



B1 —

The Logic of Prepositions: Movement, Method, and Motivation

Explore prepositions of: movement | direction | agent | instrument | machine | purpose | cause

Lesson agenda

In this lesson, you will learn how prepositions help us describe:

- Movement and direction
(*Where is something going?*)
- Method and tools
(*How is something done?*)
- Purpose and cause
(*Why does something happen?*)

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- Use prepositions to describe movement clearly and naturally.
- Explain how actions are performed using correct structures.
- Express reasons and purposes more accurately.
- Understand prepositions in real-life contexts through reading and discussion

Warm-up review | Gap-fil quiz [1/2]

Fill in the correct preposition:

1. I usually wake up ___ 7 a.m.
2. We met ___ Monday afternoon.
3. She was born ___ 1995.
4. The meeting starts ___ noon.
5. I'll see you ___ the evening.
6. He lives ___ Germany.
7. The keys are ___ the table.
8. She is waiting ___ the bus stop.
9. The cat is hiding ___ the bed.
10. We walked ___ the park yesterday.



Warm-up review | Gap-fil quiz [2/2]

Fill in the correct preposition:

11. The picture is hanging ___ the wall.
12. I'll call you ___ a few minutes.
13. They arrived ___ the airport late.
14. He works ___ an office in the city centre.
15. The restaurant is ___ the corner of the street.
16. She left ___ 6 p.m. sharp.
17. We stayed ___ a hotel near the beach.
18. The children are playing ___ the garden.
19. I was stuck in traffic ___ the morning.
20. He sat ___ me during the meeting.



Prepositions of movement and direction

Use: These prepositions describe **movement from one place to another**.

Common prepositions:

- to
- into | out of
- onto | off
- across
- through
- along
- toward(s)
- away from
- back to



Examples:

- She walked **to** the store.
- He ran **into** the room.
- They jumped **through** the tunnel.
- The dog ran **across** the road.
- He moved **towards** the exit.
- She came **back to** her seat.

Prepositions of agent, instrument, or machine

Use: These prepositions describe **who** | **what performs an action** and **how the action is done**.

Common prepositions:

- by (agent | method)
- with (tool | instrument)
- on (machine | device)
- through (process | system)

Examples:

- The book was written **by** a famous author.
- He fixed the chair **with** a screwdriver.
- She paid **by** card.
- I saw the news **on** TV.
- We communicated **through** email.
- The door was opened **by** the guard.



Prepositions of purpose or cause

Use: These prepositions explain **why something happens** or **what something is used for**.

Common prepositions:

- for (purpose)
- because of (cause)
- due to (formal cause)
- from (resulting cause)
- out of (motivation | emotion)

Examples:

- This tool is used **for** cutting wood.
- The flight was delayed **because of** bad weather.
- The match was cancelled **due to** heavy rain.
- He is tired **from** working all night.
- She helped him **out of** kindness.



“A Day That Didn’t Go as Planned”

Yesterday morning, Daniel left his apartment at 7 a.m. and walked to the train station. While he was walking along the street, he noticed that people were moving quickly towards the entrance. When he arrived at the station, he tried to enter, but the doors were locked because of a technical problem. Many passengers were already waiting outside the building. Some people were talking on their phones, while others were looking at the information screens.

After waiting for about 20 minutes, an announcement was made through the loudspeakers. The delay was caused by a problem with one of the trains. Daniel decided to leave the station and walk across the road to a nearby café. He ordered a coffee and paid by card. While sitting at a table by the window, he checked his emails on his laptop.

Eventually, he returned to the station, and the trains were running again. He finally arrived at work late, but his manager understood the situation.

Comprehension questions [1/2]

1. What time did Daniel leave his apartment?
2. Where was Daniel going?
3. What did he notice while walking along the street?
4. Why were the station doors locked?
5. Where were the passengers waiting?
6. How long did Daniel wait before the announcement?
7. How was the announcement delivered?
8. What caused the delay?
9. Where did Daniel go after leaving the station?
10. How did he pay for his coffee?



