

THE PREPOSITIONS OF PLACE

ACTIVITY TYPE

Reading, Writing, Grammar,
Exercises

LANGUAGE FOCUS

The prepositions of place

AIM

To learn and practice the
prepositions of place in English

LEVEL

Beginner, Elementary

TIME

60 minutes

INTRODUCTION

After going through your regular review and teacher talk, tell the students that they're going to learn the prepositions of place in English

PREPARATION

Make one copy of the worksheet for each student

PROCEDURE

Give one copy of the worksheet to each student.
Go through the grammar and exercises together.

WRAPUP

Ask the students if they have any doubts.

Thank them for coming to the lesson.

PREPOSITIONS OF PLACE

IN / AT / ON

IN

Use 'in' with spaces:

- in a room / in a building
- in a garden / in a park

Use 'in' with bodies of water:

- in the water
- in the sea
- in a river

Use 'in' with lines:

- in a row / in a line
- in a queue

AT

Use 'at' with places:

- at the bus-stop

- at the door
- at the cinema
- at the end of the street

Use 'at' with places on a page:

- at the top of the page
- at the bottom of the page

Use 'at' in groups of people:

- at the back of the class
- at the front of the class

ON

Use 'on' with surfaces:

- on the ceiling / on the wall / on the floor
- on the table

Use 'on' with small islands:

- I stayed on Maui.

Use 'on' with directions:

- on the left
- on the right
- straight on

IMPORTANT NOTES

In / at / on the corner

We say 'in the corner of a room', but 'at the corner (or 'on the corner') of a street'

In / at / on the front

- We say 'in the front / in the back' of a car
- We say 'at the front / at the back' of buildings / groups of people
- We say 'on the front / on the back' of a piece of paper

prepositions of place and movement in / at / to / nothing

IN

Use 'in' with static (non-movement) verbs and cities, countries, states, etc.:

- stay in the USA
- work in New York

AT

Use 'at' with static (non-movement) verbs and places:

- at the cinema
- at work
- at home

TO

Use 'to' with verbs of movement such as go, come, drive, etc.:

- go to work
- drive to California

IMPORTANT NOTES

The use of '' (nothing)

- With verbs of movement and the noun 'home' - He went home.
- they drove home.
- With the verb 'visit' - She visited France last summer.

Prepositions of Place and Direction

Look at this plan of the ground floor of a skyscraper:

Here are a number of preposition combinations that can be used to describe the floor plan:

Prepositions of Position

at the back of

at the bottom of

at the top of

behind

between

in the corner of

in the middle of

next to

to the left of

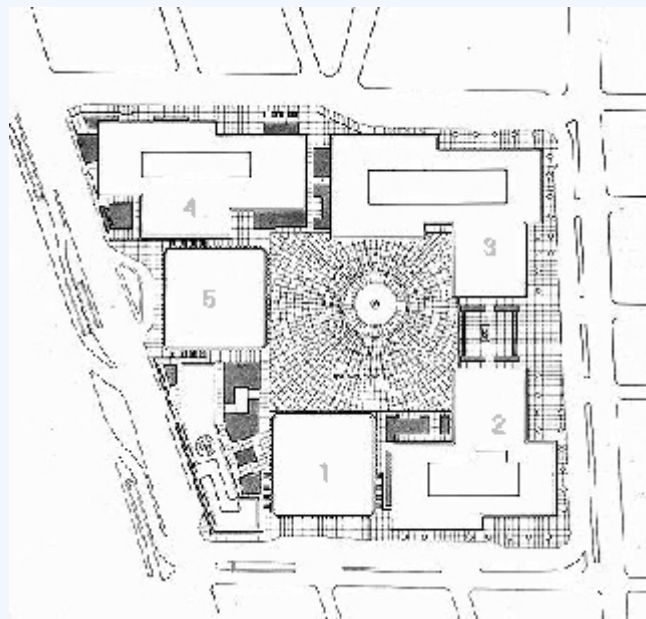
on the other side of

to the right of

on the side of

on top of

opposite



Example Sentences

There is a large garden in the middle of the skyscraper.

The smallest room is located to the left of the internal garden.

The entrance to room number three is opposite the entrance to room number two.

Prepositions of Direction

Here are a number of preposition that can be used to show direction and movement around the floor plan:

across

between

into

out of

past

round

through

towards

Example Sentences

Walk through the exit of room two and enter into building number three.

Walk across the indoor garden to reach room number five.

EXERCISES

Choose the right preposition of place:

1. _____ the picture, I can see a family _____ a kitchen.
2. There is a dish full of fruits _____ the worktop.
3. The mother is standing _____ her son and daughter.
4. She is holding a vase _____ in her hand.
5. The son and the daughter are sitting _____ the worktop smiling _____ each other.
6. There are beautiful cupboards _____ the wall.
7. There is a window _____ the mother.
8. The woman is looking _____ her daughter.

Choose at, in, on to complete the sentences.

1. They are sitting _____ the table.
2. I want to spend a year _____ Barcelona.
3. The milk isn't _____ the fridge. Where is it?
4. Peter's office _____ the first or the second floor?
5. Why are all these clothes _____ the bed?
6. Please, put the clothes _____ the wardrobe.
7. Are you _____ home?

8. I don't want to see her _____ the party tonight.
9. I like the sea, but I prefer swimming _____ a swimming pool.
10. Please, call me when you are _____ the bus.
11. The headquarters of the United Nations is _____ New York.
12. In the most countries people drive _____ the right.
13. I usually buy a newspaper _____ my way to work.
14. Last year we had a lovely skiing holiday _____ the Swiss Alps.
15. San Francisco is _____ the west coast of the United States.
16. She spends most of the day sitting _____ the window.
17. The report about the accident was _____ the front page of the newspaper.
18. In the theatre we had seats _____ the front row.
19. Write the name and address _____ the front page of the envelope.
20. It's dangerous to play football _____ the streets.
21. I'll meet you _____ the corner of the street at 10.
22. We got stuck in a traffic jam _____ the way to the airport.
23. Look at the horses _____ that field.
24. _____ the end of the street is a path to our house.
25. Do you want sugar _____ your coffee?

Look at the pictures below and describe where things are using the prepositions of position

1.



Ex. The bottle is on the microwave

2.



3.



Look at the picture and describe where the streets are using the prepositions of direction

