

**A STUDY
OF ENGLISH PREPOSITIONS
AND
SOME SUGGESTIONS FOR THEIR TEACHING
TO THE INDONESIAN LEARNERS
OF ENGLISH**

**A Thesis
Presented to
The Department of English Language
(and Literature)
Faculty of Language and Letters
Sanata Dharma
Teachers' Training Institute**

**A Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the
Sarjana Degree**



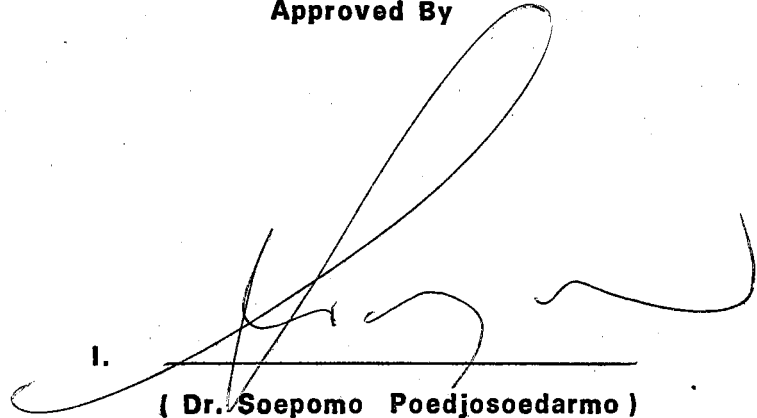
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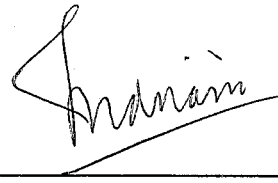
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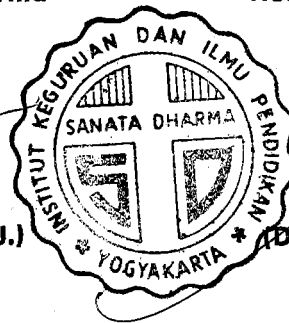
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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This thesis can be finished because of a lot of hard work of many persons.

In particular I would like to thank Dr. Soepomo Poedjosoedarmo for his significant advices, invaluable support, and the time he spent with me to discuss about the content of this thesis. Without him this thesis is impossible to be completed.

I also would like to thank Dra. Indriani Arief for her patience, perseverance, commitment, elaboration and time she spent in reading through all pages of this thesis and made significant corrections. Without her this thesis is impossible either to be completed.

I would like to thank as well all the lectures of the English Department of IKIP Sanata Dharma Yogyakarta, from whom I have gained knowledge and wisdom to improve my personality as a human being.

Many thanks are also addressed to my Parents, my brother and sisters for their financial and spiritual support during my college years at IKIP Sanata Dharma Yogyakarta.

Many thanks are also delivered to Drs. N.A. Ametembun and his wife, and their children for their moral and spiritual support during my study in Yogyakarta.

Also to my beloved girl friend Maria Goretti Ametembun for her support and prayer so that it is possible for me to finish this thesis. To all of them this thesis is dedicated.

And thanks are also given to all my friends who are too numerous to be mentioned each by name here, for their support, attention and friendship so that it is possible for me to finish this thesis.

Finally many thanks are delivered to God, His Son Jesus Christ, and the Virgin Mary, because without their help, grace and love this thesis is impossible to be completed either.

CHAPTER I
I N T R O D U C T I O N

1. The scope of this thesis

This thesis concentrates on one most difficult item in English grammar, i.e. : prepositions. Prepositions according to Randolph Quirk, Sidney Greenbaum, Geoffrey Leech, and Jan Svartvik¹⁾ belong to the category of Parts of Speech of Closed System Items together with articles, demonstratives, pronouns, conjunctions, and interjections. By 'Closed System Items' the writer means a set of items which are closed in the sense that they cannot normally be extended by the creation of additional numbers such as nouns, adjectives, adverbs, and verbs (compare with Quirk cs, 46). Therefore in the greater sense, the field of this thesis is on grammar with the consequence that the description presented here is viewed from the grammatical point of view. This means that the description treated here is based on four criteria, i.e. : the form, function, meaning, and position²⁾.

