Prepositions of Place

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Quick and Handy Grammar Review

INTRODUCTION TO PREPOSITIONS

Prepositions are short words that show time, place, direction, etc. Some examples of prepositions are at, on, in, to, from, above, under, of, and between. In this lesson, we will study prepositions of place.

A. Common Prepositions of Place

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Preposition</th>
<th>Example Sentence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>in</td>
<td>The fruit is in the bowl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on</td>
<td>The owl is on the branch.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>next to / beside</td>
<td>The movie tickets are next to the popcorn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>near</td>
<td>The pencil is near the eraser.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>above</td>
<td>The painting is above the sofa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>under</td>
<td>The shoes are under the table.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>across from</td>
<td>The fridge is across from the stove.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>between</td>
<td>The apple is between the strawberry and the banana.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in front of</td>
<td>The girl is in front of the boy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>behind</td>
<td>The teacher is behind the desk.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quick and Handy Grammar Review cont.

B. Common Sentence Patterns for Prepositions of Place

There are two common sentence patterns that we use with prepositions of place.

1. **The + noun + verb + preposition + the + noun.**
   - The cookie is **on** the plate. *(singular)*
   - The strawberries are **on** the plate. *(plural)*

2. **There + is + (a) + noun + preposition + the + noun.**
   - There is a cup of coffee **on** the table. *(singular)*
   - There are bananas **on** the table. *(plural)*

C. Prepositions of Place with Similar Meanings

Some prepositions have similar meanings.

1. **Next to and beside** have the same meaning.
   - The sunglasses are **next to** the sunscreen.
   - The sunglasses are **beside** the sunscreen.

2. **On, above, and over** have similar meanings.
   - The boat is **on** the water.
   - The light is **above** the table.
   - The plane flew **over** the Eiffel Tower.
   - Use **on** when the two nouns are touching and **above** when they aren’t. Use **over** when there is movement.

3. **Under, beneath, and below** have similar meanings.
   - The cat is **under** the bed.
   - The cat is **beneath** the bed.
   - The cat is **below** the bed.
Exercise 1

MATCHUP

Write the letter of the picture that matches the preposition of place.

___ 1. near
___ 2. in
___ 3. under
___ 4. behind
___ 5. on
___ 6. across from
___ 7. above
___ 8. next to
___ 9. in front of
___ 10. between
Exercise 2

IN THE KITCHEN

A. Look at the Picture

Look at the picture of the kitchen below. Then answer the questions on the next page.
Exercise 2 cont.

B. Choose the Best Preposition

Look at the picture of the kitchen in Part A. Then choose the best preposition for each sentence.

1. The stove is _____ the toaster.
   a) above
   b) near
   c) behind
   d) on

2. The pot is _____ the pan.
   a) in front of
   b) in
   c) behind
   d) on

3. The kettle is _____ the microwave.
   a) across from
   b) above
   c) under
   d) next to

4. The pot is _____ the stove.
   a) in
   b) above
   c) on
   d) under

5. The cabinets are _____ the sink.
   a) under
   b) between
   c) behind
   d) on

6. The dishes are _____ the cabinet.
   a) in
   b) on
   c) across from
   d) behind

7. The kettle is _____ the microwave and the fridge.
   a) across from
   b) between
   c) next to
   d) beside

8. The fridge is _____ the stove.
   a) beside
   b) behind
   c) next to
   d) across from

9. The toaster is _____ the stove.
   a) on
   b) above
   c) beside
   d) across from

10. The sink is _____ the cabinets.
   a) in front of
   b) behind
   c) under
   d) above

C. Write Sentences

Look at the picture of the kitchen in Part A. Now write two more sentences. Use a preposition of place in each sentence.

1. ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________

2. ____________________________
   ____________________________
   ____________________________
Exercise 3

IN THE LIVING ROOM

Choose the preposition from the box that matches each picture. Use each preposition only once.

1. There is a cat ___________ the coffee table.
2. There is a couch ___________ the recliner.
3. There is a painting ___________ the sofa.
4. There is a stereo ___________ the recliner.
5. There is a dog ___________ the sofa.
6. There is a remote control ___________ the stereo cabinet.
7. There is an end table ___________ the sofa and the recliner.
8. There is a coffee table ___________ the sofa.

Prepositions
• in
• on
• next to
• above
• under
• between
• in front of
• behind
Exercise 4

PAIR WORK

A. My Living Room

Draw the objects to the right in the empty square. When you’re finished drawing your living room, describe it to your partner. (See Part B.)
Exercise 4 cont.

B. My Partner’s Living Room

Listen as your partner describes his/her living room, and draw the objects to match the description in the empty box below.

C. Compare Drawings

Compare your Part B drawing with your partner’s Part A drawing. Do your drawings match?
Exercise 5

WRITING

Write two sentences for each picture. Use a preposition in every sentence. The second sentence must begin with *There is* or *There are*.

1. *The books are under the TV.*
   
   *There are books under the TV.*

2. 

3. 

4. 

5. 

6. 

7. 

8. 

## Exercise 6

### CLASS SURVEY

Ask your classmates these questions. Write their answers in the boxes below. Try to talk to a different classmate for each question. Practice using prepositions of place in your answers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Classmate’s Name</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Is there a clock in your classroom? Where is it?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Where do you put your books at school?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Where do you put your books at home?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Do you have a cell phone? Where is it?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>What’s in your backpack/bag/purse?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Do you have any paintings on your walls at home?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>How many pillows are on your bed?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Do you have a nightstand beside your bed? What’s on it?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>How many pairs of shoes are in your closet?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>What’s in your fridge?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prepositions of Place
Grammar Practice Worksheets

Answer Key

Exercise 1

1. e 3. a 5. j 7. c 9. g
2. i 4. b 6. f 8. h 10. d

Exercise 2

B. CHOOSE THE BEST PREPOSITION

1. b 3. d 5. a 7. b 9. c
2. a 4. c 6. a 8. d 10. d

Exercise 3

1. under 4. behind 7. between
2. next to 5. on 8. in front of
3. above 6. in

Exercise 4

Answers will vary. Monitor students for correct preposition usage when they explain their drawings to their partners.

Exercise 5

Answers may vary. Help your students with any vocabulary they are unfamiliar with.

1. The books are under the TV. There are books under the TV.
2. The sushi is on the plate. There is sushi on the plate.
3. The apple is between the bananas.
   There is an apple between the bananas.
4. The palm tree is next to / beside / near the pine tree.
   There is a palm tree next to / beside / near the pine tree.
5. The painting is above the bed.
   There is a painting above the bed.
6. The fruit is in the bowl. There is fruit in the bowl.
7. The stove is across from the fridge.
   There is a stove across from the fridge.
8. The shoes are on the floor / in front of the couch.
   There are shoes on the floor / in front of the couch.

Exercise 6

Answers will vary.

SPELLING NOTE:

This lesson shows the American spelling of the word Practice. Other English-speaking countries spell it this way: Practise (when used as a verb; Practice when used as a noun). Make it a challenge for your students to find this word in the lesson and see if they know the alternate spelling.