

Grammar

Preposition

A preposition is a word that is placed before a noun or a pronoun to show its relationship to other words in a sentence.



above



under



beside



outside



inside



on top of



in front of



behind



between



around



up /down



through

I. Prepositions of Time

These prepositions are used to indicate when a particular event happened. These include: **in, on, at, since, for, during** etc.

- (e.g.) :
1. I was studying in the morning.
 2. She was born on the 5th of July.
 3. I will reach there at 6 o'clock.

II. Prepositions of Place

These prepositions are used to indicate the location and come before a noun or a pronoun. These include: **in, on, between, behind, under, over, near** etc.

- (e.g.) :
1. The cat is on the wall.
 2. Jenny lives near her workplace.
 3. Raj is in his room.

III. Prepositions of Movement

These prepositions are used to describe movement. These include: **to, into, towards, through** etc.

- (e.g.) :
1. I went to the book store.
 2. The swimmer jumped into the pool.
 3. The dog was coming towards him.

IV. 'Since' and 'For'

'Since' refers to a particular point of time.

- (e.g.) :
1. I have been studying since 5 a.m., and I am at it even now.
 2. The construction of this building has been going on since January.

'For' refers to the duration of the time.

- (e.g.) :
1. Maya has worked in this institution as an accountant for 23 years.
 2. Many ideas were discussed for three weeks before the annual day theme was finalised.

V. 'During' and 'In'

Both 'during' and 'in' are used to describe actions that happen in a particular period of time.

- (e.g.) :
1. We will be visiting my grandparents during the summer vacation.
- (or)
2. We will be visiting my grandparents in the summer vacation.

VI. 'Between' and 'Among'

'Between' is used when naming definite, individual items.

- (e.g.) :
1. The discussion on a sports meet between our school and other schools are going on for two days.
 2. The final match will be held between India and Australia.

'Among' is used when the items are part of a group and are not specifically named.

- (e.g.) :
1. The sailors divided the money among themselves; and the ship sailed on.
 2. We'd discussed this point among ourselves many times over the past months.

FOR vs. SINCE

I have been living in Spain **for** 6 years. (duration of time)

I have been living in Spain **since** 2012. (starting point)



FOR vs. SINCE

FOR

+ period of time
+ number + time word

When we measure the duration of something or how long it lasts.

It has a start point and an end point and can be used in different tenses.

- I studied English in Ireland **for** 2 years.
- I will be there **for** around two months.
- We have been married **for** 16 years.

SINCE

+ starting point
+ a time / a date

When something started in the past and continues until now.

Since is mostly used in the present perfect and perfect progressive tense.

- He hasn't eaten **since** 7 o'clock.
- I have been working here **since** June.
- We have been married **since** 2002.

FOR vs. SINCE

FOR

for ten minutes
for eight hours
for five days
for six months
for three years
for two centuries

↑
duration

- I have been a teacher **for** years.



for a long time.

for ages. (informal)

for a while.

= for a short period of time, not a long period.

FOR vs. SINCE

FOR

for ten minutes
for eight hours
for five days
for six months
for three years
for two centuries

duration

SINCE

since 8 o'clock
since Monday
since February
since 1982
since I left school
since the end of last century

starting point

FOR vs. SINCE

Complete the following sentences with **for** or **since**.

- 1 I think he is sick. He hasn't come to school _____ three days.
- 2 I haven't seen him _____ his birthday.
- 3 It hasn't rained _____ the beginning of June.
- 4 I have been waiting here _____ two hours.
- 5 I have been waiting here _____ 8 o'clock.
- 6 The baby has been sleeping _____ a couple of hours.
- 7 They went on vacation _____ three weeks.
- 8 I haven't been to the gym _____ Monday.

