

Prepositions

Prepositions are words that indicate position, location, direction, or relation. They are always followed by a noun or pronoun, called the **object** of the preposition. Together, a preposition and its object, along with any modifiers, form a **prepositional phrase**.

One thing that may help you understand and identify prepositions is to remember that many of them express the relationship a bird might have with a cloud; birds can fly *through* clouds, *over* clouds, *between* clouds, *around* clouds, etc. Not every preposition can be identified this way, but many of them can.

about	concerning	regarding
above	despite	round
across	down	since
after	during	through
against	except	throughout
along	excepting	till
amid	for	to
among	from	toward(s)
around	in	under(neath)
as	including	until
at	inside	unto
bar (meaning "except")	into	up
before	like	upon
behind	near	versus
below	of	via
beneath	off	with
beside	on	within
besides	onto	without
between	out	worth
beyond	outside	
but (meaning "except")	over	
by	past	

Compound Prepositions:

according to	in addition to	on account of (slang)
ahead of	in back of (slang)	out of
along with	in front of	rather than
apart from	in lieu of	such as
as far as	in place of	together with
as well as	in regard to	up to
because of	in spite of	with regard to
by way of	instead of	
contrary to	in view of	

Notes:

- Many of these words function also as adverbs, and some as conjunctions.
- Be sure not to confuse the preposition *to* with infinitives, which are formed by the word *to* followed by a verb in its basic form: *to run*, *to listen*, *to understand*, etc.