

Prepositions of Place

Some words tell us where something is or what place it is in.

For example above, below, behind, in front of, next to, in, inside, opposite, under, next to, beside, on.



The ball is **in** the box.

The ball is **inside** the box.



The black ball is **in front of** the brown box.

The brown box is **behind** the black ball.



The ball is **next** to the box.

The ball is **beside** the box.



The ball is **between** the boxes.



The light is **above** the box.

The box is **below** the light.



The ball is **on** the table.



The ball is **under** the table.

The ball is **below** the table.



The box is **among** the balls.



The ball is **against** the wall.



The ball is **near** the box.

Exercise 1



John Hannah Susie

1. John is **in front of / next to** Hannah.
2. Hannah is **above / between** John and Susie.
3. Susie is **among / beside** Hannah.



4. The woman is sitting **on / under** the stool.

5. The stool is **on / under** the woman.

6. The cotton reel is **inside / near** the needle.



Exercise 2

Complete the gaps in this description of the picture of a job interview with the correct preposition.

1. The interviewer is sitting **behind / above / beside** a desk.
2. She is holding some papers **on / in / above** her hands.
3. There are some papers **on / in / above** her desk.
4. **Behind / above / beside** the interviewee is the open door.
5. The interviewee is sitting **on / under / above** a chair.
6. She is holding her hands **under / above / in** her lap.
7. She is sitting **near / above / behind** the interviewer.
8. There is a certificate **on / above / under** the wall.



Answer Key:

Exercise 1

1. next to, 2. between, 3. beside, 4. on, 5. under, 6. near

Exercise 2:

1. behind, 2. in, 3. on, 4. Behind, 5. on, 6. in, 7. near, 8. on