Comprehension questions [2/2]

11. What did he use to check his emails?
12. Where was he sitting in the café?
13. What did Daniel do after leaving the café?
14. Did the trains start running again?
15. Why was Daniel late for work?
16. How did his manager react?
17. Find one example of a preposition of movement in the text.
18. Find one example of a preposition of cause.
19. Find one example of a preposition of method.
20. Would you react the same way as Daniel? Why or why not?



“A Day That Didn’t Go as Planned”

Yesterday morning, Daniel left his apartment ____ 7 a.m. and walked ____ the train station. While he was walking ____ the street, he noticed that people were moving quickly _____ the entrance. When he arrived ____ the station, he tried to enter, but the doors were locked _____ a technical problem. Many passengers were already waiting _____ the building. Some people were talking ____ their phones, while others were looking ____ the information screens.

After waiting ____ about 20 minutes, an announcement was made _____ the loudspeakers. The delay was caused ____ a problem ____ one of the trains. Daniel decided to leave the station and walk _____ the road to a nearby café. He ordered a coffee and paid ____ card. While sitting ____ a table ____ the window, he checked his emails on his laptop.

Eventually, he returned ____ the station, and the trains were running again. He finally arrived ____ work late, but his manager understood the situation.

Movement and direction

Instructions:

- Rewrite each sentence using the below prepositions.
- Do **not** change the original meaning.
- Prepositions can only be used once.

“out of” | “through” | “into” |
“back to” | “across”

1. *She entered the room quickly.*
She walked ...
2. *The dog crossed the street.*
The dog ran ...
3. *He left the building in a hurry.*
He rushed ...
4. *They returned to the hotel late.*
They went ...
5. *We walked in the park for an hour.*
We walked ...



Agent, instrument, or machine

Instructions:

- Rewrite each sentence using the below prepositions.
- Do **not** change the original meaning.
- Prepositions can only be used once.

“by” | “with” | “on” |
“through” | “with”

1. *The chef used a knife to cut the vegetables.*
The vegetables were cut ...
2. *Someone sent me this message.*
This message was sent ...
3. *She used her phone to check the news.*
She checked the news ...
4. *They communicated using email.*
They communicated ...
5. *He opened the door using a key.*
The door was opened ...



Purpose or cause

Instructions:

- Rewrite each sentence using the below prepositions.
- Do **not** change the original meaning.
- Prepositions can only be used once.

“for” | “from” | “because of” |
“out of” | “due to”

1. *He stayed home because he was sick.*
He stayed home ...
2. *The game was cancelled because it rained heavily.*
The game was cancelled ...
3. *She went to the shop to buy bread.*
She went to the shop ...
4. *He helped her because he felt sorry for her.*
He helped her ...
5. *She is tired because she worked all night.*
She is tired ...

Mixed transformations

Instructions:

- Rewrite each sentence using the below prepositions.
- Do **not** change the original meaning.
- Prepositions can only be used once.

*“for/into” | “by/on” | “on/to” |
“out of” | “due to”*

1. *He walked to the station and used his phone to call a taxi.*
He walked ... and called a taxi ...
2. *The delay happened because there was a technical issue.*
The delay happened ...
3. *She went into the building to speak to the manager.*
She went ... the building ... speaking to the manager.
4. *The report was written by the manager using a computer.*
The report was written ... a computer.
5. *He left the room because he was angry.*
He left the room ...

Testing prepositions in use [1/4]

Movement | Direction:

1. Can you describe how you usually get **to** your favourite place in the city?
2. Have you ever walked **through** a place that felt unusual or interesting?
3. When you travel, do you prefer moving **towards** busy areas or **away from** them? Why?
4. Can you describe a time when you had to move quickly **from** one place **to** another?
5. What do you usually do when you arrive **at** a new place?



Testing prepositions in use [2/4]

Agent | Instrument | Machine

1. What devices do you usually work **on** during the day?
2. Do you prefer paying **by** card or **with** cash? Why?
3. How do you usually communicate **with** friends or colleagues?
4. Have you ever fixed something **with** your own hands? What did you use?
5. Do you prefer learning **through** reading, listening, or speaking?



Testing prepositions in use [3/4]

Purpose | Cause

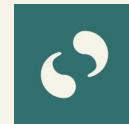
1. What do you usually do **for** relaxation after a long day?
2. Have you ever changed your plans **because of** bad weather?
3. What motivates you to work hard? Do you do it **for** something specific?
4. Have you ever helped someone **out of** kindness or obligation?
5. Can you describe a time when something didn't happen **due to** a problem?