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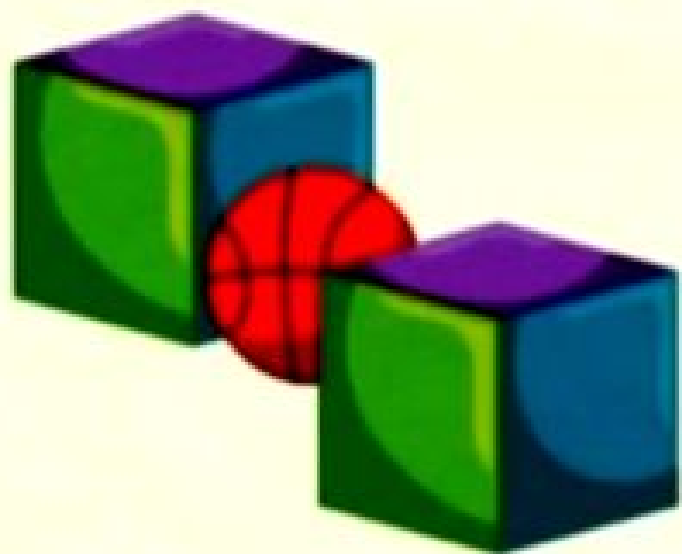
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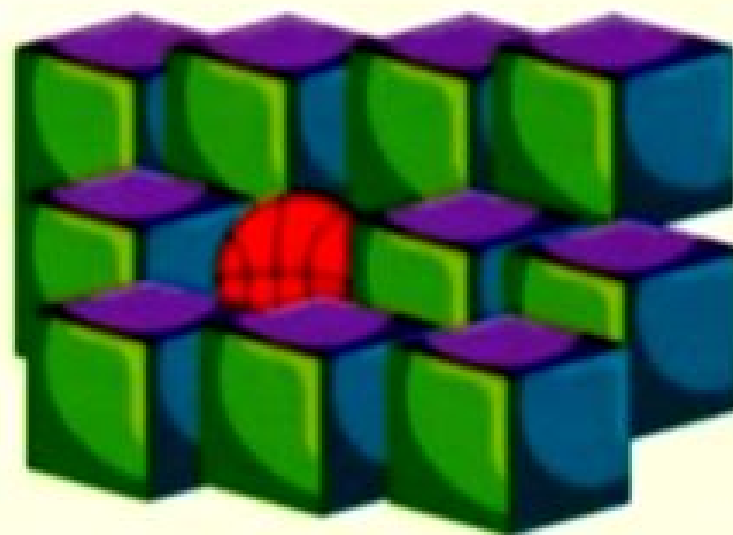
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Between the boxes



Among the boxes

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- (e.g.) : 1. The sailors divided the money among themselves; and the ship sailed on.
2. We'd discussed this point among ourselves many times over the past months.

A. Choose the most appropriate preposition from the brackets.

1. We have been living in Chennai _____ eight years. (for/ since)
2. Abdul has taken _____ his father. (after/ at)
3. Vimal generally goes to his workplace _____ bus. (by/on)
4. The cricket ball was hidden _____ the leaves. (among/ between)
5. Mani divided his toys _____ his brothers and sisters. (among/ between)

B. Identify the prepositions in the given sentences and underline them.

1. Riya borrowed a dress from me and lent it to her friend, Mary.
2. When I moved back to the city, things had changed considerably.
3. The burglar found the keys under the pot in the balcony.
4. Prabhu was hiding behind the door when his sister came looking for him.
5. My dog sat on my hat and squashed it.

C. Complete the passage by filling in appropriate prepositions from the list- (with, out, to, in, from, during, of, for, by). Some prepositions may be used more than once.

In Tamil Nadu, a very interesting form of recitation named Villupattu developed (a) _____ the 15th century. Villupattu means bow-song because a bow-shaped musical instrument (b) _____ strong high tension string is used (c) _____



placing it (d) _____ an earthen pitcher. It is believed that this narrative form was an invention (e) _____ Arasa Pulavar. The troupe gives its performance mostly (f) _____ temple festivals. There are seven to eight persons in a troupe who form a kind (g) _____ chorus that supports the main singer-narrator. When the chief narrator sings, the chorus takes (h) _____ the refrain (i) _____ the song and repeats it in unison. The whole party sits (j) _____ the ground and performs (k) _____ a lot (l) _____ gesticulation and facial expression to suit the narrative they have taken. The ballad style songs are composed (m) _____ the rural dialect which appeals (n) _____ the audience who sometimes join the troupe (o) _____ suitable notes or words.