In relation to the preposition is the prepositional phrase which according to Quirk cs³⁾ consists of a preposition followed by a prepositional complement or a clause (WH clause or V-ing clause) in nominal function such as :

<u>with</u>	<u>certainty</u>
<u>at</u>	<u>the bus stop</u>
<u>from</u>	<u>what he said</u>
<u>by</u>	<u>signing a peace treaty</u>

Since a preposition is an integral part of a prepositional phrase, both prepositions and prepositional phrases will be taken up together in this thesis⁴⁾.

¹⁾Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech, Svartvik(1972),46.

²⁾Frank (1972), xvi.

³⁾Quirk cs (1972, 299.

⁴⁾Frank (1972), 163.

According to Jespersen⁵⁾ prepositions belong to the group of particles. But particles which are combined with verbs to constitute idiomatic expressions such as :

The enemy gave up after a long battle.

I can't make out with what he really wants.

He passed out from the heat.

On the subway I ran across an old acquaintance.

Their bid was turned down because it was too high.

They will call on you tonight.

The new grammar book will come out in August.

While we're gone, Grandmother will look after the children.

And certain combinations with particles such as :

across the board

up to date

by heart

off the record

be/go beyond a joke

behind the times

stand at ease

And particles which share the forms but not the syntactic status of prepositions and which are capable of standing alone as an adjunct, disjunct, conjunct, or postmodifier, etc⁶⁾ such as :

A car drove past.

Despite the fine weather, we stayed in all day.

The day before, I had spoken to you.

If he can't go faster, leave him behind.

He looked around, but could see nobody.

The stream is six feet across.

If we cross the mountains we can find people living in the valley beyond.

The house is painted throughout.

⁵⁾Jespersen (1924), 87.

⁶⁾Quirk et al (1972), 305, 421.

Can you lift the box up onto the shelf
for me ?

are not the field of this thesis. And this
thesis concerns primarily with prepositions and
prepositional phrases such as :

Tell us about what happened.

They built a bridge across the river.

We shall leave after breakfast.

We walked along the road.

He put a frame around the picture.

He came to the meeting despite his
serious illness.

We were received with the utmost courtesy.

He's lecturing on new techniques of
management.

Prepositions which belong to the scope of this
thesis are⁷⁾ :

aboard
about
above
according to
across
across from
after
against
ahead of
along
along with
alongside (of)
amid(st)
among(st)
apart from
apropos (of)
around
as
as against

⁷⁾ These prepositions are primarily taken from
Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English (1978),
P. Procter, Chief editor; Quirk et al (1972), 301 ;
Frank (1972), 201-4; Curme (1931), 562-6; Allen
(1974), 293.

as between
as concern
as far as
as for
as from
as opposed to
as regard
as to
as upon
aside from
aslant
astern (of)
astride (of)
at
at the cost of
at the hands of
at the instances of
at the peril of
at the midst of
at variance with
atop
away from
bar(ring)
because of
before
behind
below
beneath
beside
besides
between
betwixt
beyond
beyond the reach of
but
but for
by
by dint of
by reason of
by help of
by means of
by the aid of
by virtue of

by way of
care of
concerning
concurrent with
considering
contrary to
counter to
despite
down
down at
down to
due to
during
except(ing)
except for
excluding
exclusive of
face to face with
failing
following
for
for fear of
for lack of
for the behoof of
for the benefit of
for the ends of
for the purpose of
for the sake of
for want of
granted
in
in accordance with
in addition to
in agreement with
in back of
in behalf of
in between
in care of
in case of
in charge of
in common with
in company with
in compliance with

in conflict with
in conformity with
in connection with
in consequence of
in consideration of
in contrast with
in course of
in default of
in defiance of
in disregard of
in exchange for
in the face of
in favour of
in front of
in fulfillment of
in lieu of
in need of
in obedience to
in opposition to
in place of
in teeth of
in point of
in preference to
in proportion to
in pursuance of
in quest of
in recognition of
in regard to/of
in relation to
in respect to/of
in return for
in search of
in spite of
in support of
in the case of
in the event of
in the matter of
in the middle of
in the midst of
in the name of
in the presence of
in the way of
in token of

in view of
including
inclusive of
in consistent with
inside (of)
instead of
into
irrespective of
less
like
minus
near
next to
notwithstanding
of
off
on
on account of
on behalf of
on the contrary to
on board (of)
on pain of
on the face of
on the occasion of
on the part of
on the point of
on the presence of
on the score of
on the side of
on the strength of
on the top of
onto/ on to
opposite to
out of
outside (of)
over
over against
owing to
past
pending
per
plus
previous to

