

GRAMMAR

B2

@mariaenglishlessons  
Prepositions





# WHAT ARE PREPOSITIONS?

Prepositions are words used before a noun, pronoun, or gerund (verb + -ing) to show direction, place, time, cause, manner, or possession.

- Examples:

- Direction: to, into, onto
- Place: at, on, in
- Time: before, after, during
- Cause: because of, due to, owing to
- Manner: with, like, as



# KEY PREPOSITIONS AND THEIR USES

## a) Prepositions of Time

- At: Specific times (at 5 PM), holidays (at Christmas), and specific points in time (at the moment).
- On: Specific days or dates (on Monday, on my birthday).
- In: Longer periods (in July, in 2024, in the evening).



# KEY PREPOSITIONS AND THEIR USES

## b) Prepositions of Place

- At: A specific point [at the door, at school].
- On: A surface [on the table, on the wall].
- In: Enclosed spaces [in the room, in a box].

## c) Prepositions of Direction

- To: Movement toward a specific destination [I am going to the park].
- Into: Movement from outside to a point inside [She went into the building].
- Onto: Movement toward a surface [He jumped onto the stage].



# KEY PREPOSITIONS AND THEIR USES

## d) Prepositions of Cause, Reason, Purpose

- Because of: The match was canceled because of rain.
- Due to: Her delay was due to traffic.
- For: This gift is for you.

## e) Prepositions of Manner, Instrument, Agent

- By: Agent [The book was written by her.].
- With: Instrument [He cut it with a knife.].
- As: Role or identity [He works as a manager.].



## COMMON VERBS AND PREPOSITIONS

Certain verbs are often followed by specific prepositions. Memorize these combinations to avoid common errors.

- Examples:

- Agree with someone (I agree with you).
- Depend on something (It depends on the weather).
- Look for something (I'm looking for my keys).
- Apologize for something (She apologized for the mistake).
- Succeed in doing something (He succeeded in passing the exam).





PHRASAL VERBS AND  
PREPOSITIONS

Phrasal verbs are essential for a B2-level exam. They combine a verb and a preposition (or adverb) to create a new meaning.

- Examples:

- Give up (stop doing something): I gave up smoking.
  - Take off (remove): He took off his jacket.
  - Look after (care for): She looks after her brother.
  - Get on with (have a good relationship): Do you get on with your coworkers?
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# PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

Prepositional phrases begin with a preposition and include its object. They are often used to add detail.

- Examples:
  - In spite of the rain, we went hiking.
  - Because of the delay, the meeting started late.
  - She did it on purpose.





# PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

## Prepositional Phrases

A prepositional phrase includes a preposition, its object (noun/pronoun), and any modifiers.

- Examples:

- In spite of the rain, we went out.
- She did it on behalf of her team.
- Because of his hard work, he succeeded.

## Practice Exercise

Identify the prepositional phrase in each sentence:

1. Due to the delay, the flight was canceled.
2. He walked into the room quietly.
3. In addition to her job, she studies part-time.



# PREPOSITIONS IN PHRASAL VERBS

## Common Phrasal Verbs

- Give up: Stop doing something [He gave up smoking.].
- Look forward to: Anticipate with excitement [I'm looking forward to the holidays.].
- Take care of: Care for [She takes care of her dog.].

## Practice Exercise

Match the phrasal verb with its meaning:

1. Give up \_\_\_ a) Care for
2. Look after \_\_\_ b) Stop doing
3. Look forward to \_\_\_ c) Anticipate





# ADJECTIVE + PREPOSITION COMBINATIONS

## a) Common Adjective + Preposition Combinations

- About:

- She is excited about her trip.
- He's worried about the exam.

- Of:

- I'm proud of my team.
- She's scared of spiders.



# ADJECTIVE + PREPOSITION COMBINATIONS

With:

- I'm satisfied with the results.
- He's angry with his friend.

In:

- She's interested in photography.
- They are skilled in mathematics.

At:

- He's good at cooking.
- They are bad at singing.



# ADJECTIVE + PREPOSITION COMBINATIONS

## Practice Exercise

Complete the sentences with the correct adjective + preposition combination:

1. She's proud \_\_\_ her accomplishments.
2. I'm excited \_\_\_ the upcoming holiday.
3. He's satisfied \_\_\_ his performance.
4. Are you interested \_\_\_ learning French?



Nouns are also often paired with specific prepositions.

a) Common Noun + Preposition Combinations

- Of:
  - The advantage of online learning is flexibility.
  - The cost of living has increased.
- For:
  - There's a need for more resources.
  - His love for music is obvious.

NOUN +  
PREPOSITION  
COMBINATIONS



NOUN +  
PREPOSITION  
COMBINATIONS

To:

- His dedication to his work is admirable.
- Her access to education changed her life.

In:

- There's an increase in demand.
- His interest in science is growing.



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## Practice Exercise

Choose the correct preposition for the noun in each sentence:

1. The key \_\_\_\_ success is hard work. [of / to / for]
2. There's a lack \_\_\_\_ resources in the school. [in / of / to]
3. Her passion \_\_\_\_ art is inspiring. [to / for / about]
4. The solution \_\_\_\_ the problem isn't clear. [of / to / with]

NOUN +  
PREPOSITION  
COMBINATIONS



# VERB + PREPOSITION COMBINATIONS

a) Review of Common Combinations  
Certain verbs are always followed by specific prepositions, which can affect the meaning.

- Examples:

- Agree with: I agree with her opinion.
- Depend on: It depends on the situation.
- Apologize for: She apologized for the mistake.
- Look after: He looks after his younger sister.



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# VERB + PREPOSITION COMBINATIONS

## Practice Exercise

Fill in the blanks with the correct verb + preposition combination:

1. He apologized \_\_\_ being late.
2. It depends \_\_\_ your decision.
3. She looks \_\_\_ her little brother.
4. I agree \_\_\_ you about the plan.



1. Memorise combinations: Focus on adjective + preposition, noun + preposition, and verb + preposition pairs.
2. Practice phrasal verbs: These are often tested in multiple-choice or gap-fill exercises.
3. Check for meaning: Sometimes, the context determines the correct preposition.

EXAM TIPS  
FOR  
PREPOSITIONS