Prepositional verbs

Some verbs are usually followed by prepositions before the object of the verb.

Examples

- i. The kids **laughed at** the hilarious antics of the clown.
- ii. Fathima **planned to** stay at a hotel, when she visited Mumbai.
- iii. I have pressing matters to **attend to** in Kolkata.
- iv. I **believe in** the healing power of a mother's touch.

- v. She was so happy in life that she could not **ask for** more.
- vi. The elderly couple **care for** their pets as they do for their children.
- vii. I **agree with** everything you've said.

D. Frame sentences using the prepositional verbs given in the box.

benefit from	pay for
stand in	rely on
stay at	joke about
go into	consist of
prepare for	attend to

E. Given below is a picture of a carnival. Complete the factual description by filling in the blanks with appropriate prepositions.

Fairs and festivals form an integral part of the culture of Tamil Nadu. They are an excellent platform to promote and preserve the vibrant art and culture of the Tamils.



A *thiruvizha* (festival) is a source of excitement and thrill for villagers. The village thoroughfare wears a festive look, as the open spaces are cleaned, spruced up and decorated (a) _____ colourful streamers.

People throng the premises (b) _____ catch a glimpse (c) _____ their village deity (d) _____ a magnificently decorated chariot, and pay their respects. There is a big crowd (e) _____ the food stalls that serve free piping hot *sakkarai pongal* (sweet pongal), lemon rice and curd rice.

People (f) _____ nearby villages and towns display their wares attractively, and call out loudly (g) _____ the people (h) _____ buy their wares. Cotton candy, cut raw mangoes smothered (i) _____ salt and chilly powder, boiled groundnuts, murukku, sweets, buttermilk etc are sold. Men, women, grandmas, grandpas and little children dressed (j) _____ their best clothes, enjoy the Thiruvizha greatly.

You can hear the shrieks (k) _____ happy children enjoying the rides on ferris wheels and carousels, elders looking (l) _____ each other with smiles on their faces.

The entire day is spent (m) _____ fun and gaiety. All the village people irrespective of their age, look forward (n) _____ the thiruvizha every year.

Writing

You stayed with your grandparents at your native village during Pongal. You had an unforgettable time with them. You visited the village fair and enjoyed the simple pleasures of life like bathing in the river, strolling in the fields, eating food cooked in earthen utensils over firewood, sleeping on a cot on the terrace under the star-lit sky, visiting temple fairs and watching Karagattam presentation.

F. Write a letter to your friend, describing the joy of celebrating festivals in a village, with the inputs given above.

Project

G. Your class has to stage a Puppet Show in the Assembly Open Forum on the topic 'Child Labour'. Divide yourselves into groups and discuss the requirements for the presentation like storyline, characters, dialogues, choice of puppets and music for the interlude. Now complete the dialogues given below.

- Ramesh : Let us present a Puppet Show on CHILD LABOUR for our Assembly Open Forum.
- Mohammed : That is a very good idea! Let us start planning right away.
- Geetha : _____?
- Leema : I suggest we begin with the storyline first.
- Mani : How _____?
- Ramesh : We can have around five characters.

- Mohammed : What _____ ?
- Meena : We can focus on the problems of poverty and illiteracy as the major reasons for child labour.
- Ramesh : Can _____ ?
- Leema : I am good at making stick puppets. I will make them myself. But I require some help.
- Mani : I _____. Tell me, _____.
- Leema : Thank you, Mani. Let us stay back after the meeting and discuss.
- Ramesh : Have _____ ?
- Meena : I think we should have some music for the interlude.
- Geetha : That would make it really interesting. I will get my music group to start working on the tunes for our puppet show.

H. Now you are ready to start writing your script for Bommalattam on 'Child Labour'.

Guidelines for script writing

- Write a brief description of the play in a story map format. (storyline, conflict/problem, resolution, moral, puppet characters, backdrop and setting, properties)
- Write a rough draft of the puppet play script (sound effects, timings/pauses, what the characters may be doing when not talking, direction for props etc.)
- Edit and revise your rough draft. Make sure that the story is lucidly conveyed and feels like natural conversation to the listeners.
- When your puppet play is ready, pick puppets of your choice and start practising.