

Prepositional Phrases

Introduction

1) A prepositional phrase is a group of words consisting of a preposition and a noun, pronoun, gerund, or clause.

*She tried to calm down the baby **by singing lullabies**.*

A prepositional phrase always consists of two basic parts at minimum: the preposition and its object.

*I think I'll be **at (preposition) home (noun)**.*

A prepositional phrase is a group of words that can consist of:

a) a preposition and a noun.

*Erick was fired **from McDonald's**.*

b) a preposition and a pronoun.

*He always leaves little presents **for me**.*

c) a preposition and a gerund.

*Carol managed to lose some weight **thanks to exercising**.*

d) a preposition and a clause.

*I need to talk to you **about stuff we need for our trip**.*

A prepositional phrase can function either as an adjective or an adverb in the sentence.

As an adjective, the prepositional phrase answers the question 'Which one?'

*The boy **with red hair** was taking photos outside.*

Which one? *The one **with red hair**.*

As an adverb, the prepositional phrase answers the questions 'How?/When?/Where?'

*Gaby went for a run **at 5 o'clock**.*

When *did she go for a run?* **At 5 o'clock.**

Short Story Dialogue

– *Do you have any plans **for tonight**?*

– *Yeah, I'm going **on a date with David**. I think we're going **to a bar or something**.*

– **With whom?**

– **With David, my colleague**. *He's a really nice guy! He was transferred **from another department about a month ago**, and we have so much **in common**!*

– *Oh, that's amazing! Let's hang out some other time then.*

– *Sure!*

Independent Practice - Prepositional Phrases

1) Underline the correct preposition.

- a. *In/On* a beautiful Thursday morning I found out that I got expelled *from/to* university.
- b. My grandma Judy grew up *on/in* a farm *on/in* Idaho.
- c. Come *over/onto* here! Look at that cute puppy!
- d. Could you pass me that book? - Which one? - The one *from/with* a yellow cover.
- e. My grandparents live *in/off* a tiny house *in/by* the lake.
- f. Stop beating *above/around* the bush! I can't understand anything.
- g. I always see people jogging *on/through* the park.
- h. There was a huge pile *with/of* books *under/into* the desk.
- i. Jenny can't have guests over at her place *for/because of* the landlord.
- j. Ben got sick *due/by* eating junk food all the time.

Independent Practice: Answers - Prepositional Phrases

1) Underline the correct preposition.

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