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English Prepositions List

150 prepositions

including

- ! 370 sample sentences
- ! 200 quiz questions
- ! with answers
- ! illustrated

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It is not possible to produce a definitive list of English prepositions. That means that nobody can create a list of prepositions and say: "Here are all the prepositions in the English language – no more and no fewer." Why? Because complex prepositions can theoretically be added to the language at any time. This ebook lists all 94 one-word prepositions (which are unlikely to change or be added to) and 56 complex prepositions (which may possibly be added to as the language evolves). This total of 150 prepositions is comprehensive at the time of writing, and represents all the prepositions currently found in a good English dictionary such as the *Concise Oxford Dictionary*.

- (UK)
- Is there a doctor among us?
 - There were secret police among the crowd.
 - I was amongst strangers. I didn't know anyone.
 - He seems to be anti my idea.
 - Some people are anti everything.
 - We walked around the town for an hour.
 - They all sat around the camp fire.
 - There is a big fence around the house.
 - He was born around 1570.
 - Let's meet around 7pm.

- (also conj.)
- He is working as a waiter.
 - The risk is as nothing compared to the profit.
 - Ram is as tall as Anthony.
 - She sat astride the horse.
 - He is at school.
 - We first met at a party.
 - Let's start the meeting at 9 o'clock.
 - He started work at 17 (years of age).
 - We are aiming at sales of \$1,000,000.

- (poetic)
- The church is situated atop a hill.

- Everyone came bar Angela.
- He is the best bar none.

- Barring rain, we'll play tennis tomorrow.

- (also conj.)
- We had lunch [1pm] before the meeting [3pm].
- We met the day before yesterday.
- She was before me in the queue.
- I would rather die before doing that.

- There is a police car behind us. It's following us.
- We have a garden behind our house.
- The child was hiding behind the tree.
- I am behind your project. I will support it.
- Vonica finished behind Shirley in the race.
- She is behind the other children in her class.

- Much of Holland is below sea-level.
- There is a family in the flat below us.

One-word Prepositions

- Tara was sitting between Ram and Ati.
- Between you and me, I think she's crazy
- I can meet you between 1pm and 2pm.

One-word Prepositions

- He died circa 1270.
-

One-word Prepositions

- We went swimming despite the cold water.
- He passed the test despite being ill.

One-word Prepositions

- You can have any colour except blue.
- They all came except Stephen.

- I can eat anything excepting pork.
- Excepting Jo, everyone was present.

- It costs \$70, excluding \$10 for delivery. (Total = \$80.)
- We open every day excluding Christmas Day.

- We had coffee following lunch.
- He couldn't work following his illness.

(also conj.)

- This is for you.
- Do you want to go for a walk?
- You use a corkscrew for opening bottles.
- Cigarettes are bad for you.
- I'm saving for a new car.

One-

One-word Prepositions

- 10 minus 3 = 7.
- The temperature is minus 30 degrees centigrade.

One-word Prepositions

- The school is near the post office.
- It's 20 December. We are very near Christmas Day.

One-word Prepositions

One-word Prepositions

One-word Prepositions

- (formal) • All save Mrs Jones were present.
- (formal) • Saving yourself, nobody thanked me.
- (also conj.) • I haven't seen Josef since Monday.
- Mr Brown has worked in a bank since 1985.

One-word Prepositions

- (also conj.)
- He is a writer than whom there is no finer.
 - Your car is bigger than my car.
- (US)
- The train goes through a tunnel.
 - I can see light through the keyhole.
 - You have been through a difficult experience.
 - You went through a red light.
 - The error occurred through my own stupidity.
 - They worked Monday through Thursday. [US]
- (also conj.)
- It is raining throughout the whole country.
 - He worked throughout the day, and most of the night.
- (also conj.)
- I work from 9am till 5pm.
 - Please wait till I come.
- Could you give this to Kob?
 - My car does 10 miles to the litre.
 - To his surprise, the door was open.
 - The museum is open from Monday to Friday.
 - The time is ten to five. [4.50]
- Touching your homework, I think we need to speak.
- (US)
(UK)
- He drove off toward(s) the mountain.
 - I'd better go. It's getting toward(s) midnight.
 - He contributed \$100,000 toward(s) the new building.
 - It's the first step toward(s) peace.
 - He has a positive attitude toward(s) his work.

