

KS3 English Quiz - Prepositions 01 (Questions)

Prepositions are linking words that are put before nouns and pronouns, and describe something's location or other information. In the sentence "The cat sits on the sofa", the word "on" is the preposition.

The entire purpose of language is to communicate. Prepositions make our communications much more precise. So if your teacher wanted you to bring him a piece of paper from his desk, he might describe it thus: "handwritten", "unlined green paper", "crumpled". He might also describe its position: "in the middle of the desk, near the lamp, on my copy of *Macbeth*, possible under my lunch." Here the words "in", "near", "on" and "under" are the prepositions telling you exactly where to find the paper.

A preposition must be attached in some way to a noun: "in the **middle of the desk**, near the **lamp**, on my **copy of Macbeth**, possible under my **lunch**." Now you can see how each of the prepositions is followed by a noun (or noun phrase) in bold. Use prepositions to make your writing more precise.

To hone your preposition skills, play this quiz on the subject.

1. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.

I bought a present my mother.

- by
- for
- from
- to

2. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.

I gave a present my friend.

- by
- for
- from
- to

3. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.

I am buying flowers her birthday.

- by
- for
- from
- to

4. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.

The flowers will be a surprise my mother.

- by
- for
- from
- to

5. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.

They gave the homework books their friends.

- by
- for
- from
- to

6. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.

You need to choose a book the library.

- by
- for
- from
- to

7. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.

The book the library is your homework.

- by, from
- from, for
- from, to
- to, from

8. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.

The book written J Smith the library is you to read.

- by, from, for
- for, from, by
- from, by, for
- to, from, for

9. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.

The journey home school train takes one hour.

- from, by, to
- from, for, by
- from, to, by
- from, to, for

10. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.

Entries the competition must be received us Friday.

- for, by, by
- for, for, by
- from, by, by
- to, to, by

KS3 English Quiz - Prepositions 01 (Answers)

1. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.
I bought a present my mother.

- by
- for
- from
- to

A common error here is the use of "to"

2. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.
I gave a present my friend.

- by
- for
- from
- to

The preposition "to" comes before the pronoun "my"

3. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.
I am buying flowers her birthday.

- by
- for
- from
- to

You can buy presents "for" a person, or "for" a special occasion

4. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.
The flowers will be a surprise my mother.

- by
- for
- from
- to

Here the preposition "for" clarifies not that the flowers are "for" the mother, but that she will be the person to be surprised (it will be a surprise "for" her)

5. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.
They gave the homework books their friends.

- by
- for
- from
- to

"Friends" is an indirect object here, which the use of the preposition "to" demonstrates

6. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.
You need to choose a book the library.

- by
- for
- from
- to

The preposition "from" comes before the noun ("library")

7. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.
The book the library is your homework.

- by, from
- from, for
- from, to
- to, from

"From the library", "for your homework"

8. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.
The book written J Smith the library is you to read.

- by, from, for
- for, from, by
- from, by, for
- to, from, for

You could also use the word "in": "in the library"

9. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.
The journey home school train takes one hour.

- from, by, to
- from, for, by
- from, to, by
- from, to, for

There are many prepositions in this sentence!

10. Find the preposition(s) in the following sentence.
Entries the competition must be received us Friday.

- for, by, by
- for, for, by
- from, by, by
- to, to, by

"Entries to the competition" would also be correct. "On" or "before" Friday would also work