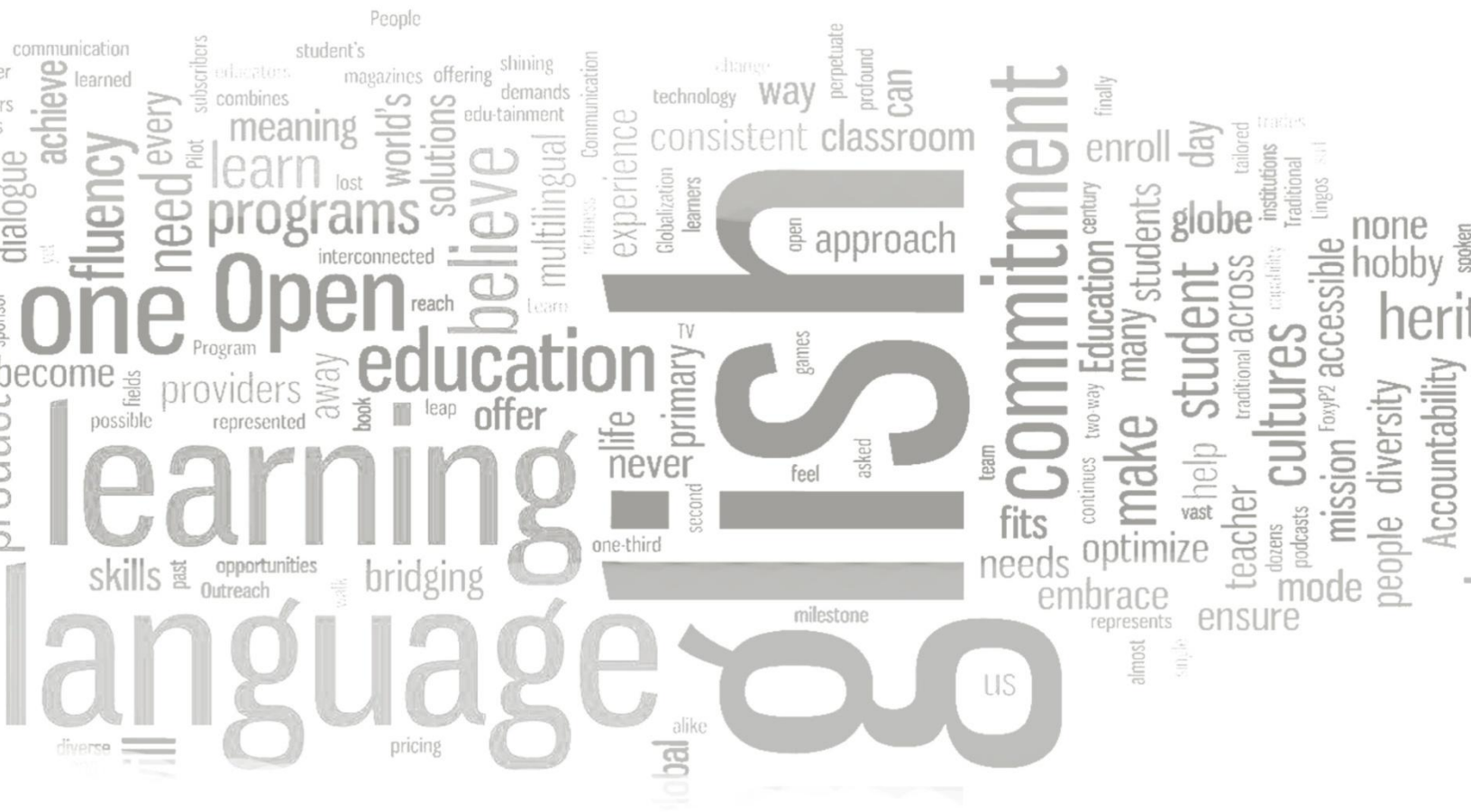


ENGLISH



Functions of Prepositions

What do Prepositions do?

We have studied previously that a preposition describes the relationship of its object with another word or idea in the sentence. In this chapter, we will study the various functions performed by prepositions to express these relationships.

What are the Functions of Prepositions?