One-word Prepositions

- The mouse ran under the chair.
- The bucket is under the sink.
- Submarines can travel under water.
- We drove under a bridge.
- I have a T-

One-word Prepositions

- He was the judge in the case of Gore versus Bush.
- We should choose peace versus war.

One-word Prepositions

- Do you live with your parents?
 - He's been with EnglishClub.com for two years.
 - I discussed it with her.
 - With your permission, I'd like to go.
 - If you mix red with yellow you get orange.
 - Muriel is the girl with black hair.
 - Do you want to come with us?
 - I made this chair with my own hands.
 - You'll forget her with time.
-
- There is a modem within the computer.
 - I will finish within 30 minutes.
 - He lives within 10 miles of his work.
 - It's not within my power to help you.
-
- I want trousers without buttons.
 - I came without my wife because she is working.
 - He watched without speaking.
-
- This car is worth \$10,000.

Complex Prepositions

Complex Prepositions

- I don't like it, irrespective of what you say.
- Irrespective of the price, I don't want it. Price isn't everything.

- I made a graph preparatory to the meeting, so everything was ready.
- I never spoke French prior to living in France. But I learned quickly after coming to France.
- I don't want it, regardless of the price. Even if it's free, I just don't want it.
- Everyone came, save for Lek who had to work.
- Thanks to Shirley, we arrived on time.
-
- I'd like chicken please, together with vegetables.
- We are up against a powerful enemy.
- There was a shop here up to 1990. But it closed that year.
- We worked up until they came. Then we stopped.
- I prefer Jaguar cars vis-à-vis BMW cars.
- I need to speak to you

(from French)

Quizzes

One-word prepositions

Choose the most suitable preposition (a, b or c) to fill the blank.

10 _____ 3 = 7.

- a) pro b) against c) less

2 _____ 2 = 4.

- a) despite b) plus c) circa

All _____ Mrs Jones were present.

One-word prepositions

Choose the most suitable preposition (a, b or c) to fill the blank.

He couldn't work _____ his illness.
a) following b) by c) as

He died _____ 1270.
a) circa b) on c) outside

He fell asleep _____ the meeting.
a) circa b) during c) off

He passed the test _____ being ill.
a) despite b) inside c) behind

He seems to be _____ my idea.
a) since b) anti c) as

He was shot _____ a professional killer.
a) throughout b) with c) by

He was the judge in the case of Gore _____ Bush.

Quizzes

One-word prepositions

Choose the most suitable preposition (a, b or c) to fill the blank.

Muriel is the girl _____ black hair.

- a) plus b) outside c) with

_____ his return, we can do nothing.

- a) Behind b) Pending c) Onto

Please wait _____ I come.

- a) till b) since c) cum

Ram is as tall _____ Anthony.

- a) as b) than c) with

_____ yourself, nobody thanked me.

- a) Onto

One-word prepositions

Choose the most suitable preposition (a, b or c) to fill the blank.

Team A worked _____ Team B during construction.

- a) alongside b) except c) throughout

That makes \$70, not _____ the tax.

- a) within b) counting c) opposite

That's very unusual. It's _____ Andrea to be so rude.

- a) opposite b) since c) unlike

The cat jumped _____ the chair.

- a) less b) inside c) onto

One-word prepositions

Choose the most suitable preposition (a, b or c) to fill the blank.

This is the cause _____ the problem.

- a) on b) of c) off

_____ his surprise, the door was open.

- a) To b) On c) At

_____ your homework, I think we need to speak.

- a) Touching b) Aboard c) Behind

Trains were invented _____ the nineteenth century.

- a) at b) since c) in

We are aiming _____ sales of \$1,000,000.

- a) to b) at c) on

We are flying _____ the clouds.

- a) above b) gone c) except

Quizzes

Complex prepositions

Choose the most suitable preposition (a, b or c) to fill the blank.

He is _____ the two opinions. He wants to compromise.

- a) in between b) up to c) instead of

He reacts bravely _____ danger.

- a) up until b) in face of c) further to

He was sitting _____ me in the plane.

- a) on board b) out of c) forward of

I am not _____ your idea. It won't work.

- a) in favour of b) thanks to c) away from

I am writing _____ your order.

- a) away from b) up to c) with reference to

I don't have any dollars. Can I pay euro _____ dollars?

- a) opposite to b) in lieu of c) in spite of

I don't like it, _____ what you say.