prior to
pursuant to
re
relative to
regarding
regardless of
respecting
round
round about
save
saving
save for
short of
since
subject to
subsequent to
thanks to
through
throughout
till
to
to and fro
together with
touching
toward(s)
under
under cover of
underneath
unlike
unto
up
up against
up at
up till
up to
upon
versus
via
with
with reference to
with respect to
with regard to
with the exception of

with the intention of
 with the purpose of
 with the view/intention of
 within
 within reach of
 without
 with regard to
 without regard to
 worth

There are few others that are not listed here. They are words that are idiomatic in nature, and although people like Quirk et al say that they are prepositions some authors may not want to call them prepositions.

In addition to this is the learning and teaching aspect of prepositions, in particular the learning and teaching of prepositions to the Indonesian learners of English. This thesis, therefore, will also talk about principles (approaches) and techniques of teaching prepositions. And the writer hopes that by determining 'A Study of English Prepositions and Some Suggestions for Their Teaching to the Indonesian Learners of English' as the title of this thesis will be reasonable.

2. The background of this thesis

The writer choose these items as the topic of his thesis because, according to him, these items are felt to be the most troublesome lot for the non-native students of English. In respect to this, Pittman⁸⁾ writes :

'Among those who teach and learn English Language, prepositions have earned the reputation of difficulty if not the downright unpredictability.'

Takahashi⁹⁾ writes :

'Aside from the usage of particles, the greatest problem facing the students of

⁸⁾Pittman (1966), in Zughoul (1979), 24.

⁹⁾Takahashi (1969), in Zughoul (1979), 24.

English as a second language is no doubt the connect usage of prepositions.'

And MacCarthy¹⁰⁾ writes :

'As any English teacher well knows, our prepositions are particularly troublesome lot to the non-native speakers of English.'

In relation to these assumptions concerning the difficulty in learning and teaching prepositions to the non-native students of English, Lucy Handayani¹¹⁾ says that for the Indonesian learners of English there are two major problems, in the first place, is the problem of understanding multiple meanings of some of the most frequently occurred prepositions, and in the second place is the problem of selecting an appropriate preposition among some semantically related prepositions.

To emphasize the prepositional problem of multiple meanings Zughoul¹²⁾ quotes Fries¹³⁾, who presents the nine most frequently occurred prepositions with their meanings listed in the Oxford English Dictionary as the following:

Prepositions	Number of senses listed in the Oxford English Dictionary
at	39
by	39
for	31
from	15
in	40
of	63
on	29
to	33
with	40

While for the prepositions of semantically related meanings, the difficulty emerges in the

¹⁰⁾MacCarthy (1972), in Zughoul (1979), 24.

¹¹⁾Lucy Handayani (1980), 46.

¹²⁾Zughoul (1979), 24.

¹³⁾Fries (1940), 112.

following examples :

Shut the door after you when you leave the room.

I closed the door behind me.

By the seventeenth of January you should be here.

You must come and see me before Christmas.

In the first pair the problem is about the succession; the first sentence suggests that the person has passed through the door, while in the second sentence the person has not passed through the door yet. In the second pair the problem is about the inclusion. The third sentence suggests that the seventeenth of January is included in the statement, while for the fourth sentence Christmas is not included in the statement.

Besides their difficulty of numerous meanings and semantically related meanings which force the writer to write this thesis, there still exists another reason i.e. : the importance or frequency of prepositions in usage in everyday communication. In respect to this Fries¹⁴⁾ writes :

'Nine of these function words with substantives occur very frequently, in fact, 92,6 per cent of the instances in the standard English materials have the following nine words :

at	299	instances
by	128	"
for	333	"
from	216	"
in	579	"
of	906	"
on	228	"
to	428	"
with	164	"

¹⁴⁾Fries (1940), 111.

3. The aim of this thesis

The aim of this thesis is to provide a little bit understanding about English prepositions, in addition, to find out problems in learning and teaching prepositions. Eventually, the writer is going to propose some additional suggestions for teaching prepositions for the Indonesian learners of English, in particular the semesters I and II English Department students of IKIPs and Universities in Indonesia.

