Prepositions

Adapted from *The Little, Brown Handbook*, 11th Edition, Contributors Dayne Sherman, Jayetta Slawson, Natasha Whitton, and Jeff Wiemelt, 2010, 233, 242-244. Prepared by the Southeastern Writing Center. Last updated July, 2011.

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A **preposition** connects a noun, a pronoun, or other noun equivalent to another noun, pronoun, or noun equivalent. A preposition conveys details about relationships.

Example: Jake is a member of the All State Basketball team.

A **prepositional phrase** consists of a preposition, its object (a noun or a pronoun), and any modifiers of that object.

Example: Jake competed in spite of his recent injuries.

Prepositions relate several kinds of information:

- Time
 - o at eight o'clock
 - o *for* two months
- Place
 - \circ *in* the hall
 - *near* the desk
- Direction
 - \circ to the store
 - \circ toward the door
- Association
 - \circ the top *of* the building
 - \circ go by the school
- Purpose
 - o running for charity
 - saving to buy

Common Prepositions

aboard	before	despite	like	over	under	
about	behind	during	near	past	until	
above	beneath	except	of	since	unto	
across	beside(s)	for	off	through	up	
after	between	from	on	throughout	upon	
among	beyond	in	onto	till	with	
as	by	inside	out	to	within	
at	concerning	into	outside	toward(s)	without	

Phrasal Prepositions

at most
because of
contrary to
due to
different from

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