**Prepositions: Relating Words in a Sentence**

**1. Definition:**

Prepositions are words that show the relationship between nouns (or pronouns) and other words in a sentence. They indicate location, direction, time, or manner.

**2. Common Prepositions:**

**In:** Shows location within a space or time.

***Example:*** The book is in the bag.

**On:** Indicates location on a surface or time.

***Example:*** The cat is on the table.

**At:** Shows specific location or time.

***Example:*** We'll meet at the park at noon.

**By:** Indicates the agent of an action or proximity.

***Example:*** The letter was delivered by the postman.

**With:** Shows association, accompaniment, or manner.

***Example:*** She is going shopping with her friends.

**For:** Indicates purpose, duration, or recipient.

***Example:*** This gift is for you.

**To:** Indicates direction or destination.

***Example:*** We're going to the beach.

**From:** Shows the point of origin.

***Example:*** He's coming from the airport.

**Over:** Indicates movement or position above or across.

***Example:*** The bird flew over the river.

**Under:** Shows position or movement beneath.

***Example:*** The treasure is buried under the ground.

**3. Prepositional Phrases:**

Prepositions are often used in prepositional phrases, which consist of the preposition, its object (a noun or pronoun), and any modifiers.

***Example:*** The book is on the shelf.

**4. Common Prepositional Combinations:**

**In front of:** Before or facing something.

**Behind:** At the back of.

**Beside:** Next to.

**Between:** In the middle of two things.

**During:** Throughout a period.

**Among:** In the midst of a group.

**Across:** From one side to the other.

**5. Time Prepositions:**

Prepositions are also used to indicate time relationships.

**On:** Used with specific days and dates.

**At:** Used for specific times.

**In:** Used for general times, months, and years.

***Example:*** "I'll see you in a month, on January 1st at 3:00 PM."

**6. Idiomatic Prepositions:**

Some prepositions have unique meanings or uses in idiomatic expressions.

***Example:*** "He's always in a hurry" (idiomatic use of "in").

Prepositions are crucial for understanding and expressing relationships between objects, locations, and times in English. They help create clear and meaningful sentences by specifying how words and phrases relate to one another within a sentence.