4. The sources of this thesis

This thesis bases its grammatical analysis of prepositions on the following sources :

1. A Grammar of Contemporary English(1972) by Randolph Quirk, Sidney Greenbaum, Geoffrey Leech, and Jan Svartvik.
2. A Modern English Grammar (1965) by Knudd Schibsbye.
3. Modern English, a practical reference guide, (1972) by Marcella Frank.
4. Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, (1978) by Paul Procter, chief editor.

On the other hand, for the learning and teaching aspect of prepositions, the followings are its sources :

1. Teaching English Prepositions (1979) by Muhamad Raji Zughoul.
2. Language Teaching, a scientific approach, (1964) by Robert Lado.
3. Helping Students Use Prepositions(1975) by Thomas Buckingham.
4. New Orientations in the Teaching of English (1975) by Peter Strevens.

In addition to these are all other sources which will be mentioned elsewhere in this thesis.

5. The method of description of this thesis

This thesis will bases its grammatical

description of prepositions on the traditional grammar point of view, meaning that the grammatical description of prepositions will be treated according to the function, meaning and position, and on the descriptive linguistics point of view, meaning that the grammatical analysis of prepositions will be treated according to the form¹⁵⁾. As for learning and teaching aspect of prepositions the writer wants to emphasize communication as the primary function of teaching prepositions to the non-native students of English, particularly Indonesian learners of English.

6. The organization of this thesis

This thesis consists of two sections. The first one is the grammatical analysis of prepositions, while the second one is learning and teaching aspect of prepositions.

The first section consists of five chapters ranging from chapter two up to chapter six, while the second section consists of one chapter only with three major subsections, i. e. : problems of learning and teaching preposition; approaches and techniques of teaching prepositions; and some additional suggestions for teaching prepositions to semesters I and II English Department students of IKIPs and Universities in Indonesia.

Chapter one is the introduction of this thesis. Chapter two will talk about the definition of a preposition; here several writers' descriptions and definitions of a preposition will be presented and evaluated. , afterwards, the writer will suggest his own definition. Chapter three will talk about the form of prepositions. Here the prepositions are subdivided into two categories, i.e. : simple prepositions and complex prepositions. Chapter four will talk about the function of prepositions. Here a prepositions is supposed to have the function of connecting its complement with the preceding words.

¹⁵⁾ Frank (1972), xvi, and Harsh (1975), 3-7.

Chapter five will talk about the meaning of prepositions. Here the description is primarily based on A Grammar of contemporary English (1972) by Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech, and Svartvik. Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English (1978) by Procter, chief editor, and A Modern English Grammar (1965) by Schibsbye. Chapter six will talk about the position of prepositions. Here a preposition is considered always preceding its complement.

Chapter seven is learning and teaching aspect of prepositions. This chapter is subdivided into three major sections, i.e. : problems of learning and teaching prepositions to the non-native students of English, in particular to the Indonesian learners of English; approaches and techniques of teaching prepositions; and some additional suggestions for teaching prepositions to semesters I and II English Department students of IKIPs and Universities in Indonesia.

CHAPTER II

THE DEFINITION OF A PREPOSITION

In this chapter the writer will present some descriptions and definitions of a preposition and will evaluate them, and then the writer will suggest his own definition of a preposition. The writer assumes also that by providing a definition of a prepositions it will be easier for the Indonesian learners of English to grasp the core of English prepositions.

Some grammarians tend to avoid providing definitions of a preposition. What they present are only peripheral descriptions or definitions which do not touch the core of English prepositions

As it has been said previously that the grammatical analysis of prepositions will be based on the four criteria, i.e. :form, function, meaning, and position, therefore a good and clear definition of a preposition should fulfill the four criteria.

1. W. Stannard Allen¹⁾.

He says :

'Prepositions usually come before the words they control. They indicate various relationships between words and phrases, and the most usual being those of time and space (position, direction, etc.) and mental or emotional attitudes. They can also come after the words they govern, notably in questions and relative clauses :

What can I cut the bread with ?

This is the book I was telling you about.

Stannard Allen's description is clear but not complete. Because it lacks one criterion, i.e. : form.

¹⁾ Allen (1974), 292-3.

