

PREPOSITIONS

A Complete Practice Set of 30 Solved MCQs

✓ CORRECT ANSWERS HIGHLIGHTED

✍ EXPLANATIONS FOR EVERY ANSWER

Every question includes four options, the verified correct answer, and a clear explanation to strengthen your understanding of English prepositions.

1 Do you take pride _____ your appearance?

✓ A. In

B. at

C. about

D. of

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: A) In

The phrase “take pride in” is a fixed expression meaning to feel satisfaction or pleasure about something. “In” is used because the pride is located inside the feeling about your appearance — the same pattern as “interested in” or “confident in.”

2 Ali is always _____ time.

A. In

✓ B. on

C. over

D. at

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: B) on

“On time” is the standard idiom meaning punctual — neither early nor late. “On” is used because the action lines up exactly with the scheduled point in time, like standing on a mark.

3 The horses ran _____ the garden.

A. Over

B. up

✓ C. through

D. onto

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: C) through

“Through” shows movement that enters from one side and exits from another, passing across the middle of an area — exactly how the horses moved across the garden.

4 The show starts _____ midnight.

A. By	✓ B. at
C. on	D. to

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: B) at

"At" is used with a precise point on the clock (a specific time), such as "at midnight" or "at 5 o'clock," rather than a day, date, or duration.

5 We made it _____ time.

✓ A. In	B. on
C. through	D. at

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: A) In

"Make it in time" means to arrive before a deadline with some time to spare. "In" signals that the action fits inside the available window, unlike "on time," which means exactly punctual.

6 Be there _____ noon _____ we'll be late.

✓ A. By, or	B. by, and
C. and, or	D. at, else

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: A) By, or

"By" sets a deadline (no later than noon), and "or" introduces the consequence of missing it — a classic warning structure: instruction + "or" + result.

7 There is also Christmas _____ Haram's Birthday _____ Saturday.

✓ A. and, on	B. but, at
C. on, by	D. while, by

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: A) and, on

"And" simply joins two events (Christmas and the birthday) that are both being mentioned. "On" is then used because days of the week always take the preposition "on" — "on Saturday."

8 There is a cat _____ the tree along _____ the dog.

A. In, by	B. at, over
✓ C. under, with	D. inside, in

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: C) under, with

“Under” places the cat in a position beneath the tree, and “along with” is a fixed phrase meaning “together with,” showing the dog is there too.

9 When I’ll sleep, I have to get my books _____ the bed.

A. In	B. into
C. onto	✓ D. off

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: D) off

“Off” shows removal from a surface — the books need to be taken away from the bed before it can be used for sleeping, unlike “onto,” which would mean placing them there.

10 This paper was based _____ history.

A. over	B. at
C. into	✓ D. on

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: D) on

“Based on” is a fixed collocation meaning something is built using another thing as its foundation or source, here the subject of history.

11 The Eagle flew low _____ our heads.

A. Under

B. at

✓ C. over

D. by

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: C) over

"Over" describes motion through the air at a position higher than something else — the eagle passed above the people's heads while flying.

12 I've not seen Ramsha _____ last month.

A. For

B. from

✓ C. since

D. on

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: C) since

"Since" is used with a specific starting point in the past that continues up to now (perfect tense), whereas "for" would be used with a duration like "for a month."

13 I stood _____ her in the lane.

✓ A. next to

B. over

C. below

D. past

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: A) next to

"Next to" means positioned immediately beside someone, sharing the same level — exactly the picture of two people standing together in a lane.

14 We washed all the crockery _____ the dinner.

A. By

B. between

✓ C. after

D. at

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: C) after

"After" places one event later in time than another — the washing happened once the dinner was finished.

15 Come _____ the classroom with me.

A. On	B. onto
C. over	✓ D. into

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: D) into

"Into" shows movement from outside to inside an enclosed space, which fits entering a classroom.

16 Fredrick is dying. I am afraid he is _____ his last legs.

A. In	B. at
✓ C. on	D. over

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: C) on

"On his last legs" is a fixed idiom meaning close to failing, collapsing, or dying, so it always keeps the preposition "on."

17 I was _____ a bad temper so I fought with my friend.

✓ A. In	B. on
C. at	D. with

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: A) In

"In" is used to describe being inside a state of mind or mood, such as "in a temper," "in a good mood," or "in trouble."

18 There is some dispute _____ the shop.

A. Among

B. in

✓ C. over

D. about

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: C) over

"Dispute over" is the natural collocation used when people disagree about ownership, control, or a decision concerning something, here the shop.

19 I am bit weak _____ geography but I am trying hard.

A. At

✓ B. in

C. over

D. on

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: B) in

"Weak in" (like "strong in" or "good in") is used to talk about ability or performance in a subject area.

20 I can't even think _____ travelling _____ public bus.

✓ A. of, by

B. off, to

C. by, in

D. of, to

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: A) of, by

"Think of" is the standard collocation for considering an idea, and "by" is the preposition used for a method of transport, such as "by bus," "by car," or "by train."

21 Don't depend _____ others.

A. Upon

✓ B. on

C. onto

D. for

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: B) on

"Depend on" shows reliance on a source of support; "on" marks the person or thing being relied upon.

22 He would surely tide _____ the crisis.

A. Against

B. at

✓ C. over

D. among

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: C) over

"Tide over" is a fixed idiom meaning to get through a difficult period successfully, so "over" is locked to this phrase.

23 He was unfit _____ the job as he was lacking _____ communication.

✓ A. for, in

B. to, on

C. for, at

D. among, under

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: A) for, in

"Unfit for" shows purpose or suitability for a role, and "lacking in" shows a shortage inside a particular skill or quality — here, communication.

24 He had longing _____ a dessert so we went out.

A. About

✓ B. for

C. to

D. in

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: B) for

"Longing for" is the fixed pairing used when someone strongly desires something, here a dessert.

25 He was roaming _____ the garden.

A. On

✓ B. in

C. at

D. under

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: B) in

"In" shows that the roaming happened within the enclosed space of the garden, rather than on its surface or at a single point.

26 Life promises a lot _____ pleasure.

✓ **A. Of**

B. for

C. about

D. more

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: A) Of

"A lot of" is a fixed quantity expression, and here "of" connects the amount to what it consists of — pleasure.

27 He knows German and Italian _____ Chinese.

A. Beside

✓ **B. besides**

C. by

D. except

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: B) besides

"Besides" means "in addition to" and adds Chinese to the list of languages he knows. Note the spelling: "beside" (without s) means physical position next to something, which would not fit here.

28 Taylor was pleased _____ my work.

A. At

B. for

C. over

✓ **D. with**

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: D) with

"Pleased with" is the standard collocation for expressing satisfaction about something someone has done.

29 We've been living in the house _____ 1997.

A. For

B. from

✓ **C. since**

D. to

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: C) since

"Since" marks a fixed starting point in the past (the year 1997) that continues into the present, matching the present perfect continuous tense "have been living."

30 There is something admirable _____ him.

A. To

B. for

✓ **C. about**

D. with

EXPLANATION | Correct Answer: C) about

“Admirable about” is used when the quality being praised concerns or relates to a person in general, similar to “I like something about him.”