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Prepositions

A **preposition** indicates the location of an item.

Example: The bird is sitting *in* its nest.

A **preposition** can also indicate the location in time.

Example: *In* an hour, the bird will leave.

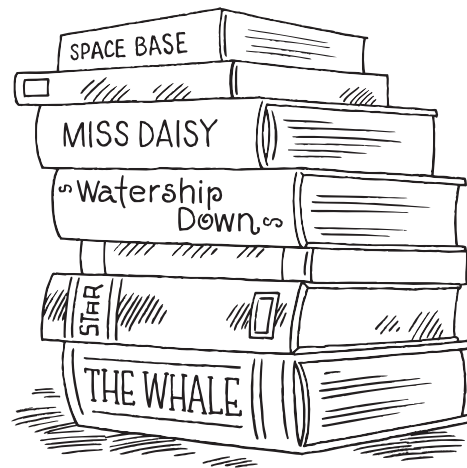
Prepositions That Indicate the Location in Time

at	between	for	on	till	upon
after	by	from	past	to	up to
before	during	in	since	until	within

PRACTICE

Circle the sentences that use prepositions to indicate the location in time.

1. Alice put her books on the coffee table.
2. After watching the news, Dad went to sleep.
3. Between innings, the crowd stood up and stretched.
4. Inga hasn't missed a day of school since kindergarten.
5. The post office is past the dry cleaners.
6. Within the hour, we will have a fire drill.
7. The lion cub climbed into the tree.
8. Until now, David had never had a cavity.
9. The woman is next in line.
10. From now on, nobody should be late to practice.
11. During a moment of silence, Thomas sneezed loudly.
12. The plane will land on the runway.



WRITE ON!

Do you do something with a family member on a regular basis, such as going out to breakfast, having a family game night, or eating dinner together? On a separate sheet of paper, write about it. Use prepositions that indicate location in time, and underline them.



Prefixes and Suffixes

A **prefix** is added to the beginning of the word to change its meaning.

Example: *Retie* means to tie again.

A **suffix** is added to the end of the word to change its meaning.

Example: *Tieless* means without a tie.

Prefix	Meaning	Suffix	Meaning
bi-	two	-er	one who
dis-	not, apart, away from	-ness	state of being
in-, im-, il-, ir-	not	-less	lack of, without
mis-	wrong	-able, -ible	able to
re-	again, back	-ful	full of

PRACTICE

Use the prefixes and suffixes above to change the meaning of a base word. Write the new word and its meaning on the line. (*Hint: If you need help, use a dictionary.*)

Example: cycle: bicycle: two wheels

1. fold: _____
2. turn: _____
3. possible: _____
4. deed: _____
5. allow: _____
6. taste: _____
7. bake: _____
8. gentle: _____
9. joy: _____
10. like: _____

WRITE ON!

On a separate sheet of paper, use five of the words in a paragraph. Exchange papers with a classmate. Ask the classmate to underline the words with prefixes and/or suffixes.



Similes

A **simile** compares two things using the words *like* or *as*. A simile describes a person or item in a colorful, interesting way.

Example: She is *as mad as a wet hen*.

Meaning: angry

PRACTICE

Underline the simile in each sentence.

1. My dad is as strong as an ox.
2. Her stomach rumbled like thunder.
3. Gerald laughs like a hyena.
4. She looks like she just rolled out of bed.
5. Paula's skin is as white as snow.
6. Without my glasses, I am as blind as a bat.
7. The baby is as cute as a button.
8. You look like you've been through a war.
9. Tina looks like a fish out of water.
10. Her breath smells like a fresh mint.
11. The carpenter was as busy as a beaver.
12. The bathroom is as clean as a whistle.
13. Her mind is like a computer.
14. Eddie runs around like a hamster in a wheel.
15. Gina is as happy as a clam.
16. Kate is as hungry as a bear.
17. My kitty roars like a lion.
18. She eats like a bird.



Complete each simile.

1. I am stuffed _____.
2. We are _____.
3. Elliot is _____.

WRITE ON!

On a separate sheet of paper, write four similes. Share them with a classmate.



Commas

A **comma** is used to separate two independent clauses (or complete sentences) that are joined with a coordinating conjunction (*for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so*).

Example: Mark washed the car, *and* he took out the garbage.

Mark washed the car is an independent clause.

He took out the garbage is an independent clause.

PRACTICE

Add a comma to the sentences that combine two independent clauses.

Example: Grace washed her hands, and she loaded up the dishwasher.

1. I thought I left my glasses here but I can't find them.
2. It was time for the play to start but the cast was not ready to go onstage.
3. Henry was extremely thirsty so he drank some water.
4. Pam went to the grocery store and the dry cleaners.
5. The printer doesn't work so I called a repairperson.
6. The cable car couldn't stop so the people jumped out of its way.
7. Paul left his jacket at home so I let him borrow mine.
8. The telephone was dropped yet it still works.
9. The lawn needs to be mowed and the leaves need to be raked.
10. She won the water gun war but not by much.
11. Joan is running for treasurer for she is good with money.
12. My parrot loves to eat seeds and sing songs.



Write three pairs of complete sentences joined with a coordinating conjunction.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

WRITE ON!

If you were to go bird-watching, what would you expect to see? What kinds of things would you need to take with you? Write your response on a separate sheet of paper. Use coordinating conjunctions in your paragraph, and underline them.