In addition, it is too general in terms of the meaning of a preposition. Only three kinds of meaning he mentions : time, space (position, direction, etc) and mental or emotional attitudes, while there are a great deal of prepositional meanings such as manner, degree, agent, material, recipient, purpose, target , goal, etc.

And not only questions and relative clauses take a preposition after the words they govern but also the constructions such as²⁾ :

Exclamations : What a mess he's got into !

Passives : She was sought after by all the leading impresarios of this day.

Infinitive clauses : He is impossible to work with.

Ing-clauses : He is worth listening to.

Allen's description is not completely seen from the four criteria mentioned above. Only three of them are fulfilled :

function : they indicate relationship between words or phrases.

meaning : the most usual being those of time, space (position, direction, etc.) and mental or emotional attitudes.

position : they usually come before the words they govern or after them, especially, in questions and relative clauses.

2. J.B. Heaton³⁾.

Heaton defines a preposition as :

'A preposition is a word which shows the relationship between a noun or pronoun and another word in the sentence. Prepositions are usually placed before the noun or pronoun

²⁾ Quirk et al., (1972), 300, and Schibsbye (1965), 297-9.

³⁾ J.B. Heaton (1979), in Handayani (1980), 4.

which they govern.'

Heaton's definition is not so clear and not complete either, because a preposition does not only show the relationship between a noun or pronoun but also the relationship between a noun phrase or a clause and another word in the sentence, this word may be a verb, adjective or noun, for instance:

1. Water consists of hydrogen and oxygen.

(The preposition of connects the noun phrase hydrogen and oxygen with the verb consists, in this case, the preposition of is closely linked with the verb consists rather than the noun phrase hydrogen and oxygen.)

2. I'm sorry for my brother's behavior. (The preposition for connects the noun phrase my brother's behavior with the adjective sorry, here the preposition for is closely linked with the adjective sorry rather than the noun phrase my brother's behavior.)

3. He has the fondness for watching western films. (The preposition for connects the v + ing-clause watching western films with the noun fondness, but in this case the determining of the preposition for is more influenced by the preceding noun fondness rather than the clause watching western films.)

But, on the other hand :

He always swims during the summer.

(During connects the noun phrase the summer with the verb swims, here during is closely linked with the noun phrase the summer rather than the verb swims.)

Similarly :

They built a bridge across the river.

They broke the glass with the stone.

He came here by plane.

His definition of a preposition is not complete either in terms of the capacity or a preposition to come after the word it governs, as it has been stated above (see evaluation on Alles's description). In respect to the four criteria, his definition merely fulfills the three of them, i.e. : form, function, and position :

form : a word, but here the problem arises : what kind of word ? a function or a content word ?

function : it shows the relationship between a noun or pronoun and another word in the sentence.

position : prepositions are usually placed before the noun or pronoun they govern.

The remaining criterion, i.e. : meaning , has not been fulfilled yet.

3. Funk⁴⁾.

He describes a preposition as :

'The function of a preposition is that of a connective function between an antecedent which may be a noun, pronoun, adjective, verb or another phrase and the object which may be a noun pronoun, a word or phrase used as a noun.'

Funk's definition is not complete since it only fulfils one criterion, i.e. : function : a connective function between an antecedent which may be a noun, pronoun, adjective, verb, and another phrase and the object which may be a noun, pronoun, or a word or phrase used as a noun.

Nevertheless, if we see from the prepositional function point of view, it is a complete definition since it fulfils all features

⁴⁾Funk (1961), in Handayani (1980), 8.

given in the evaluation on Heaton's description (number 2). But lacking the other three criteria : form, meaning, and position, makes his definition remain not clear and not complete.

4. Sara Withers and Earl Brockman⁵⁾.

They describe prepositions as :

'In English, prepositions are important function words. By function words we mean one that has the little meaning in the dictionary sense, but whose main purpose is to relate other words to each other and form grammatical structures. The function of a preposition in English is to connect nouns (or nounlike constructions) to other part of the sentence.'

They further say :

'Most prepositions are short words, they are always spoken with weak stress. Nevertheless, the little words carry an important element of meaning. They express the ideas such as location, destination, direction of movement, time, manner, agent, and many others.'

Withers and Brockman's description of a preposition is clear but also incomplete, since only three criteria are fulfilled, i.e. : form, function and meaning, on the other hand it lacks one criterion, i.e. : position :

form	: it is a function word.
function	: it connects nouns (or nounlike constructions) to another part or the sentence.
meaning	: it expresses such ideas as location, destination, direction of movement, time, manner, agent, and many others.

