

PREPOSITIONS AN INTRODUCTION

What is a preposition?

It's a grammatical tool that is used to introduce _____, which can be a concrete noun, an abstract idea, a pronoun or a gerund, for example.
Ex: I am waiting. vs I am waiting _____ you / the bus.

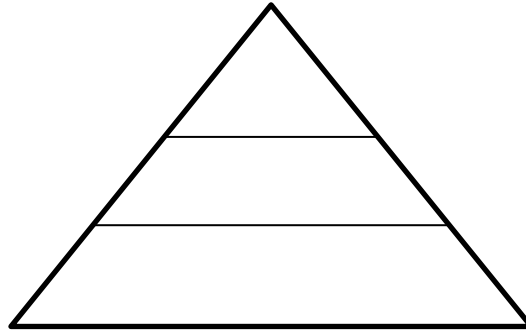
Prepositions can be used before words:
as well as after as in these examples:

- _____ the morning
- Verbs (talk _____ somebody)
- Adjectives (good _____ something)
- Nouns (ability _____ something)

1▶ Sometimes they have a specific meaning or reflect some logical system. For example:

TIME

half past six midnight
Nov. 1st your birthday
Sunday New Year's Eve
July 1997 the twenties
the XX century the winter



LOCATION

work 52 Green Street
(AmE) Green Street
(BrE) Green Street
Toronto Canada Europe

But there always seem to be exceptions such as _____ | the morning or _____ night
the afternoon
the evening

And in BrE they say _____ the weekend but in AmE they say _____ the weekend.

2▶ Sometimes they are simply associated with a particular word or words. This is called _____

For example: speak, think, dream, write, read _____ st / sb. I am interested _____ st / sb.
introduces a theme

Note: st = something sb = somebody

While there can be some kind of logic connected to why one preposition is used and not another, it may not always be clear or even present. It is best to think of them as simply 'expressions' and this group of words are typically used together when expressing this meaning.

What are the prepositions typically used in the following?

afraid _____ st / sb	_____ a holiday
arrive _____ a city or country	lend st _____ sb
arrive _____ another place (ex the hotel)	proud _____ sb / st
depend _____ sb / st	surprised _____ st
good _____ st	worried _____ st / sb

How can you learn the correct prepositions?

By reading a lot you can develop an intuitive feeling over time for some typical collocations. These unions 'sound right' but you're not sure why. You can make a list of some typical examples you use, particularly those you encounter in your reading, the mistakes you make in your writing and in exercises in workbooks, grammar books and online. Below are a few more prepared for you but don't stop with these.

One last tip. If you know the opposite or a synonym of a word, chances are that it uses the same preposition.

- | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. ashamed _____ st/sb | 5. count _____ st/sb | 9. scared _____ st/sb |
| 2. awful _____ st | 6. frightened _____ st/sb | 10. rely _____ sb / st |
| 3. arrive _____ time | 7. bad _____ st | 11. shocked _____ st |
| 4. borrow st _____ sb | 8. happy _____ st | 12. terrific _____ st |