

## Prepositions - Overview

### Introduction

1) A preposition is usually a short word used to link nouns, pronouns, or phrases to other words within a sentence.

*If I'm not mistaken, her birthday is **in** May.*

2) Prepositions do not change their form.

*I want (What?) **to** go (Where?) **to** the movies. = I had a desire **to** go **to** the movies.*

Prepositions can consist of one, two, or more words.

*Josh went **to** the club **instead of** studying for his exams.*

*There was a huge traffic jam **in front of** us.*

Prepositions can be divided into the following categories:

a) prepositions of place state the position or location of one thing with another.

*Kate works **at** Starbucks.*

b) prepositions of time denote specific time periods.

*We usually go to our relatives **at** Christmas.*

c) prepositions of direction or motion indicate movement from one place to the other.

*There's a great pub **across** the street.*

d) prepositions of manner express the manner in which something is done.

*You can't achieve success **by** doing nothing.*

e) prepositions of cause, purpose, and reason indicate why, what for, or because of what something happens.

*She couldn't attend the meeting **due to** some family issues.*

### Short Story Dialogue

– What do you do **for** fun?

– I usually hang out **with** my friends. Sometimes we go **to** the movies together.

Sometimes we throw parties **at** someone's place. And you?

– That sounds cool! Well, I moved **to** this state **in** May so I haven't really made new friends yet. All my friends are back home.

– Why don't you come **over**? I think you'll like my friends and they'll like you!

– Oh, that would be great!

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## Independent Practice - Prepositions - Overview

### 1) Underline prepositions in the following text.

He pointed his finger in friendly jest and went over to the parapet, laughing to himself. Stephen Dedalus stepped up, followed him wearily halfway and sat down on the edge of the gunrest, watching him still as he propped his mirror on the parapet, dipped the brush in the bowl and lathered cheeks and neck.

...

Stephen stood up and went over to the parapet. Leaning on it he looked down on the water and on the mailboat clearing the harbourmouth of Kingstown. [Ulysses by James Joyce]

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## Independent Practice: Answers - Prepositions - Overview

### 1) Underline prepositions in the following text.

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