледају разноврсне комбинације и објасни правилна употреба предлога у енглеском језику.

У нади да ће ово ново, проширено и допуњено издање књиге *Prepositions* бити корисно за читаоце, укључујући и младе дипломате, и подстаћи истраживања и радове језичких експерата посвећујем је:

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Аутор

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Prepositions

The kinds of words ("parts of speech") into which the English language can be divided are: nouns, adjectives, pronouns, verbs, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions and interjections.

Prepositions are words which are used with a noun or pronoun to show its relations to some other words in the sentence. "Pre" means "in front of" – a word (preposition) means smt. with "a position" in front of (noun or pronoun).

Prepositions show the relation of one word to some other word in the sentence.

The words: in, on, by, at, for, to, with, of, about, from, against, despite, under, after, like, above, across, as, off, before, without, behind, into, since, down, below, over, between, during, up, beyond, through, throughout, beside, besides, while, along, among, amongst, beneath, past, toward, towards, till, until, amid, amidst, around, round, except, on to, inside, inside of, alongside, ahead, within, unto, up to, upon, out, near, next to, regarding, regardless, pending, respecting, undergoing, concerning, underneath, nigh, but, irrespective of, minus, athwart, atop, betwixt etc. are all prepositions.

Most prepositions are short words (in, on, as, by, up, to, for, at etc.).

Some prepositions are longer words (alongside, undergoing, throughout, underneath, regardless etc.).

Some prepositions have their antonym (after – before; for – against; inside – outside; above – below; behind – before; within – without; up – down; toward – from; with – without; over – under etc.).

The most common prepositions are: in, on, at, by, up, with, for, from, over, between, to etc.

Prepositions are divided into:

1. simple (at, by, on, in etc.)
2. compound (out of, upon, within, into, throughout etc.).
3. participial – converted from participles (during, regarding, respecting, considering, concerning etc.).
4. phrase prepositions (in spite of, because of, according to, in front of, on account of, by means of, in consequence of, with regard to etc.).

Preposition is a connecting word. Prepositions are form words. Prepositions (and conjunctions) do not show any of the characteristics mentioned for the other parts of speech.

Indicating the relations of nouns (or pronouns) to some other words in the sentence prepositions may show the character of those relations (lexical meaning of prepositions).

For means 'because of, in order to, therefore etc.
by means, near, along etc.
of means out of, from, about etc.
to means towards etc.

Prepositions are used with nouns or pronouns to make a phrase – a prepositional phrase (at the door, near the road, along the road, upon my word, with all my support, between you and me, around us, behind the house, in the book, without thinking, after dinner etc.).

Prepositional phrase sometimes does the work of an adverb.

She stood behind him (place).
We saw her at 7 o'clock (time).
She came on foot (manner).
He died of a fever (cause) etc.

Phrases function in much the same way as adjectives and adverbs. Some phrases have the same meaning as single adjectives or single adverbs.

Phrases and adjectives

In the distance (distant).
With lots of stones in it (stony).
From another country (foreign).
Without any money (penniless).
Without sight (blind).
In a good health (fine).
At the end (final).
Of the face (facial).
Out of work (unemployed).
Capable of reasoning (rational).
Each without exception (every).
Person from Europe (European).
Without beginning or end (eternal).
Covered with dirt (dirty).
From corner to corner (diagonal).
Free from error (correct).
Without clothes (naked).
Of government finances (fiscal).
In (at, towards) the front (fore).
Attractive in appearance (handsome).
Full of emotion (impassioned).

Beyond comparison (incompatible).
Without exact limits (indefinite).
Without doubt (indisputable).
Lower in position (inferior).
Not guilty of a crime (innocent).
Of present time (modern).
Of a mother (maternal).
Existing in reality (actual).
Of the heart (cordial).
Of a spirit world, of stars (astral).

Phrases and adverbs

With a lot of noise (noisily).
In the right way (correctly).
During the last few days (recently).
Without any delay (instantly).
With good manners (politely).
Without sound (silently).
Without fear (fearlessly).
Without pain (painlessly).
A great speed (swiftly).
In a moment (presently).
In truth (verily).
At any time (ever).
To a lower floor (downstairs).
In opposition (contrary).
Without delay (promptly).
At that time (then).
Up the stairs (upstairs).
With difficulty (hardly).
With great speed (posthaste).
By human powers (humanly).
During one night (overnight).
Towards the shore (inshore).
At once (instantly).
In the sky (overhead).
Towards the inside (inward).
By land (overland).
Coming after all others (last).
In a more excellent manner (better).
Into parts or pieces (asunder).
At all times, for ever (always).

