



A **preposition** is a word that shows the relationship between a noun or pronoun and other words in a sentence.

Important Rules

1. A preposition cannot be followed by a verb. Verb placed immediately after preposition must be in gerund form.
2. When 'object' of the preposition is an Interrogative Pronoun What, Who, Whom, Which, Where etc., the preposition usually takes end position.
3. When 'object' of the preposition is Relative Pronoun, 'that' the preposition takes end position.
4. In some sentences, preposition is attached with the verb (These verbs take appropriate preposition with them).
6. In some cases, the preposition comes in the beginning. These are usually interrogative sentences.

1. At/In/On

These are very commonly used prepositions:

These prepositions in reference of 'Time':

These prepositions in reference of 'Place'

2. At/In/To/Into

(A) At

Examples:

(a) She is at home.





(b) The train is in motion.

(B) At

Examples:

(a) He lives at Alwar in Rajasthan.

(b) A temple is situated at Madurai in Chennai.

(C) At

Examples:

(a) The train will arrive at six in the morning.

(b) He will meet you in the morning.

(D) In/Into

Examples:

(a) He jumped into the river.

(b) There are three students in the class. In can also be used as an adverb:

Come in = Enter. Get in (into the train).

(E) To/Into: To and Into is used as following:

(a) In the direction of

(b) Destination

(c) Until

(d) Compared with

Into:

(a) To the inside of

(b) Change of condition

3. On / Onto

On

Example:

(a) He was sitting on his bag.





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru

(b) Snow fell **on** the hills.

Onto

Examples:

(a) People climbed **onto** their roofs.

(b) He lifted her **onto** the table.

4. With / By

Examples:

(a) The snake was killed by him with a stick.

(b) The letter was written by Suresh with a pencil.

5. Since / For / From

Since

Examples:

(a) It has been raining *since* two O' Clock.

(b) He had been ill *since* Monday.

For

Examples:

(a) Boil it for two hours.

(b) He lived in this house for six months.

From

Example:

Most people work from eight to six.

(a) He is from Mumbai.

(b) Where do you come from?

6. During

During

Examples:





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



- (a) It rained all Sunday but stopped raining during the night.
(b) She was ill for a week, and during that week she ate nothing.

7. Below / Under / Beneath

Below and under

Examples:

- (a) He put the books under the pillow.
(b) He placed the lamp below the almirah.
(c) They live below us. (we live at the second floor while they live at the first floor).
(d) I was wearing a sweater also under the jacket.

Below and under

Examples:

- (a) He is under me. Means that I am superior to him.
(b) He is working under me.

Beneath

Examples:

- (1) I could see the muscles of his shoulders beneath his T-shirt...
(2) I found pleasure in sitting beneath the trees.... (3)...the frozen grass crunching beneath his feet.

8. In / Within

Examples:

- (a) I will complete the work in a month.
(b) I can repair the car within two hours.

9. Ago / Before

Examples:

- (a) He came three days ago.
(b) The train had left before he reached the station.





10. Beside / Besides

Beside

Example: He was sitting beside Sarla.

Besides

Example: He has a car besides a motor cycle.

11. Between / Among

Between

Example:

He distributed his property between his two sons.

Among

Example:

He was happy to be among friends again.

12. Of / Off

Of

(i) Location

(ii) Possession

(iii) Part of a group

(iv) Measurement: a cup of milk; two meters of snow

Off:

(i) Not on: away from

(ii) At some distance from

13. Above / Over

Above and over

Examples:

(a) The helicopter hovered above/ over us.

(b) White flags were waved above/ over the buildings.





Over

Examples:

- (a) I put a cloth over her.
- (b) He lives over this mountain.
- (c) There is a bridge over the railway line.

Above is also used meaning 'earlier' or 'previous'

Examples:

- (a) He lives at the above address.
(Previously mentioned)
- (b) For details please see (P-1) above.
(Previously mentioned)

14. Make of / Made from

Made of

Examples:

- (a) A notebook is made of papers.
- (b) A house is made of bricks.

Make from

Examples:

- (a) Butter is made from milk.
- (b) Paper is made from grass.

15. In / With

'In' is used in following situations:

- (i) Place thought of as an area
- (ii) Within a location
- (iii) Large units of time
- (iv) Within a certain time
- (v) By means of
- (vi) Condition
- (vii) A member of





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



(viii) **Wearing**

(ix) **With reference to**

With is used in following situations:

(i) **Accompanying**

(ii) **Having; containing**

(iii) **By means of; using**

(iv) **Manner**

(v) **Because of**

(vi) **Agreement**

16. Opposite / In front of

'Opposite'

Examples:

(a) Ram is sitting opposite Shyam.

(b) His house is opposite to ours.

In front of

Examples:

(a) He parked the car in front of the hotel.

(b) He put the plates on the table in front of us.

17. By / Before

By

Example:

The train starts at 7.15 so you had better be at the station by 7.00

By the end of July I'll have read all those books.

Before

Example:

Before signing this agreement let us discuss each and every point thread bare.





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



18. After / Afterwards

After

Example: After breakfast, he ordered a taxi.

Afterwards

Example: Don't have a meal and run immediately afterwards.

19. But / Except

Both have the same meaning and are usually interchangeable.

Examples:

- (a) Nobody but Shyam knew the way.
- (b) Nothing but the best is sold in our shop.

Except

Example: Nobody knew the way except Shyam.

20. To / Towards

To

Examples:

- (a) I'm going to USA tomorrow.
- (b) I need to go to the Bank.
- (c) Can you tell me the way to the station?
- (d) Are you going to the party?

Up to

Example: She came up to me and asked me what the time was.