⁵⁾Sara Withers and Earl Brockman (1971), in Lucy Handayani, (1980), 8.

5. George O. Curme⁶⁾.

He describes prepositions as :

'Very close related in nature to adverbs are prepositions, which like adverbs limit the force of verbs to circumstances of place, time, manner, degree, cause, condition, purpose, means. But a preposition and an adverb differ in this that the latter limits the force of the verb in and of itself, while the former requires the assistance of a dependent noun or some other word :

Mary is in (adverb).

Mary is in the house. (preposition).'

He also says :

'the preposition, now brings a noun or some other word into relation with a noun, verb, adjective, etc.'

And :

'As a preposition normally stands before the dependent word, it is called a preposition (Latin: *pre* : before, *positio* : position).

Curme's description is also not complete since only three criteria are fulfilled, i.e. : function, meaning and position :

function : it brings a noun or another word into relation with a noun, verb, adjective, etc .

meaning : it limits the force of the verb into some circumstances of place, time, manner, degree, cause, condition, exception, concession, purpose, manner, means, etc.

position : it comes before the independent word.

The other criterion has not been fulfilled yet, i.e. : form.

⁶⁾Curme (1931), 559-61.

6. C.C.Fries⁷⁾.

He does not give any definition of a preposition. He incorporates prepositions into the group of function words with substantives. He says :

'By a function word I mean a word that has little meaning or no meaning apart from the grammatical idea it expresses. In such an expression as The mother of the boy will arrive tomorrow, it is quite clear that the words mother, boy, arrive, and tomorrow, have the meaning in themselves, apart from their grammatical relation in the sentence.

They are full words, and have an independent meaning. But the words of and will express primarily grammatical ideas and have little or no meaning apart from the grammatical function they indicate. Of makes the word boy a modifier of the word mother.

Will here indicates primarily that the arriving will occur in the future and it is equivalent to a future tense inflection; it has no independent meaning. The word of and will are, therefore, called function words. There are typical of a fairly class of words that in similar fashion express primarily grammatical ideas and relationships rather than full word meanings. Some of these words we shall deal with in the treatment of function words are :

a) the so called prepositions - the function words that are used with substantives

Fries's description of prepositions is not complete since only one criterion is fulfilled, i.e. : the form : a function word.

⁷⁾Fries (1940), 109-10.

His description lacks the other criteria : function, meaning and position. Therefore it should not get much emphasis here.

7. Otto Jespersen⁸⁾.

He also does not provide any definition of a preposition. It is he, who incorporates prepositions into the group of particles together with adverbs, conjunctions, and interjections. He says :

'In really all grammars, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions and interjections are treated as four distinct 'parts of speech', the difference between them being thus a par with that between substantives, adjectives, pronouns and verbs. But in this way the dissimilarities between these words are grossly exaggerated and their evident similarities correspondingly obscured, and I, therefore, propose to revert to the old terminology, by which these form classes are treated as one called particles.'

Jespersen's incorporation of prepositions into the group of particles together with adverbs, conjunctions and interjections is too rash, since in spite of their similarity in form, they function differently in the sentence⁹⁾, for instance :

He looked around but could see nobody.
(adverb)

We sat around the table. (preposition)

The soldier wouldn't let us through. (adverb)

Water flows through this pipe. (preposition)

In addition, not all particles overlap. Only some of them like after, since, before, which can function as conjunctions, adverbs, and prepositions, such as in the following sentences :

⁸⁾Jespersen (1924), 87.

⁹⁾Quirk et al (1972), 305, and Curme (1931), 559.

Before he arrived, everything was ready.

(conjunction)

As much influence as before. (adverb)

He arrived before his father's death.

(preposition)

On the other hand, for, till, and until, my function only as conjunctions or prepositions:

War is no way to remove the threat
for none in responsible position believes

that it is. (conjunction)

Demands for the pay increase. (preposition)

The rest which is the largest group my function as adverbs or prepositions such as

behind, in, over :

Who is walking behind ? (adverb)

The sun is behind the clouds. (preposition)

Therefore, Jespersen's incorporation of prepositions into the group of particles together with adverbs, conjunctions and interjections cannot be accepted here. It is better to treat these words as separate form classes.

