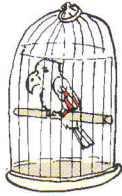


# 118 Prepositions of place

Prepositions

## 1 Meanings



The bird is **in/inside** the cage.



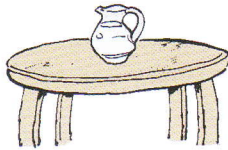
Sarah is diving **in/into** the water.



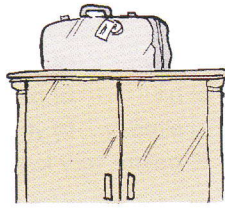
Tom is getting **out of** the car.



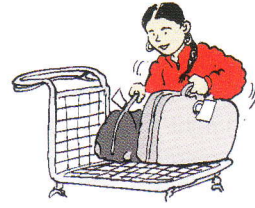
They're waiting **at** the bank.



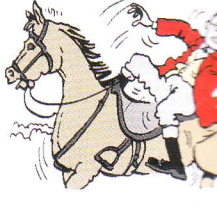
The jug is **on** the table.



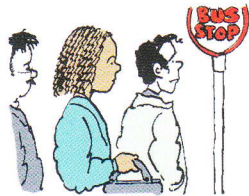
The case is **on top of** the wardrobe.



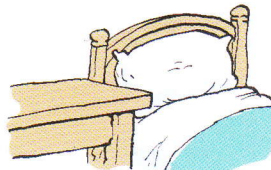
Emma is putting her luggage **on/onto** the trolley.



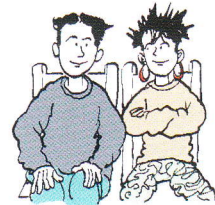
Henry is falling **off** the horse.



Rachel is **at** the bus stop.



The table is **by/beside** the bed.



Jessica is sitting **next to** Andrew.



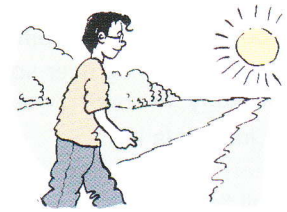
The airport is **near** Manchester.



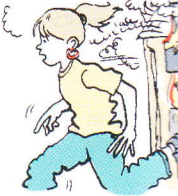
The coach is going **to** London.



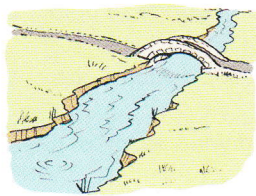
The letter is **from** Chicago.



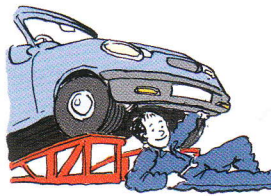
Matthew is walking **towards** the sun.



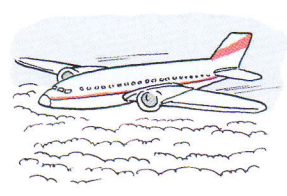
Vicky is running **from** the fire.



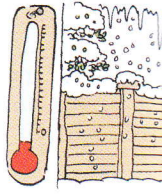
There's a bridge **over** the river.



Tom is **under** the car.

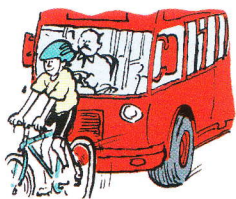


The plane is **above** the clouds.

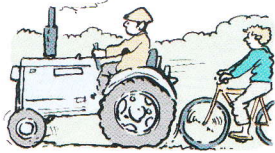


The temperature is **below** zero.

Question



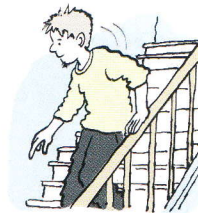
The cyclist is **in front of** the bus.



The cyclist is **behind** the tractor.



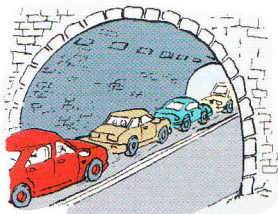
Rita is going **up** the stairs.