To

Examples:

- (a) There's a door to your left.
- (b) He stood with his back to the window.





Towards

Examples:

- (a) Everyone sitting in the room turned towards me.
- (b) She was carrying a suitcase and walking towards the railway station.

21. Through

The preposition **through** refers to movement within a space which can be thought of as three-dimensional.

Examples:

- (a) They drove through some spectacular countryside.
- (b) The canal flows through the city centre.

Through usually suggests movement across an entire space, from one side of something to another.

Examples: He cut through the wire.

22. Across / Over / Along

The prepositions **across** and **over**

Examples:

- (a) I'll jump over the wall and open the gate.
- (b) It's the first time I've flown across the Atlantic.

Over

Example: There was a mirror above/over the sink.

Across

Example: There was a barrier across the road.

Along

Examples:

- (a) We walked along the river.
- (b) I followed Mr Jackson along the corridor.
- (c) Well-wishers began placing flowers along the railings.





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



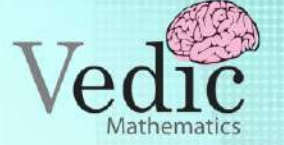
SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



Preposition Omitted

1. Some transitive verbs do not take prepositions with them.

Example:

- (a) He ordered for a cup of tea.
- (b) India attacked on Pakistan.
- (c) He informed to me yesterday.

2. **Home:** If verbs showing movement like, go, get etc. is used with home, we should not use any preposition before home.

Examples:

- (a) It took them three hours to get home.
- (b) I went home by bus.

Examples:

- (a) She returned to her husband's home.
- (b) I went to his home.

Examples:

- (a) You can do this work at home.
- (b) We can stay at home.

Practice Questions

Directions (Q. Nos. 1 - 30) Read each sentence to find out whether there is any error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence, the number of the part is the answer. If there is no error, the answer is (5).

1. Many people in India (1)/ are dying from hunger (2)/ but government seems (3)/ to be ignorant of such crude fact. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1)
- b) (2)
- c) (3)
- d) (4)
- e) (5)





2. In difficult time (1)/ she prefers keeping her counsel (2)/ rather than wandering (3)/ here and there for relief. (4)/ No error (5)

a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

3. The persons who are (1)/ suffering from diabetes are (2)/ advised to substitute (3)/ saccharine to sugar. (4)/ No error (5)

a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

4. He always says (1)/ that he prefers to go (2)/ home to stay in (3)/ a hotel at night. (4)/ No error (5)

a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

5. Hardly had we settled down (1)/ for the rest (2)/ when we were startled by the (3)/ strange sound of trumpets. (4)/ No error (5)

a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

6. He was able to (1)/ free himself with (2)/ the debts by (3)/ working day and night. (4)/ No error (5)

a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

7. Today there are very few (1)/ tigers left in India (2)/ and many NGOs are (3)/ working saving our national animal. (4)/ No error (5)

a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

8. We have already (1)/ submitted our application (2)/ and expect to receive (3)/ our licence in thirty days. (4)/ No error (5)

a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

9. A red and sore tongue (1)/ is an indicator from (2)/lack of iron and vitamin-B, (3)/ in the body. (4)/ No error (5)

a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)





10. The therapeutic benefits (1)/ at helping others (2)/ have long been (3)/ recognised by people. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

11. There appears (1)/ to be a little liaison (2)/ among the (3)/ two groups of the society. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

12. The team (1)/complained to the manager (2)/ against the captain (3)/ and the poor facilities provided in the hotel. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

13. Yesterday I met (1)/ a man (2)/ who was (3)/ blind with the right eye. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

14. The principal distributed (1)/ the sweets among the students (2)/ who bade (3)/ him farewell. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

15. As per the invitation card (1)/ Rahim marries (2)/ with Sayra (3)/ on 13th December Monday. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

16. The debacle of the congress party (1)/ admits no other explanation (2)/ than its (3)/ poor performance on the last five years. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

17. The society does not (1)/ hold itself responsible (2)/ for the loss or damage to (3)/ any item. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)





18. In spite of being (1)/ very busy at project work (2)/ he saves time (3)/ to the relatives. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

19. Some persons (1)/ get promotions (2)/ even if they are not (3)/ worthy for them. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

20. While he was returning (1)/from the office (2)/ a man attacked on (3)/ him with a dagger. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

21. The decline of her morale (1)/ was caused by a lot of (2)/ factors that were once (3)/ fascinating to her. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

22. He took me to a restaurant (1)/ and ordered for two cups (2)/of cold coffee (3)/ which the waiter brought in an hour. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

23. There are some animals (1)/ that can live (2)/ both in water and land (3)/ without any difficulty. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

24. During his tour (1)/ to the south (2)/ he visited not only to Chennai (3)/ but also Karnataka. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

25. The President Mr. Kalam (1)/ was much sought after (2)/ by school students and (3)/ was invited for many functions. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)





spardhaguru2022



Spardhaguru Current affairs



Spardhaguru1



SpardhaGuru



Spardha.guru



www.spardha.guru



26. His mother is not well (1)/but he (2)/ does not look for her (3)/ properly. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

27. We may have to await for (1)/ a new political revival (2)/ to eradicate the (3)/ corruption from our economy. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

28. When she was (1)/ in jail (2)/ she was debarred to send (3)/ a letter even to her son. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

29. Despite of the best efforts (1)/ put by the doctors (2)/ the condition of the patient (3)/ is deteriorating from bad to worse. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

30. The militant yielded for (1)/ the temptation and fell (2)/ into the trap (3)/ of police. (4)/ No error (5)

- a) (1) b) (2) c) (3) d) (4) e) (5)

