

English Prepositions – for, to, at, in, on, of, from, by

Prep.	Use	Example(s)
for	reason beneficiary	We're going out for our anniversary. She bought it for me.
to	destination second verb	We travelled from Paris to Moscow. I gave flowers to my wife. She prefers to drink water.
at	counter/desk/table top/bottom/side/front/back work/home/school the bank/chemist/hospital the start/end	John is sitting at the table. They bought tickets at the counter. He rested at the top of the hill. He's at the back of the hall. John isn't at work today. Let's meet at the bank. Everybody left at the end of the meeting.
in	country/world shop/office room/line/street/road middle/center	I live in Brazil - the best country in the world. I bought this in C&A. I'm sorry, but John isn't in the office today. Kate is in the kitchen. My office is in/on Clarence Street. Peter is in the middle of the crowd.
on	planets location (on top) business/vacation walking way	There is no air on Jupiter. The book is on the table. We are here on business. Where are you going on vacation next year? Let's go on foot. I'm on the way.
of	name possession	We saw the Tower of London. I am the son of Victor.
from	origin	We travelled from Paris to Moscow. I received a present from my uncle.
by	transport	We go to school by bus. I went to New York by plane.

Phrases/Expressions:

on the beach	a house on a lake	something is on my mind
in the desert	in the mountains	at a party
different from	similar to	the same as
in front of		

Exercise 1 – Fill the blanks with “for” or “to”:

1. I stopped _____ a coffee break.
2. I stopped _____ have a coffee break.
3. I was stopped _____ driving through a red light.
4. She was promoted _____ manager.
5. She was promoted _____ her dedication.
6. She tried _____ kill him with a kitchen knife.
7. He bought a new phone _____ his mother.
8. It was hard _____ finish the test in 60 minutes.
9. He made it _____ me.
10. She gave it _____ me when I arrived.

Exercise 2 – Fill the blanks with “at”, “in” or “on”:

1. He's _____ the hospital, having a heart operation.
2. Our seats are _____ the first row.
3. They want to ban smoking _____ public places.
4. The shop is _____ Green Street.
5. I left my cellphone _____ the kitchen.
6. I left my cellphone _____ the table.
7. I left my cellphone _____ the drugstore.
8. The market is _____ front of the cinema.
9. She is _____ the front of the line.
10. Let's go to the shopping mall _____ foot. I need some exercise.
11. Their house is _____ the end of the road.
12. He is _____ the way.
13. The concert was very full and we had to stand _____ the back of the auditorium.
14. John should be _____ work.
15. You are always _____ my mind.
16. I spent the morning reading a book _____ my garden.
17. The children are playing _____ the playground.

Exercise 3 – Fill the blanks with “of”, “from”, “by”:

1. Let's go to the Museum _____ Modern Art.
2. Where are you _____ ? I am _____ Paris.
3. I never go to work _____ bus.
4. He is the manager _____ the hotel.
5. They arrived here _____ Chicago yesterday.
6. How do you get around the city? _____ taxi.