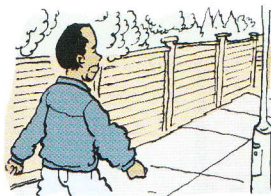
Daniel is coming **down** the stairs.



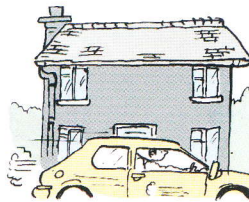
Melanie is running **across** the road.



The cars are going **through** the tunnel.



Trevor is walking **along** the street.



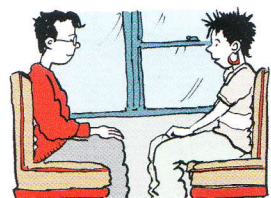
The car is going **past** the house.



The house is **among** the trees.



Jackson is **between** Memphis and New Orleans.



Jessica is sitting **opposite** Andrew.



They're running **around/round** the track.

## 2 Position and movement

Most of these prepositions can express either position (where something is) or movement (where it is going).

Position: The coin **was under** the sofa.

Movement: The coin **rolled under** the sofa.

Now look at these examples with **in** and **on** expressing position.

The manager **was in** the office. The papers **were on** the floor.

To express movement, we use **into** and **onto**, but we can also use **in** and **on**, especially in informal English.

The manager **came in/into** the office. The papers **fell on/onto** the floor.

**At** expresses position, and **to** expresses movement.

Position: Vicky **was at** the doctor's.

Movement: Vicky **went to** the doctor's.

▷ page 380 British and American English

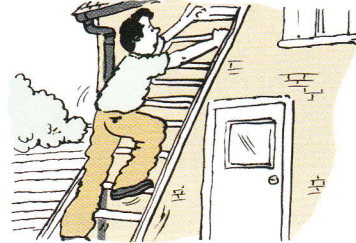
# Practice

## A Prepositions of place (1)

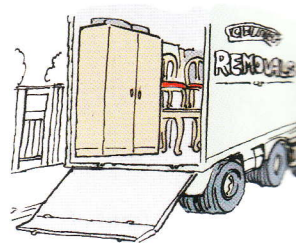
Put in the prepositions. Sometimes more than one answer is correct.



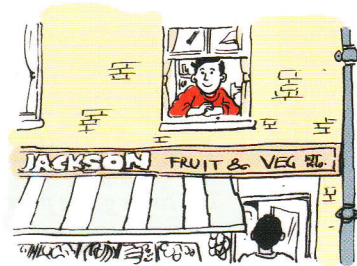
▶ Sarah is getting out of the taxi.



1 David is going ..... the ladder.



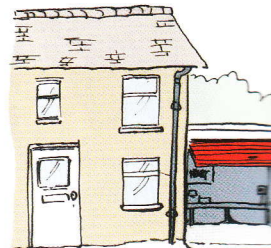
2 The furniture is ..... the van.



3 My friend lives in a flat ..... a shop.



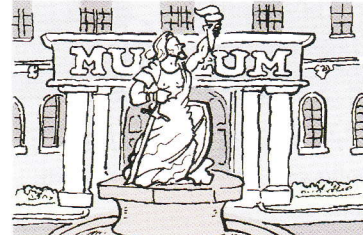
4 The boss is coming ..... the corridor.



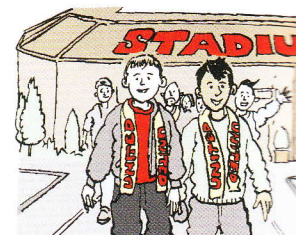
5 There's a garage ..... the house.



