

Prepositions 1

place and movement

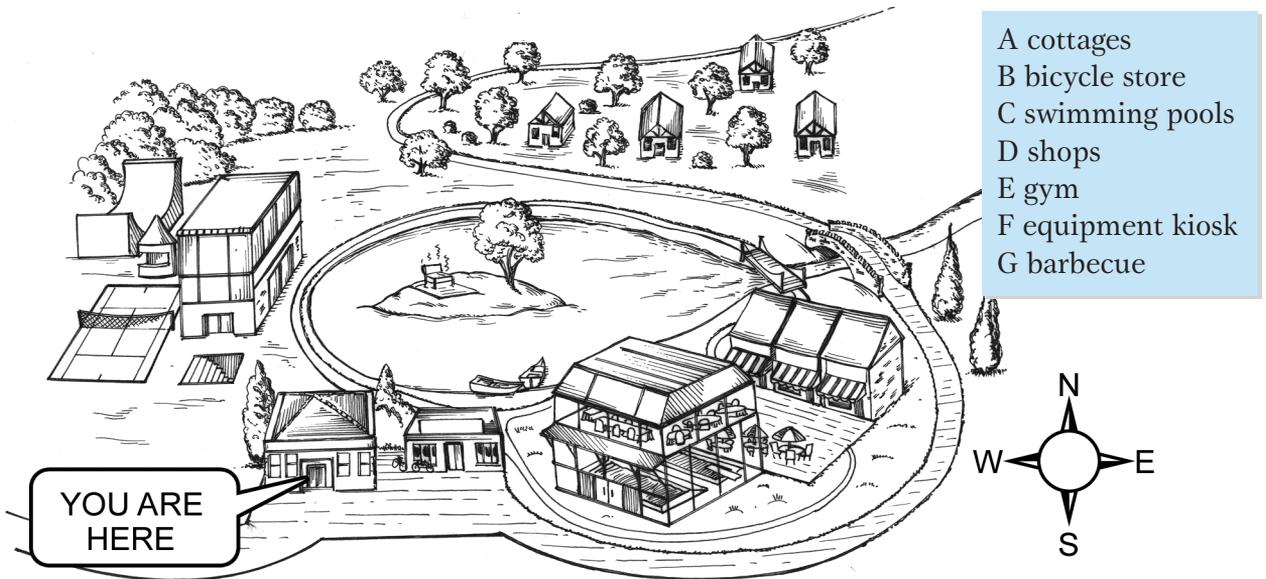
A Context listening

A1 Isobel is the receptionist at Forest Adventure, a holiday park. She is telling some new guests about the park. Which of the facilities in the pictures do you think she mentions?



A2 17 Listen and check if you were right.

A3 17 Listen again and mark the places A-G on the map below.



A4 Read these sentences. Are they are true or false? Write T for True or F for False and correct the false sentences. Check your answers by looking at the map and listening again.

- 1 The cottages are across the lake.
- 2 You can drive round the lake.
- 3 The swimming pools are beside the restaurants.
- 4 The gym is opposite the disco.
- 5 The barbecue is on the island.

B Grammar

B1 In, at and on

We say *in*

- ◆ a continent, a country, a town, a park, a garden, a building, a room:
*You can cycle anywhere **in** the park.*
*Uruguay is **in** South America.*
- ◆ a cupboard, a box, a bag, a wallet, a book, a file:
*There's a lot of money **in** this bag.*
*We found a picture of the castle **in** our guide book.*
- ◆ a car or a taxi:
*They arrived **in** a taxi.*

We say *on*

- ◆ an island, the coast:
*There is a barbecue **on** the island twice a week.*
- ◆ a wall, the floor or the ceiling:
*I put the picture **on** the wall.*
- ◆ a public transport vehicle (bus, train, plane etc.)
*I do my homework **on** the bus.*

We use *into*, *onto*, *off* and *out of* for movement:

*We got **onto/off** the bus.*
*He walked **into/out of** the shop.*

We say *at*

- ◆ a place where we arrange to meet:
*I'll see you **at** the station.*
- ◆ after *arrive*:
*When you arrive **at** your cottage you'll find details ...*
but for countries and cities, we use *in*:
*When do we arrive **in** Athens?*
- ◆ when we give directions:
*Go left **at** the traffic lights.*
- ◆ a place where something happens (a cinema, a station, someone's home, school).
*Did you have a good time **at** Alex's house?*
*I saw that film **at** the local cinema.*
- ◆ an event (a party, a conference, a concert):
*My favourite band played **at** the concert.*
*There were lots of students **at** the conference.*
- ◆ the top/bottom/side:
*Please sign this form **at** the bottom of the first page.*

→ C1

B2 Under and on top of; above/over and below/under

We use *under* and *on top of* for things which are touching:

*The DVD player is **under** the television.*

*The magazine is **on top of** the television.*

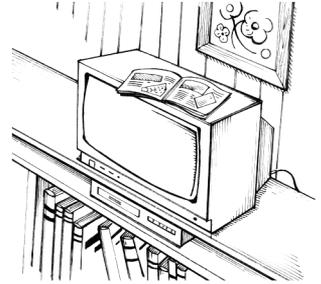
We use *below* or *under* and *above* or *over* for things which are not touching:

*The books are **below/under** the DVD player.*

*The picture is **above/over** the television.*

Above and below are used in books:

