

## Prepositions

A preposition is a word or group of words used before a noun, pronoun, or phrase to indicate direction, time, place, location, or spatial relationships.

Prepositions in the English language are idiomatic, which means that their usage is, for the most part, fixed. As such, it's a good idea to familiarize yourself with prepositional phrases instead of memorizing individual prepositions.

The below table lists some commonly used prepositions and their indications:

	Prepositions		Examples
Direction	to – in – into – on – onto		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wael made his way to the theatre.</li> <li>• She stood in my way and would not let me leave.</li> <li>• Reem walked into the room.</li> </ul>
Time (specific)	in – at – on		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I prefer to take my coffee in the evening.</li> <li>• Yasmine left work at exactly 8 pm.</li> <li>• He often does the laundry on Sundays.</li> </ul>
Time (extended)	since for by during from...to from...until with within		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farah has been working here since 2017.</li> <li>• Carlos will visit Beirut for two months.</li> <li>• Donations will be collected during July.</li> <li>• The camp will run from June until end of September.</li> <li>• The undergraduate program can be completed within four years.</li> </ul>
Place	(containment)	inside	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The toddler somehow locked herself inside the bathroom.</li> <li>• Rami put his pen over the huge stack of papers.</li> <li>• Look for the detergents under the sink.</li> <li>• Meet me near the gate.</li> </ul>
	(relativity)	over above below beneath under	

		underneath	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarissa lined the chairs next to each other.</li> <li>• She had some spinach stuck between her teeth.</li> <li>• The flower shop opened opposite the bakery.</li> </ul>
	(proximity)	by near next to between among opposite	
Place / Location	(specific area)	in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They met in secret in the basement.</li> <li>• Catherine waited endlessly at the street corner.</li> <li>• I put my textbook on the table.</li> </ul>
	(general vicinity)	at	
	(surface)	on	
Spatial Relations	above – across – against – ahead of along – among – around – behind below – beneath – beside – between from – in front of – inside – near off – out of – through – toward under – within		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frustrated, she smashed the glass vase against the wall.</li> <li>• The child jumped around the park with excitement.</li> <li>• Sarah hid her snacks inside her backpack.</li> <li>• Hani timidly hurried through the dark alley.</li> </ul>