**Preposition**

A **preposition** is a word used to link nouns, pronouns, or phrases to other words within a sentence. **Prepositions** are usually short words, and they are normally placed directly in front of nouns. In some cases, you'll find **prepositions** in front of gerund verbs.

**Examples of Prepositions**

In the following sentences, examples of prepositions have been italicized. As you read, consider how using different prepositions or even different types of prepositions in place of the examples might change the relationship between the rest of the words in the sentence.

I prefer to read *in*the library.

He climbed *up* the ladder to get *into* the attic.

Please sign your name *on* the dotted line *after* you read the contract.

Go *down* the stairs and *through* the door.

He swam *across* the pool.

Take your brother *with*you.

**Kinds of Prepositions**

Prepositions are of five different kinds:

1.    Simple prepositions  
2.    Compound prepositions  
3.    Double prepositions  
4.    Participle prepositions  
5.    Phrase prepositions

**Simple Prepositions**

Simple prepositions are words like **in, on, at, about, over, under, off, of, for, to etc.**

She sat on the sofa.  
He is going to the market.  
He fell off the ladder.  
There is some water in the bottle.  
She is about seven.  
They sat around the table.  
The cat was hiding under the bed.

**Compound preposition**

Compound prepositions are words like **without, within, inside, outside, into, beneath, below, behind, between etc.**

He fell into the river.  
She sat between her kids.  
He sat beside her.  
There is nothing inside the jar.  
The teacher stood behind the desk.  
The boy ran across the road.

**Double prepositions**

Double prepositions are words like **outside of, out of, from behind, from beneath etc.**

Suddenly he emerged from behind the curtain.  
He walked out of the compound.

**Participle prepositions**  
Participle prepositions are words like **concerning, notwithstanding, pending, considering etc.**

There was little chance of success, notwithstanding they decided to go ahead.  
You did the job well, considering your age and inexperience.

**Phrase prepositions**  
Phrase prepositions are phrases like **because of, by means of, with regard to, on behalf of, instead of, on account of, in opposition to, for the sake of etc.**

I am standing here on behalf of my friends and colleagues.  
The match was cancelled because of the rain.  
He succeeded by means of perseverance.