**Parts of Speech - Prepositions**

A *preposition* is a word that begins a *prepositional phrase* and shows the relationship between its object and another word in the sentence. A *preposition* must always have an object. A *prepositional phrase* starts with a *preposition*, ends with an *object*, and may have *modifiers* between the proposition and object of the preposition.

Here is a list of common words that can be used as prepositions:***about, above, across, after, against, along, among, around, at, before, behind, below, beneath, beside, besides, between, beyond, but (when it means except), by, concerning, down, during, except, for, from, in, inside, into, like, near, of, off, on, out, outside, over, past, since, through, to, toward, under, until, up, upon, with, within, without*.**

These words can be used as other parts of speech. What part of speech it is depends on how it is used in that sentence. Many of the common words used as prepositions can be used as adverbs. Words are prepositions if they have an object to complete them. To decide which it is say the *preposition* followed by *whom*or *what.*If a noun or a pronoun answers the question, the word is a *preposition*.

Example: The boy stood *up* and ran ***down*** the street. *Up* what? There is no *object*; therefore *up* is not a preposition. *Down* what? *Street* answers the question; therefore, *down* is a preposition. *Down the street* is the prepositional phrase starting with the preposition *down* and ending with the object *street* with a modifier *the* in between.

**Instructions:**Find the prepositional phrases in the following sentences.

1. Jim painted a picture on the wall of the house.

2. I like to lie in the shade of the apricot tree and think of the jobs for the day.

3. The dog jumped over the mound behind the barn and ran into the street.

4. Everyone but you will need a note from home with parental permission.

5. Around the yard for miles, you could see nothing except junk.

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**Instructions: Fi**nd the prepositions in these sentences. Remember that a preposition must have an object to complete it.

1. I like the color of the curtain on the window.

2. Jane walked along in the rain during the shower.

3. Hang the picture up or set it down behind the couch.

4. Eric was shining his light around in the car beside us.

5. The bird swooped down, picked up the mouse, and landed on the fence.

**Instructions:**Combine the two sentences into one sentence using a prepositional phrase. Example: The ice melted. The ice was in the glass. Combined: The ice in the glass melted.

1. My dog is named Badger. He is in the garden area.

2. The sunset was beautiful. The sunset was in the west.

3. The grass is dead. The grass is near the road.

4. That girl is my best friend. She lives across the street.

5. I talked to that man. He is in my club.