



Prepositions

What is a Preposition?

Prepositions are some of the trickiest words to learn in English because they must be learned through memorization and practice. Prepositions are words that help show the relationship of nouns and pronouns — also known as objects — to the other words inside a sentence in terms of time, place, or direction. Sometimes, prepositions can also indicate relationships like cause, manner or amounts. Prepositions almost always come before nouns or pronouns.

Place / Direction Prepositions

on: Don't put that hat **on** your head.
(in contact with a surface)

over: The picture is **over** the couch/sofa

in front of: The next person in line is **in front of** me.

in: The money is **in** my pocket.
(inside an area)

under: The dog is sitting **under** the table.

behind: I will walk **behind** you in line.

next to: The person is sitting **next to** her.

between: Spring is **between** winter and summer.

among: We are **among** friends.

above: The plane is flying **above** the clouds.

into: The train went **into** the tunnel.

at: I will meet you **at** the entrance.

Time Prepositions

in: My parents will not visit me **in** April.

on: I like to relax **on** my birthday.

at: I will meet you **at** six o'clock.

since: I have known Jill **since** college.

List of Common Prepositions

about	beside	inside	through	according to
above	besides	into	throughout	because of
across	between	like	till	by way of
after	beyond	near	to	in addition to
against	by	of	toward	in front of
around	down	off	under	in place of
at	during	on	until	in regard to
before	except	out	up	in spite of
behind	for	outside	upon	instead of
below	from	over	with	on account of
beneath	in	since	without	out of

Helpful tips

When using “last,” “next,” “every” or “this,” do not use “in,” “on,” or “at”

Examples:

I was sick **last** May. (not ~~in last~~ May).

I'm planning to go on vacation **next** Monday. (not ~~on next~~ Monday).

I eat turkey **every** Thanksgiving day. (not ~~at~~ Thanksgiving day).

I will take a walk **this** evening. (not ~~on this~~ evening).