

## Prepositions of Manner

### 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) There are many types of prepositions. Among them there are prepositions of manner. They are used to express the manner in which something is done. We usually use prepositions of manner when we answer the question beginning with 'How?'.

***How** did she lose weight? – She lost weight **by** exercising.*

There are several groups of prepositions of manner:

a) *in*, *with* are used to describe the way in which something is carried out.

*She left the stage **in** tears.*

*She was singing **with** tears in her eyes.*

b) *by* is used to denote either a person or a means of transportation, while *with* denotes an instrument.

*This house was built **by** my grandfather.*

*Helen goes to work **by** bus.*

*You need to cut the cake **with** a knife.*

We can also use *by* + V-ing.

*You can't prove them wrong **by** doing nothing.*

c) *at* can be used to describe aggressive behaviour. Compare the following examples:

*He talked **to** his wife. (neutral)*

*He talked **at** his wife. (aggressive behaviour)*

We can also use the phrase *in a friendly way/manner* to describe actions.

*Mrs. Anderson spoke to me **in an extremely polite manner**.*

### Short Story Dialogue

– *Alice looks amazing! How did she manage to lose weight?*

– ***By** exercising regularly!*

– *Was there some special diet?*

– *No, not really. For example, I go to work **by** bus and Alice always goes **on** foot. It seems obvious but you really can lose weight **by** walking everywhere.*

– *Maybe I need to change my attitude to walking. I work out **with** pleasure because I feel like I'm definitely doing something to lose weight. But when it comes to walking somewhere, I'd rather go **by** car.*

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## Independent Practice - Prepositions of Manner

### 1) Fill in the gaps with *in*, *with*, *by*, *at*.

- a. Trying to cut a steak ..... a fork is not the best idea.
- b. I don't like traveling long distances ..... car.
- c. Little Suzy left the room ..... tears after being scolded ..... her parents.
- d. Al was telling her something, but she suddenly snapped ..... him.
- e. Kim suddenly stopped playing and threw the ball ..... Noah.
- f. Mr. Griffit always reacts ..... anger whenever a student makes a mistake.
- g. You can't make friends ..... being grumpy all the time.
- h. This story was written ..... Agatha Christie.
- i. I love Sandra's attitude to everything – she always does things ..... a joyful manner!
- j. You'll actually save time ..... going there ..... foot!

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## Independent Practice: Answers - Prepositions of Manner

### 1) Fill in the gaps with *in*, *with*, *by*, *at*.

- a. Trying to cut a steak **with** a fork is not the best idea.
- b. I don't like traveling long distances **by** car.
- c. Little Suzy left the room **in** tears after being scolded **by** her parents.
- d. Al was telling her something, but she suddenly snapped **at** him.
- e. Kim suddenly stopped playing and threw the ball **at** Noah.
- f. Mr. Griffit always reacts **with** anger whenever a student makes a mistake.
- g. You can't make friends **by** being grumpy all the time.
- h. This story was written **by** Agatha Christie.
- i. I love Sandra's attitude to everything – she always does things **in** a joyful manner!
- j. You'll actually save time **by** going there **on** foot!