In addition (also).
In the past (ago).
Towards land (ashore).
In (at, to) any place (anywhere).
Up until then (yet).
Over there (yonder).

Prepositions and adverbs

The same word may be used as a preposition or as an adverb depending on the role it has in a sentence.

He went up (adverb)
He went up the road (preposition).

Take it off (adverb).
Take your hands off the table (preposition).

Come in and rest (adverb).
He put the book in the book case (preposition).

Go in and look around (adverb).
He walked around the garden (preposition).

The price of butter has gone up (adverb).
The kitten ran up the ladder (preposition).

What follows after (adverb).
They came after you (preposition).

She is but a child (adverb).
Who but him would have done it (preposition).

Go round the clock (adverb).
There are flowers round the door (preposition).

Most prepositions are primarily adverbs (independent elements of a sentence), but as those adverbs were often used before nouns, they began by and by to enter into close union with the noun and lose their connection with a verb, thus turning from adverbs into prepositions. When the adverb became a preposition its meaning was weakened and it lost its independence.

However, when a preposition becomes isolated from the noun it again turns into an adverb. (Put on your hat).

The same is in the passive voice.

He was much talked about. The boy was looked for (adverb).

Prepositions and conjunctions

The **same** word may be used as a preposition or as a conjunction depending on its role in a sentence. As prepositions and conjunctions are relation – words, there is often no hard and fast dividing line between these two parts of speech and many words are used as prepositions and conjunctions.

He arrived after the concert (preposition).

He arrived home after he had attended the concert (conjunction).

He spoke before an audience (preposition).

Don't go away before I come back (conjunction).

He has been with us since his arrival (preposition).

Since he arrived in Belgrade (conjunction).

I am waiting for you (preposition).

We must go, for it is late (conjunctions).

Correct use of prepositions

It is often difficult to decide which preposition to use after a particular noun, adjective or verb... Learning rules will not help you very much as the preposition to be used is determined by the idiom of language. Normally only one particular preposition can follow a particular word used in a particular sense. Some of the more important words are followed by particular prepositions.

(Correct use of prepositions) – prefer A to B; object to his action; listen to; minister to his wants; suited to; sensitive to; tendency to; indifferent to; contrary to; comparable to that; acceptable to; alternative to; necessary to; irrelevant to; conform to; grateful to; duty to; similar to etc.

(Correct use of prepositions) – guess at smt., horrified at smt., to be good at; to be surprised at; to be angry at; shoot at; strike at etc.

(Correct use of prepositions) – expert in mathematics; involved in; believe in; to write in pencil; research in smt.; trust in smb.; disappointed in smt.; ability in smt.; to be interested in etc.

(Correct use of prepositions) – sympathy with; wrestle with difficulties; negotiate with smb.; find fault with smb.; charged with a duty; delighted with smt.; equality with; consult with; live with; supply with etc.

(Correct use of prepositions) – capacity for; eligible for election; pretext for not doing smt.; responsible for; sorry for; thankful for; to ask for; to hope for; to wait for; celebrated for smt.; reason for; qualifications for; excuse for etc.

(Correct use of prepositions) – instead of; plenty of; a lot of; most of; capable of smt.; characteristic of smt.; result of; tired of; composed of smt.; independent of etc.

(Correct use of prepositions) – immune from disease; escape from; recover from; separate from; differ from; to graduate from; to prevent from; degrees from etc.

(Correct use of prepositions) – profit by mistake; to be bordered by; characterized by smt.; stand by smt.

(Correct use of prepositions) – guard against smt.; rebel against; precaution against.

(Correct use of prepositions) – discussion on; decision on; contract on; diploma on; lecture on; dependent on; consult on; hard on me etc.

(Correct use of prepositions) – (preposition + word) – in my opinion; in cash (but by credit card); in time (soon enough); in the end (finally); in a box; in a city; in the sun; in Italy; in winter; in a line; in a taxi; in a picture; in a manner; in connection with; in advance; in regard to; in fact; in secret; in spite of; in order to etc.