Testing prepositions in use [4/4]

Purpose | Cause

1. Can you describe a situation where you went somewhere **for** a reason, but something went wrong **because of** a problem?
2. How do you usually get your work done **on** a computer or through other methods?
3. Can you describe a journey where you moved **through, across, or into** different places?
4. Have you ever made a decision **out of** emotion rather than logic? What happened?
5. What is something you do regularly **for** your health or personal development?



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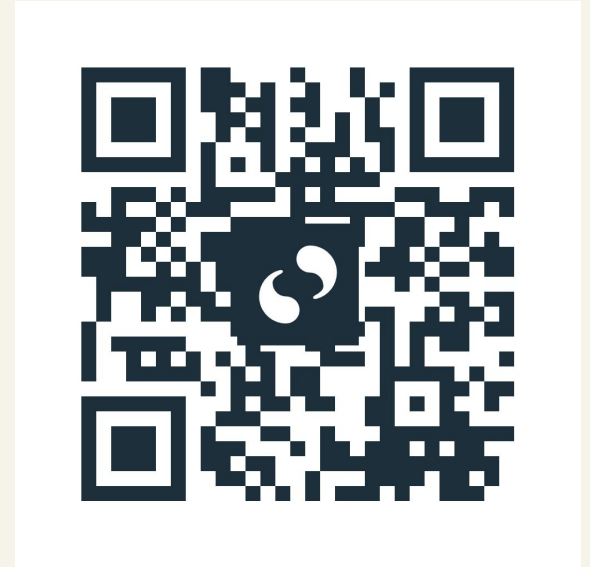
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“A Day of Coordination”



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Listening comprehension activity

1. Where has David just arrived from?
2. What is David checking on?
3. When is the client presentation scheduled?
4. How did Elena send the drafts?
5. Where will David review the designs?
6. By when do they need to finalize everything?
7. What tool does Elena use to make quick updates?
8. Why does the client want a cleaner layout?
9. What changes has Elena already made to the design?
10. Where and when will David and Elena meet?
11. What will Elena bring to the meeting?
12. What will they do before sending the designs to the client?
13. Do you think David and Elena work well together? Why?
14. What would you do differently if you were Elena?



Gap-fill activity [1/2]

David:

Elena, I just arrived ___ the office ___ a long commute ___ traffic, and I wanted to check ___ the design progress ___ the client presentation ___ Friday.

Elena:

Hi David. I've been working ___ the visuals ___ early this morning, and I've already sent a few drafts ___ you ___ email.

David:

Great, I'll review them ___ my laptop ___ the meeting room ___ this call, because we need to finalize everything ___ tomorrow afternoon.

Elena:

That works. I can also make changes ___ the designs ___ my tablet if you need quick updates ___ the day.



Gap-fill activity [2/2]

David:

Perfect. The client asked ___ a cleaner layout ___ the feedback ___ their last campaign, so we should focus ___ simplicity.

Elena:

Understood. I actually moved some elements ___ the page and took a few sections ___ the design ___ a more minimal look.

David:

Nice, that sounds like the right direction. Let's go ___ everything together ___ 2 p.m. ___ my office so we can make final decisions.

Elena:

Sure, I'll come ___ your office ___ all the updated files, and we can go ___ the details ___ sending them ___ the client.



Prepositions switch challenge

Instructions | Your task is to:

1. Repeat the sentence correctly, and then
2. Change one preposition to create a new but still logical meaning.

Example: [Original version]:

- *“I sent the files by email.”*

Example: [Altered version]:

- *“I sent the files through email.” (slightly different tone, still correct.)*

Try your hand at the practice sentences on the next page.



Switch challenge | Practice sentences

1. I arrived at the office after a long commute.
2. She worked on the design all morning.
3. He walked through the building quickly.
4. The meeting is scheduled for Friday.
5. They spoke about the project in detail.
6. She made the changes with her tablet.
7. The delay happened because of a technical issue.
8. He moved the files into a new folder.
9. We discussed the plan during the meeting.
10. She sent the final version to the client.





Thank you for your support.

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