# Prepositions of Place 

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## Quick and Handy Grammar Review

## INTRODUCTION TO PREPOSITIONS

Prepositions are short words that show time, place, direction, etc. Some examples of prepositions are $a t$, on, in, to, from, above, under, of, and between. In this lesson, we will study prepositions of place.

## A. Common Prepositions of Place

|  | in <br> The fruit is in the bowl. |  | on <br> The owl is on the branch. |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | next to / beside <br> The movie tickets are next to the popcorn. |  | near <br> The pencil is near the eraser. |
|  | above <br> The painting is above the sofa. |  | under <br> The shoes are under the table. |
|  | across from <br> The fridge is across from the stove. |  | between <br> The apple is between the strawberry and the banana. |
|  | in front of <br> The girl is in front of the boy. |  | behind <br> The teacher is behind the desk. |

## Quick and Handy Grammar Review cont.

## B. Common Sentence Patterns for Prepositions of Place

There are two common sentence patterns that we use with prepositions of place.

1. The + noun + verb + preposition + the + noun.

- The cookie is on the plate. (singular)
- The strawberries are on the plate. (plural)

2. There + is + (a) + noun + preposition + the + noun.

- There is a cup of coffee on the table. (singular)
- There are bananas on the table. (plural)



## C. Prepositions of Place with Similar Meanings

Some prepositions have similar meanings.


1. Next to and beside have the same meaning.

- The sunglasses are next to the sunscreen.
- The sunglasses are beside the sunscreen.


2. On, above, and over have similar meanings.

Use on when the two nouns are touching and above when they aren't. Use over when there is movement.

- The boat is on the water.
- The light is above the table.
- The plane flew over the Eiffel Tower.


3. Under, beneath, and below have similar meanings.

- The cat is under the bed.
- The cat is beneath the bed.
- The cat is below the bed.


## Exercise 1

## MATCHUP

Write the letter of the picture that matches the preposition of place.
$\qquad$ 1. near
2. in
$\qquad$ 3. under
4. behind
5. on
6. across from
__ 7. above

$\qquad$ 8. next to
$\qquad$ 9. in front of
$\qquad$ 10. between


## Exercise 2

## IN THE KITCHEN

## A. Look at the Picture

Look at the picture of the kitchen below. Then answer the questions on the next page.


## Exercise 2 cont.

## B. Choose the Best Preposition

Look at the picture of the kitchen in Part A.
Then choose the best preposition for each sentence.

1. The stove is $\qquad$ the toaster.
a) above
b) near
c) behind
d) on
2. The pot is $\qquad$ the pan.
a) in front of
b) in
c) behind
d) on
3. The kettle is $\qquad$ the microwave.
a) across from
b) above
c) under
d) next to
4. The pot is $\qquad$ the stove.
a) in
b) above
c) on
d) under
5. The cabinets are
$\qquad$ the sink.
a) under
b) between
c) behind
d) on
6. The dishes are
$\qquad$
a) in
b) on
c) across from
d) behind
7. The kettle is
a) across from
b) between
c) next to
d) beside
8. The fridge is
a) beside
b) behind
c) next to
d) across from
9. The toaster is
a) on
b) above
c) beside
10. The sink is
a) in front of
b) behind
c) under
d) above
the cabinet.

## C. Write Sentences

Look at the picture of the kitchen in Part A. Now write two more sentences. Use a preposition of place in each sentence.

1. $\qquad$
$\square$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$ the microwave and the fridge.
2. $\qquad$
$\qquad$ the stove.
$\qquad$ the stove.
d) across from
$\qquad$ the cabinets.

## Exercise 3

## IN THE LIVING ROOM

Choose the preposition from the box that matches each picture. Use each preposition only once.


1. There is a cat $\qquad$ the coffee table.

2. There is a couch $\qquad$ the recliner.

3. There is a painting $\qquad$ the sofa.

4. There is a stereo $\qquad$ the recliner.

## Prepositions

| - in | enter~ |
| :--- | :--- |
| - on | - between |
| - next to | • in front of |
| - above | - behind |

- on • between
- above - behind


5. There is a dog $\qquad$ the sofa.

6. There is a remote control $\qquad$ the stereo cabinet.

7. There is an end table $\qquad$ the sofa and the recliner.

8. There is a coffee table $\qquad$ the sofa.

## Exercise 4

## PAIR WORK

## A. My Living Room

Draw the objects to the right in the empty square. When you're finished drawing your living room, describe it to your partner. (See Part B.)


coffee table

remote control


TV
 painting

end table

## Exercise 4 cont.

B. My Partner's Living Room

Listen as your partner describes his/her living room, and draw the objects to match the description in the empty box below.


## C. Compare Drawings

Compare your Part B drawing with your partner's
Part A drawing. Do your drawings match?

## Exercise 5

## WRITING

Write two sentences for each picture. Use a preposition in every sentence.
The second sentence must begin with There is or There are.


1. The books are under the TV.

There are books under the TV.

2. $\qquad$
$\qquad$

3. $\qquad$
$\qquad$

4. $\qquad$ 8. $\qquad$
$\qquad$

## Exercise 6

## CLASS SURVEY

Ask your classmates these questions. Write their answers in the boxes below. Try to talk to a different classmate for each question. Practice using prepositions of place in your answers.

| \# | Question | Classmate's Name | Answer |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | Is there a clock in your classroom? Where is it? |  |  |
| 2 | Where do you put your books at school? |  |  |
| 3 | Where do you put your books at home? |  |  |
| 4 | Do you have a cell phone? Where is it? |  |  |
| 5 | What's in your backpack/bag/purse? |  |  |
| 6 | Do you have any paintings on your walls at home? |  |  |
| 7 | How many pillows are on your bed? |  |  |
| 8 | Do you have a nightstand beside your bed? What's on it? |  |  |
| 9 | How many pairs of shoes are in your closet? |  |  |
| 10 | What's in your fridge? |  |  |

## Answer Key

## Exercise 1

1. e
2. $a$
3. j
4. f
5. c
6. g
7. i
8. b
9. $h$
10. d

## Exercise 2

## B. CHOOSE THE BEST PREPOSITION

1. b
2. d
3. a
4. b
5. c
6. $a$
7. c
8. a
9. d
10. d

## C. WRITE SENTENCES

Answers will vary.

## Exercise 3

1. under
2. behind
3. between
4. next to
5. on
6. above
7. in

## Exercise 4

Answers will vary. Monitor students for correct preposition usage when they explain their drawings to their partners.

## Exercise 5

## Answers may vary. Help your students

 with any vocabulary they are unfamiliar with.1. The books are under the TV. There are books under the TV.
2. The sushi is on the plate. There is sushi on the plate.
3. The apple is between the bananas.

There is an apple between the bananas.
4. The palm tree is next to / beside / near the pine tree.

There is a palm tree next to / beside / near the pine tree.
5. The painting is above the bed.

There is a painting above the bed.
6. The fruit is in the bowl. There is fruit in the bowl.
7. The stove is across from the fridge.

There is a stove across from the fridge.
8. The shoes are on the floor / in front of the couch. There are shoes on the floor / in front of the couch.

## Exercise 6

Answers will vary.

## SPELLING NOTE:

This lesson shows the American spelling of the word Practice. Other English-speaking countries spell it this way: Practise (when used as a verb; Practice when used as a noun). Make it a challenge for your students to find this word in the lesson and see if they know the alternate spelling.