(Correct use of prepositions) – on foot; on purpose (but: by mistake); on board; on the phone; on the left; on the contrary; on the day; on the road; on the first floor etc.

(Correct use of prepositions) – by order; by profession; by birth; by chance etc.

(Correct use of prepositions) – at (in) a museum; at a dance; at home; at hand; at sea; at 4 o'clock; at night; at age of; at Easter; at present; at the end (smt. ends); at the front of; at the bottom; at a party, at work etc.

(Correct use of prepositions) – for him; for sale; train for Paris; for ever; for a change; for the sake of etc.

(Correct use of prepositions) – she took it from him (not off him) – “from” refers to removing; it is more general in its use than off (“off” refers to removing from the top of smt.) – nothing was taken from the top of a person; hence)

(Correct use of prepositions) – look at the blackboard (not on the blackboard) – “at” is correct because the idea is action in the direction of and not action upon the board.

(Correct use of prepositions) – he sits in this chair; baby climbs into its chair; the car is in the garage; the car is driven into the garage (correct in – place; into – motion).

(Correct use of prepositions) – in the morning (but on Friday morning); (at, on, in are not used before last, next, this, every) – we'll see you next Sunday (no preposition).

(Correct use of prepositions) – at the beginning (end) of May; at the beginning of the concert (not in the beginning (end) of concert ...)

(Correct use of prepositions) – there are a lot of children in the shop (but: go along this road, then turn right at the shop).

There is some milk in the bottle (but: there is a label on the bottle).

There is smb. at the door (but: there is a notice “Do not disturb” on the door).

(Correct use of prepositions) – in the front (back) of a car (but: at the front (back) of the house).

At the front (back) of the cinema (but: in the front row).

(Correct use of prepositions) – He lives in Paris (not at Paris).

On a bus (but: in a car).

(Correct use of prepositions) – get to a place – get to Belgrade (but: arrive in – not to – arrive in Belgrade; arrive in (not to) Italy).

Arrive at (not to) hotel, buildings, events etc.

But: go (come arrive) home (no preposition) – let's go home (no preposition)

But: he is at home.

(Correct use of prepositions) – she is on holiday in Yugoslavia (not in holiday);

Sorry about smt. (but: sorry for doing smt.).

She is married to an Italian (not "married with")

Dependent on (but: independent of).

Crowded with tourist (full of tourist).

(Correct use of prepositions) – ask smb. for (but: asked her a question (the way) – no preposition.

Pay for the meal (not "pay the meal") etc.

There are some grammatical differences between British English and American English:

To be (in) hospital (E) – to be in the hospital (A)

At the weekend, at weekends (E) – on the weekend, on weekends (A)

In the street (E) – on a street (A)

Do you live in this street (E) – do you live on this street (A)

Different from (to) (E) – different from (than) (A).

Write to smb. (E) – write (to) smb. (with or without to) (A) etc.

Noun + preposition

(Noun + prep. of) – a drawing of; a plan of; cause of; a map of; a picture of; a photograph of; an advantage of; a disadvantage of etc.

We had a map of the city.

He showed us some photographs of his team.

What was the cause of the accident.

The advantage of living alone is known (but: there is an advantage in (to) doing smt.

There are some advantages in (to) living alone.

(Noun + prep. for) – a demand for; a need for; a cheque for; a reason for etc.

He played very badly but nobody knew the reason for that (not 'reason of')

He sent her a cheque for 200 pounds.

There wasn't enough demand for their goods.

There's no need for it.

The city official asked him for proper identification.

The pilot asked for urgent help.

(Noun + prep. in) – a rise in; a fall in; an increase in; a decrease in etc.

There has been an increase in the number of accidents.

They didn't expect a big fall in sales.

Last year's decrease in our exports effected our economy.

(Noun + prep. with) – a relationship with; a connection with; contact with etc.

They have a bad relationship with their manager.

She wants to ask a man smt. in connection with the crime.

But: a relationship (a connection, contact, a difference) between two things or people.

There are many differences between you and me.

There is a connection between the two problems.

We do not have many contacts with diplomats from hostile countries.

Reasoning with good arguments has a good chance to succeed.