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Preposition

Prepositions are the words that join two parts of speech and show their relation with each other.

e.g.

- (i) The boy **on** the roof.
- (ii) Playing **near** the well.
- (iii) Go **to** Delhi **by** car.

Use of Some Prepositions

Preposition of Time

'In' with long period of time like month, year, season.

- (i) He was born **in 1972**.
- (ii) They will come here **in summer**.
- 'At' with point of time
 - (i) He gets up **at 6 o'clock**.
 - (ii) She does not study **at night**.
- 'On' with days, date, festival etc.
 - (i) He went there **on Monday**.
 - (ii) We bought our car **on Diwali**.
- From' with starting point of time
 - (i) He will study **from Tuesday**.
 - (ii) I stayed at his home **from morning to night**.
- 'For' with period of time
 - (i) He went to his village **for 10 days**.
 - (ii) Ravi has been eating **for half an hour**.

- Since' point of time
 - (i) He has been studying **since morning**.
 - (ii) I know him **since childhood**.
- 'By' with the end point of time
 - (i) **By March** I will buy my own house.
 - (ii) You will have to decorate this room **by tomorrow**.

Preposition of Place

- 'In' with larger place
 - (i) He lives **in Delhi**.
 - (ii) Last month we were **in America**.
- 'At' with small place
 - (i) He lives **at a village**.
 - (ii) Everybody was playing **at the school**.
- 'Into' with motion
 - (i) He went **into the room**.
 - (ii) They threw the stone **into the well**.
- 'On' thing touching on the surface
 - (i) The book is **on the table**.
 - (ii) I kept my mobile **on the book**.
- 'Upon' moving on the surface
 - (i) The ball is bouncing **upon the table**.
- 'Over' not touched
 - (i) The bird is flying **over the tree**.
 - (ii) There is a bridge **over the river**.

- 'Under' lying in the bottom not touched
 - (i) He was sleeping **under the tree**.
 - (ii) My shoes were **under the chair**.
- 'By' shows close position
 - (i) There is a temple **by the road**.
 - (ii) He is sitting **by me**.
- 'To' end of a place
 - (i) He went **to the market**.
 - (ii) He came **to me**.
- 'Towards' shows direction
 - (i) He is running **towards us**.
 - (ii) The car is moving **towards the gate**.
- 'Behind' covering thoroughly
 - (i) He was standing **behind the wall**.
 - (ii) I have kept my bat **behind the door**.
- 'Before' at the face of a person
 - (i) He is standing **before the Principal**.
 - (ii) A lion come **before us**.
- 'In front of' at the face of a building
 - (i) He was standing **in front of the school**.
 - (ii) We will have to park our car **in front of this shop**.

Preposition of Resource

- 'By' shows relation of doer
 - (i) He was beaten **by you**.
 - (ii) Train runs **by electricity**.
- 'With' shows use of instrument
 - (i) He was beaten by you **with a stick**.
 - (ii) He is writing a poem **with a pen**.
- 'By' shows mode of transport
 - (i) He goes to school **by bus**.
 - (ii) I went to Agra **by train**.

Preposition of Relation

- 'With' shows togetherness
 - (i) He will go to Delhi **with me**.
- 'For' shows purpose to someone or something
 - (i) He bought a car **for his father**.
- 'Between' used for two persons or things.
 - (i) The property was divided **between the two brothers**.
- 'Among' used for more than two persons or things.
 - (i) The leader was sitting **among the soldiers**.

Practice Exercise

Directions (Q. Nos. 1-30) *Fill in the blanks with appropriate prepositions in the following sentences by selecting the correct option.*

- My best friend John is named his great-grandfather.
(a) after (b) to (c) about (d) at
- Grandpa stayed up two in the morning.
(a) till (b) for (c) until (d) at
- I was visiting my best friend the hospital.
(a) of (b) at (c) in (d) to
- He usually travels to Philadelphia train.
(a) by (b) at
(c) with (d) since
- You frequently see this kind of violence films.
(a) by (b) at (c) with (d) in
- I told Mom we'd be home an hour or so.
(a) to (b) in (c) at (d) for
- My parents have been married forty nine years.
(a) since (b) for (c) until (d) about

8. The professor South Africa amazed the American students with her stories.
(a) from (b) in (c) for (d) about
9. I'll see you home when I get there.
(a) in (b) by (c) at (d) to
10. It has been snowing Christmas morning.
(a) since (b) for (c) until (d) upon
11. Look this painting.
(a) in (b) before
(c) at (d) onto
12. the painting, you can see a little girl.
(a) From (b) In (c) At (d) By
13. So, it is a painting a girl.
(a) of (b) about
(c) off (d) to
14. There is such a contrast them.
(a) to (b) between
(c) for (d) into
15. My grandma once owned the painting, but she gave it to me on my birthday, so it is a present my grandma.
(a) about (b) of
(c) from (d) through
16. I discussed the problem my teacher.
(a) of (b) with
(c) since (d) until
17. A famous painter painted it. So, it is a painting a famous painter.
(a) from (b) of (c) for (d) by
18. My uncle knows interesting facts the world's oceans.
(a) over (b) about (c) on (d) to
19. He is worthy praise.
(a) at (b) of (c) for (d) since
20. Hard work is the key success.
(a) in (b) to (c) on (d) into
21. Ronny always pays attention what his teacher is saying.
(a) to (b) at (c) over (d) about
22. Walter is not mean, he is just very careful money.
(a) on (b) at (c) with (d) for
23. We all laughed.....the jokes told by Mahi.
(a) in (b) with (c) on (d) at
24. Rejeev is suffering malaria for last ten days.
(a) with (b) from (c) by (d) over
25. Good English cartoons and movies leave a good impression young children.
(a) with (b) upon (c) at (d) after
26. Some people are very keen..... working in a team, while others are not.
(a) on (b) to (c) about (d) at
27. People who are good making friends usually work in the field of trade or sales.
(a) in (b) to (c) about (d) at
28. My son is mad science and technology; I guess he'll become an engineer.
(a) out (b) about (c) of (d) with
29. Most children are fond playing instead of eating during lunch break.
(a) in (b) from (c) of (d) at
30. Small children get addicted mobile or video games very easily.
(a) at (b) to
(c) in (d) with

Answers

1	(a)	2	(a)	3	(b)	4	(a)	5	(d)	6	(b)	7	(b)	8	(a)	9	(c)	10	(a)
11	(c)	12	(b)	13	(a)	14	(b)	15	(c)	16	(b)	17	(b)	18	(b)	19	(b)	20	(b)
21	(a)	22	(d)	23	(d)	24	(b)	25	(b)	26	(d)	27	(c)	28	(b)	29	(c)	30	(b)