A preposition can be used to indicate

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Place | 6. Purpose |
| 2. Time | 7. Agent |
| 3. Destination | 8. Contrast or Concession |
| 4. Origin | 9. Measure |
| 5. Motion | 10. Possession |

Prepositions Indicating Place

- Prepositions are used to indicate the **spatial relationship** (related to space) between the words in a sentence.

There is a speck of dust **on** your mirror.

Brijesh is sleeping **on** the floor.

I will see you **at** the airport.



My mother stayed **inside** the house.

The snow had settled **on** the window sill.

An exotic bird was perched **atop** a branch **at** the bird sanctuary.

Prepositions Indicating Time

- Prepositions are used to indicate the **temporal relationship** (related to time) between the words in a sentence.

The meeting was convened **on** Saturday.

Please be present **by** 10:15.

Keep quiet **until** you are told to speak.

Act **on** cue.

The friends got married **in** the same year.

The cat starts yowling **in** the night.



Prepositions Indicating Destination

- Prepositions are used to indicate the **direction** of the movement of the subject.

The accused sat with his body facing **towards** the jury.

Chandini walked **into** the distressing situation.

The vehicle moved **towards** the car wash.

The vicious dogs jumped **at** the helpless man.

The warrior shot arrows **at** the enemies.

We made **for** the nearest door.

Prepositions Indicating Origin

- Prepositions are used to indicate **origin** or **source** of an action or movement of the subject.

We will start reading **from** Chapter 2.

Lovita emerged **out of** the bedroom.

Ghanshayamdas hails **from** Gorakhpur.

Blood flowed **out of** her deep wounds.

A strange light streamed **out of** the door.

Miriam released the bowling ball **into** the lane.



Prepositions Indicating Motion

- Prepositions can be used to indicate the **movement** of the subject in the sentence.

Rani swam **across** the English Channel.

The car zoomed **past** the house.

The evil spirits were cast **out of** the house.

The rocket shot up **into** the sky.

Reema moved **away** from the doorway.

The snake slid **through** the tunnel.



Prepositions Indicating Purpose

- Prepositions can be used to indicate the **utility** or **purpose** of the subject of the sentence.

Yeast is used **for** baking cakes.

The suspect used this van **to** escape.

Meenal asked her teacher **for** her recommendation.

Rajesh consults his boss **for** advice.

Meditate **for** complete peace of mind.

The elaborate set up was used **for** trapping the bear.

Prepositions Indicating Agent

- Prepositions are used to indicate that something is **responsible** for an action done on the subject of the sentence. The action is always expressed in the passive voice.

We won **by** sheer luck!

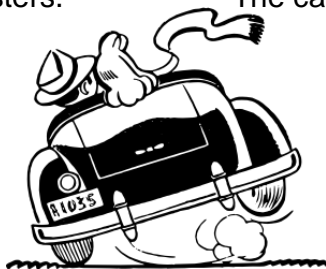
The lake is contaminated **with** harmful chemicals.

This cake is made **with** the finest cocoa.

The girl was lied to **by** the person in question.

My room is decorated **with** posters.

The car was driven **by** a very young couple.



Prepositions Indicating Contrast or Concession

- Prepositions can be used to express **contrast** between two ideas in a sentence.

For a few instances, Mahesh is usually alert.

Notwithstanding the man's suggestions, the coroner went ahead with the examination.

For every word, there is an equally scathing reply.

With all your shortcomings, you are our hero.

Despite the mounting evidence, Rashmi still believed her husband's story.

In spite of her goof ups, the presentation turned out fine.

Prepositions Indicating Measure

- Prepositions can be used to indicate **measurement**.

I am losing patience **by** the second.

Almonds were sold **by** the kilo.

Neetal reached **here** in a jiffy.

He slept **for** an entire day.

Find quality wool is sold **in** bales.

Hold your breath **for** 30 seconds.

Prepositions Indicating Possession

- Prepositions can be used to establish **possession** of a noun by the other.

My loyalty belongs **to** my nation.

Krishna is the man **of** the moment.

It is an age **of** enlightenment.

Rachna Sreedhar is the principal **of** the college.

Yamini's gift is **for** Sudesha.

Tabrez is a friend **of** Sameena.