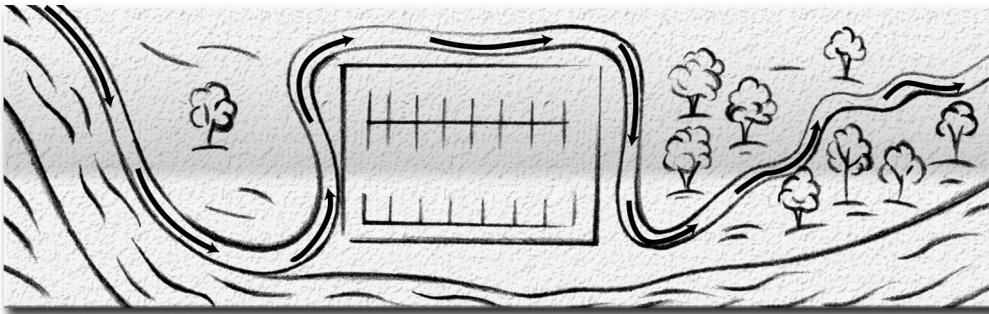
*Please do the exercise **below**.*



→C2

B3 Along, through and round; across and over

*I followed the man **along** the river, **round** the car park and **through** the wood.*



Across and over have similar meanings:

*The cottages are **across/over** the lake. (= They're the other side of the lake from here.)*

→C3

B4 In front of, behind, opposite, between; by, beside and next to



*The woman is **in front of** the television.*

*The television is **behind** the woman.*

We say *between* two places, things or people:

*The mother is **between** her sons.*

By, beside and next to mean the same:

*The girl is **by/beside/next to** her father.*

Opposite means two things are on two facing sides.

*The girl is **opposite** her mother. (= The girl is on the other side of the table from her mother.)*

⚠ opposite ≠ in front of

→C4, C5, C6

C Grammar exercises

C1 Match the halves of the sentences.

- | | |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 The Prado is in <u>h</u> | a the coast of the Pacific Ocean. |
| 2 Part of New York is on | b North Africa. |
| 3 Tunisia is in | c the top of the page. |
| 4 Chile is on | d art college before he was famous. |
| 5 Michelangelo painted on | e the river Nile. |
| 6 This exercise is at | f the Tower of London. |
| 7 John Lennon was at | g the island of Manhattan. |
| 8 Trains from Cardiff arrive at | h <u>Madrid</u> . |
| 9 Cairo is on | i Paddington Station in London. |
| 10 The British Crown jewels are in | j the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. |

C2 Complete each sentence with a preposition from the box.

above ~~at~~ at below in in into off on top of onto

- 1 What time will Ali arriveat..... the restaurant?
- 2 There are lots of examples a good dictionary.
- 3 I climbed a wall to see what was happening.
- 4 From the top of the hill, we had a good view of the village us.
- 5 There are lots of shoe shops the city centre.
- 6 I saw Terry get a taxi, but I don't know where it took him.
- 7 You can leave your bike the side of the house.
- 8 I couldn't find my book because someone had put the newspaper it.
- 9 We keep medicines in the cupboard the basin so the children can't reach them.
- 10 Harry got the bus at the wrong stop because he was dreaming about his girlfriend.

C3 Underline the correct preposition in each sentence.

- 1 We can walk to the shops more quickly if we go along/across the sports field.
- 2 I was really annoyed when I found our cat asleep on top of/above my clean jumper.
- 3 We drove round/along the market square several times but we didn't see Simon.
- 4 There's a small shelf for your books on top of/over the bed.

- 5 Joseph ran quickly *along/through* the corridor to the office.
- 6 Nicky found her mobile *under/below* a cushion on the sofa.
- 7 To get to the lifts, walk *over/through* the perfume department.
- 8 Please write your name clearly *on top of/above* your signature.
- 9 You can see *through/across* the harbour from our balcony.
- 10 The ball flew *over/along* the goal and landed in the crowd.

C4 Look at the picture and fill in the gaps in these sentences with prepositions.

The bed is 1 between the door and the window.
 There are four pictures 2 the wall
 3 the bed. There are some clothes
 hanging 4 the head of the bed. In the
 corner is a table with a mirror 5 it
 and a jug and other things 6 it.
 There's a chair 7 the head of the bed
 and another chair 8 the foot of the
 bed 9 a door. There's a towel hanging
 10 this door.



C5 Write a description of the room you are in or another room you know well. Use the language in C4 to help you.

C6 In each of these sentences there is one wrong preposition. Underline each mistake and write the correction.

- 1 There are lots of art galleries at Amsterdam.in.....
- 2 She watched the children run onto the park to play.
- 3 Timmy saw Mel in the party but he didn't speak to her.
- 4 Andy ran through the beach to the next village and came back by bus.
- 5 I took the ticket out from my bag and gave it to the man by the door.
- 6 Please don't park behind my window - I can't see anything.
- 7 We were very tired when we arrived at Paris after a long flight.
- 8 Jacky hid between a car when she saw Lewis because she didn't want to speak to him.
- 9 I called in Rebecca's house, but she wasn't at home.
- 10 The guide held a small flag on top of her head so that the tourists could follow her easily.

D Exam practice

Read the **email** in the Writing Part 1 task below. Write down the names of the important buildings in your town. Use these ideas if you want.

town hall sports centre railway station museum art gallery hospital

Grammar focus task

Write some sentences describing where the buildings are. Use these prepositions.

opposite in front of behind between by beside next to

Now do the exam task below.

Writing Part 1

- This is part of an email you receive from your English friend George.

I'm looking forward to visiting your town. Can you describe the town centre to me? Where are the most important buildings?

- Now write an email to George, telling him about the buildings in the town centre.
- Write your **email** in about 100 words.