- a) up against b) close to c) irrespective of

I don't want it, _____ the price. Even if it's free.

- a) away from b) prior to c) regardless of

I have another car _____ this one. Both are red.

- a) aside from b) out of c) by means of

Complex prepositions

Choose the most suitable preposition (a, b or c) to fill the blank.

I never spoke French _____ living in France.

- a) in front of b) prior to c) depending on

I prefer Jaguar cars _____ BMW cars.

- a) out of b) in case of c) vis-à-vis

I'd like chicken please, _____ vegetables.

- a) because of b) on behalf of c) together with

I'd like to speak to you _____ your work.

- a) up against b) in front of c) with regard to

I'm calling you _____ Mr Brown. I represent him.

- a) on behalf of b) contrary to c) in between

_____ your illness, we will wait for a week.

- a) In lieu of b) In view of c) Next to

Is there a doctor _____ m BT 58 0 Q Q q 50.04 8.999977 339 1 Tf

Quizzes

Quizzes

Complex prepositions

Choose the most suitable preposition (a, b or c) to fill the blank.

Prepositions of place

Choose the most suitable preposition (a, b or c) to fill the blank.

Don't stand _____ the television. I can't see!

- a) on b) in front of c) above

Come and sit _____ me so that I can hear you better.

- a) beside b) under c) on

From the plane we could see people in the fields _____ us.

- a) beside b) below c) above

You'll have to turn round to see it. It's _____ you.

- a) behind b) in front of c) over

The dead man was lying _____ the ground.

- a) behind b) in front of c) on

Careful you don't scratch the table! Better put a cloth _____ it.

- a) above b) beside c) over

It's dark where the road goes _____ a railway bridge.

- a) on b) behind c) under

He looked up at the ceiling _____ him.

- a) above b) under c) below

You can sit _____ that chair. Nobody is sitting there.

- a) in front of b) on c) above

The police car came first. The president was in the car _____ it.

- a) behind b) on c) under

Answers: 1b, 2a, 3b, 4a, 5c, 6c, 7c, 8a, 9b, 10a

Prepositions of time

Choose the most suitable preposition (a, b or c) to fill the blank.

Let's meet _____ the evening and then go for a drink.

- a) at b) in c) behind

Does your boss visit _____ the office every day?

One-word and complex prepositions

Choose the most suitable preposition (a, b or c) to fill the blank.

_____ Ati, the film was good. But in my opinion it was boring.
a) Except for b) From c) According to

I have all my books _____ my dictionary, which I left at home.
a) regardless of b) through c) except for

He ran very fast and won the race _____ 10 seconds.
a) by b) on c) instead of

Nok bought her book _____ \$20 but mine cost me \$25.
a) for b) in c) save for

Who did you buy it _____? Have they got any more?
a) of b) from c) out of

It's always your fault if you hit the car _____ you.
a) on board b) in front of c) since

The ticket costs \$5 _____ age. No special price for children.
a) inside b) close to c) regardless of

Their meal arrived, _____ a free bottle of wine.
a) astride b) according to c) together with

Oil doesn't mix _____ water. It stays separated.
a) with b) further to c) at

It was good _____ her to help. She has her own problems.
a) forward of b) off c) of

Answers: 1c, 2c, 3a, 4a, 5b, 6b, 7c, 8c, 9a, 10c

One-word and complex prepositions

Choose the most suitable preposition (a, b or c) to fill the blank.

That's typical of Tina. It's just _____ her to complain.

- a) like b) until c) concerning

I can't talk now. But we can talk about it _____ dinner tonight.

- a) over b) on to c) within

Come _____ 9 o'clock. Any time from 8.30 to 9.30 is ok.

- a) around b) throughout c) up to

If the sea rises, some countries will be _____ sea-level.

- a) pending b) outside of c) below

Everybody came at 9am, _____ Neil who came at 10am.

- a) apart from b) underneath c) up against

There is a good view from my hotel because it is _____ a hill.

- a) in b) except c) on top of

She started to walk _____ the man, but he followed her.

- a) down b) away from c) out of

They sat _____ each other in the cinema and held hands.

- a) below b) next to c) via

There are 31 days _____ December.

- a) in b) on c) into

I sat in the back, _____ the driver. Andrea sat in front.

- a) in face of b) to c) behind

Answers: 1a, 2a, 3a, 4c, 5a, 6c, 7b, 8b, 9a, 10c

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