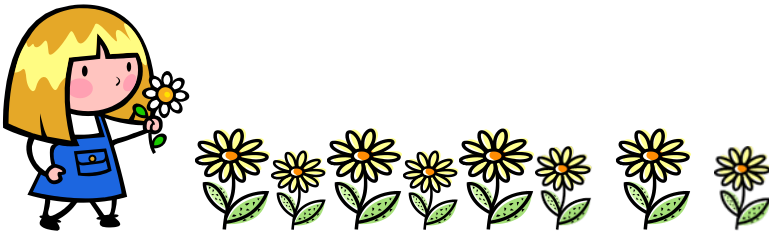


# PREPOSITIONS

A preposition is a part of speech that indicates position—time, space, or direction. It begins a prepositional phrase and is followed by a noun, pronoun,

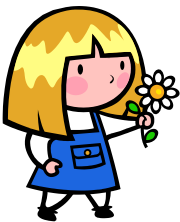
gerund, or clause, called the object of the preposition. There are different types of prepositional phrases. Some are **adjectival**; they modify a **noun** or **pronoun** while others are **adverbial**, meaning they provide detail for the **verb**. Other times, a prepositional phrase can act as a noun and therefore can serve as the **subject or direct object** in a sentence. In this case, the phrase is **nominal**. Sometimes, however, all the terminology can be overwhelming, so follow the illustrations below to better understand the concept of a preposition and its phrase. The underlined items below are prepositional phrases and the highlighted areas represent the part of speech being modified.

**Adjectival:** *modify the noun/pronoun and tells Which one? or How many?*



The **girl** with blonde hair picks a flower.

- In this sentence, “with” is the preposition and “with blonde hair” is the prepositional phrase. It answers *which* girl: the one with blond hair.

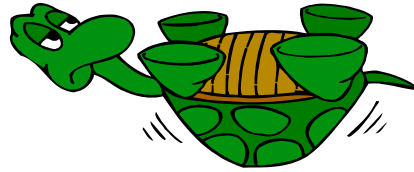


Jenny takes **the daisy** from the field as a gift for her mother.

- “from the field” answers the question *Which one?*

**Note:** Both of these examples are considered **adjectival** since the phrases provide detail to the nouns “**the daisy**” and “**the girl.**”

**Adverbial:** *pertaining to the verb.* The verb in the sentence shows action, occurrence, or existence, and the adverbial prepositional phrase answers the questions *How? When? Why? or Where?*



As Jenny passes Johnson’s Bridge, a tortoise **is flipped** on its back, so she **hurries** with eagerness to help it.

- The above sentence shows the prepositional phrase “on its back” which answers the question *how* the tortoise was flipped. Also, the prepositional phrase “with eagerness” tells *how* she hurried. Both of these examples give detail to the verbs “was flipped” and “hurried.”

**Nominal:** *functioning as a subject*



Over the bridge **is** a short-cut to the park; however, near the foundation **needs** repair.

- In this example, the prepositional phrases “Over the bridge” and “near the foundation” act as the subject in the sentence.

**Note:** The nominal prepositional phrases can also serve as the direct and indirect object of the sentence as well as their complements.

Below is a list of commonly used prepositions:

<b>across</b>	<b>after</b>	<b>against</b>	<b>along</b>
<b>among</b>	<b>apart from</b>	<b>around</b>	<b>as</b>
<b>as for</b>	<b>at</b>	<b>because of</b>	<b>before</b>
<b>behind</b>	<b>below</b>	<b>beneath</b>	<b>beside</b>
<b>between</b>	<b>by</b>	<b>during</b>	<b>for</b>
<b>from</b>	<b>in</b>	<b>in addition to</b>	<b>in place of</b>
<b>into</b>	<b>like</b>	<b>near</b>	<b>next</b>
<b>of</b>	<b>off</b>	<b>on</b>	<b>out</b>
<b>outside</b>	<b>over</b>	<b>past</b>	<b>regarding</b>
<b>round</b>	<b>since</b>	<b>through</b>	<b>throughout</b>
<b>to</b>	<b>toward</b>	<b>under</b>	<b>underneath</b>
<b>unlike</b>	<b>until</b>	<b>up</b>	<b>upon</b>
<b>up to</b>	<b>with</b>	<b>within</b>	<b>without</b>