6 We walked ..... the lake.



7 There's a statue ..... the museum.



8 Tom and Nick are walking ..... the stadium.

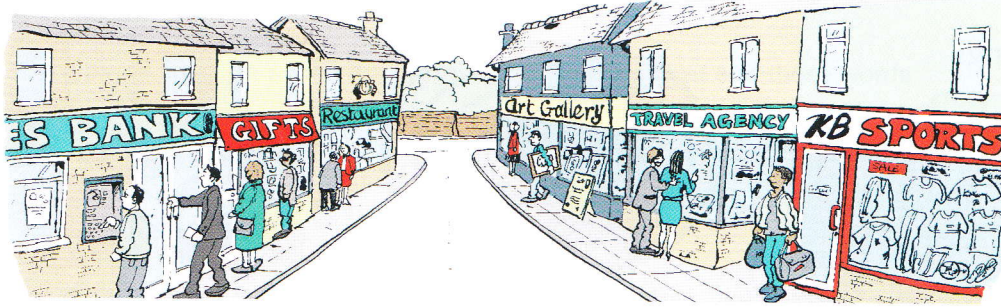
## B Prepositions of place (1)

Complete the conversations. Choose the correct preposition.

- 1 Vicky: I felt really afraid when I was walking home from/off the club. All the time I could see someone behind/in front of me, but I didn't dare turn round.  
 Rachel: I expect you were imagining it.  
 Vicky: No, I wasn't. I saw him after I'd come in across/through the gate. He was wearing a long black coat that came down well below/under his knees.
- 2 Daniel: You know Adam, don't you? He's very strange. He walked right along/past me yesterday as I was coming among/down the stairs, but he didn't say hello.  
 Matthew: The other day he was sitting beside/opposite me at lunch, so I couldn't help looking at him. I said hello, but he didn't speak.

### C Between, next to and opposite (1)

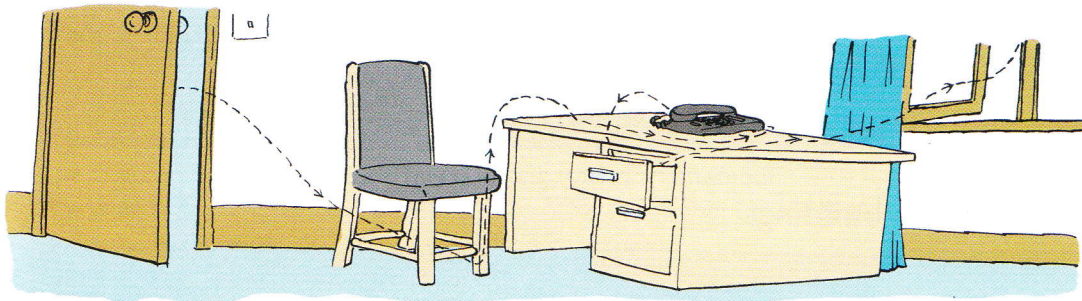
Look at the plan and explain where things are. Use *between*, *next to* or *opposite*.



- ▶ The bank is next to the gift shop.
- 1 The sports shop is ..... the bank.
- 2 The travel agency is ..... the sports shop and the art gallery.
- 3 The restaurant is ..... the art gallery.
- 4 The gift shop is ..... the bank and the restaurant.
- 5 The art gallery is ..... the travel agency.

### D Prepositions of place (1-2)

Where did the fly go? Put in these prepositions: *around*, *into*, *on*, *out of*, *through*, *under*, *up*



- ▶ The fly came in through the door.
- 1 It flew ..... the chair.
- 2 It crawled ..... the chair leg.
- 3 It stopped ..... the desk for a moment.
- 4 It went ..... the telephone.
- 5 It flew ..... the drawer.
- 6 It went ..... the window.

### E Prepositions of place (1-2)

Put in the correct preposition.

- ▶ Rachel was lying on the grass reading a book.
- 1 It's my holiday next week. I'm going ..... Spain.
- 2 There was a big crowd ..... the shop waiting for it to open.
- 3 That man is an idiot. He pushed me ..... the swimming-pool.
- 4 I went ..... the chemist's just now, but I didn't notice if it was open.
- 5 David hurt himself. He fell ..... his bike.
- 6 There's a café ..... top of the mountain. You can have a coffee there before you go down.
- 7 The sheep got out ..... a hole in the fence.
- 8 Pompeii is quite ..... Sorrento. It's only a short train ride.
- 9 There's such a crowd. You won't find your friend ..... all these people.