

115 PREPOSITIONS

MEANINGS AND EXAMPLES

FREE PREVIEW

LEARZING

A

ABOARD

Meaning: On or into a ship, aircraft, train, or other vehicle.

Example: I like to read aboard a plane.

Example: She invited 150 people aboard the luxury yacht.

ABOUT

Meaning 1: On the subject of.

Example: I'm reading comics about Superman.

Example: What's she so angry about?

Meaning 2: In many directions in a place.

Example: He wandered about the town for an hour or so.

Example: We looked about the museum for a bit before going on a tour.

Meaning 3: In various parts of a place.

Example: Clothes were lying about the room.

Example: He plays computer games all the time and all the trash is thrown about the room.

ABOVE

Meaning 1: At a higher place or position.

Example: Our plane was flying above the clouds and mountains.

Example: The water came above our knees.

Meaning 2: Of greater importance or of higher quality.

Example: She values her job above her family.

Example: I rate him above most other players of his age.

ACCORDING TO

Meaning: Following, agreeing with or depending on something.

Example: We construct a building and everything goes according to plan.

Example: We should play the game according to the rules.

ACROSS

Meaning: From one side to the other.

Example: There is a bridge across the river.

Example: He walked across the field.

AFTER

Meaning 1: Later than.

Example: I went for a swim after breakfast.

Example: Next day doctor came to check me after the operation.

Meaning 2: Following.

Example: The boy is running after the ball.

Example: Your name comes after mine in the list.

AGAINST

Meaning 1: In opposition to.

Example: Did you vote for or against the candidate?

Example: We're playing against the league champions next week.

Meaning 2: In contact with.

Example: He put his bicycle against the wall.

Example: He leaned his head against the back of his chair.

AHEAD OF

Meaning 1: In front of.

Example: We went to school and Tommy was ahead of us.

Example: He could see that the road ahead of him was clear.

Meaning 2: Earlier than.

Example: I finished the project several days ahead of the deadline.

Example: The election was held six months ahead of schedule.

Meaning 3: Making more progress than someone else.

Example: Sophie is well ahead of the other children in her class.

Example: The Russians were now ahead of them in space research.

ALONG

Meaning 1: From one end to the other.

Example: There are trees along the road.

Example: I looked along the shelves for the book I needed.

Meaning 2: At a particular point on something long.

Example: My office is the second door along the hallway.

Example: Somewhere along this road there's a garage.

ALONG WITH

Meaning: Mentioning additional people or things.

Example: John was arrested along with his wife.

Example: He is learning English along with Hindi.

ALONGSIDE

Meaning: Close to the side of; next to.

Example: The railway runs alongside the road.

Example: The children worked alongside their parents in the field.

AMID (OR AMIDST)

Meaning: Surrounded by; in the middle of.

Example: We camped that day amid a fir forest.

Example: He finished his speech amidst tremendous applause.

AMONG (OR AMONGST)

Meaning: Surrounded by.

Example: She felt lonely among all these strange people.

Example: I found the letter amongst his papers.

ANTI

Meaning: Opposed to; against.

Example: She seems to be anti my idea.

Example: We're very anti smoking in this office.

APART FROM

Meaning: Except for.

Example: Apart from a few scratches, the car was as good as new.

Example: I've finished apart from the last question.

AROUND

Meaning 1: In a circle.

Example: They all sat around the campfire.

Example: He walked around the lake.

Meaning 2: Near, approximately.

Example: Chicken costs around 9 dollars.

Example: There must be around 500 people there.

AS

Meaning: Used to describe the fact that somebody/something has a particular job or function.

Example: She works as a waitress.

Example: You can use that glass as a vase.

AS WELL AS

Meaning: In addition to.

Example: He invited Jack as well as Kate and Peter.

Example: When they go to Austria, they like walking as well as skiing.

ASIDE FROM

Meaning: Except for; besides.

Example: Aside from a mild fever, the boy feels fine.

Example: She has money aside from her possessions.

ASTRIDE

Meaning: With a leg on each side of.

Example: She was sitting astride a horse.

Example: He sat proudly astride his new motorbike.

AT

Meaning 1: Place.

Example: I met her at the hospital.

Example: They're passing through the security check at the airport.

Meaning 2: Time.

Example: We left at 2 o'clock.

Example: I'm busy at the moment - can you call back later?

Meaning 3: Direction.

Example: What are you looking at?

Example: He pointed a gun at her.

Meaning 4: Cause.

Example: They were impatient at the delay.

Example: We were quite excited at the volcano experiment.

Meaning 5: Activity.

Example: I'm good at swimming.

Example: She's hopeless at organizing things.

ATOP

Meaning: On the top of.

Example: The house is situated atop a hill.

Example: Place a scoop of ice cream atop a slice of apple pie.

AWAY FROM

Meaning: Distance.

Example: She had been away from her family for a long time.

Example: I am away from the office until next Tuesday.