8. William Freeman¹⁰⁾.

He defines a preposition as :

'A preposition (Latin : putting before) shows the relationship between two notional words.'

His definition is not complete since only one criterion is fulfilled, i.e. : function. It lacks the three other criteria, i.e. : form, meaning and position. As for function it shows the relationship between two notional words.

9. Jack.E.Corner¹¹⁾.

He writes :

'We call these words prepositions, because the Romans used never to put theirs last in a sentence. When we put our last as

¹⁰⁾Freeman (1938), 115.

¹¹⁾Corner (1968), 153-4.

is quite idiomatic and correct, they are not prepositions, exactly, but the label is clearly so established as the name of these words that we can use it safely if we do not think about what is used to mean.'

He further says :

'In English prepositions are used to make nouns into attributives, and into the complements for the verbs.'

And :

'If we try to depend on case form, we would find the form too numerous to remember.'

In other place he says :

'We depend on context to help convey particular meaning that we suggest with our prepositions.'

Corner's description of prepositions only touches one criterion clearly, i.e. :function: it is used to make nouns into attributives and into complements of verbs. The other criteria are not clearly described, for instance :

form : if we try to depend on the case form we would find the form too numerous to remember.

meaning : we depend on context to help convey the particular shade of meaning that we suggest with our prepositions.

position : the Romans used never to put theirs last in a sentence , when we put ours last as is quite idiomatic and correct, they are not prepositions , exactly, but the label is so well established as the name of these words, that we can use it safely if we do not

think about what is used to mean.

10. Lucy Handayani¹²⁾.

She defines a preposition as :

'A preposition is an important function word which is used to relate a noun or pronoun it governs to the other words into one coherent unity of a single structure. This preposition which is usually placed before the noun, pronoun it governs, has the meaning of manner, condition, degree, place and time, etc.'

Handayani's definition is clear but also incomplete, because a preposition does not always come before the word it governs, it may come after its complement particularly in constructions such as relative clauses, WH questions and clauses, exclamations, passives, infinitive clauses and ing- clauses (see number 1 above).



11. Knudd Schibsbye¹³⁾.

He describes prepositions as :

'..... the prepositions are better considered as a distinct group. Their characteristics are that the members of this group are indeclinable, subordinating connectives, i.e. : the preposition takes as its object a noun or a phrase with a noun function which it connects with another part of the sentence or the whole of the sentence such as :He handed round the photograph of himself in bathing costume.

On the first half of the agenda - the problems of multiracial societies - Mr Macleod has made a valuable contribution!

¹²⁾Handayani (1980), 9.

¹³⁾Schibsbye (1965), 292-302.

He also says :

'When a prepositional phrase follows a verb, the preposition may be so closely connected with the verb that the object of the preposition is rather the object of verb + preposition :

He came at me.

This calls for quick action.

The water turned into ice.'

And :

'Similarly a preposition is often closely connected with the adjective it follows so that the preposition is greatly reduced as to content and may be said to be nothing, but a formal means of connecting the adjective with its complement :

He was afraid of the dog.

They are dependent on their parents.

He is content with little.'

He adds somewhere :

'As the object of the preposition, we find substantives, and most words and phrases and clauses, which can be used substantively :

The Soviet Foreign Minister was afterwards entertained to dinner by Lord Hume.

Mr Butler has been under attack from the right.

The party remains far from united.

By then he had completed his recruit's training.

etc.'

He also says :

'A preposition is followed by its complement except in the following cases :

1. Interrogative sentences and clauses are very often introduced by the interrogative, while the preposition governing it is placed at the end :

What did you want paper for ?

Where do you come from ?

I don't know who she is with now.

2. The object of the preposition that forms part of the predicate may be moved to the beginning of the sentence for the sake of emphasis :

This I want to hear about.

That I'm not so sure of.

3. The relative clauses with the relative who(m) or which as the complement of a preposition often have the preposition at the end :

Mary, whom I was in love with.

An insurance, which he had learnt by bitter experience not to have any faith in.

4. In relative contact clauses when an interpolated relative would be the complement of a preposition, the preposition is placed at the end and is without any complement :

The man I told you of has come back.

The sort of fellow a young girl falls in love with.

I have marked on the orders the time they should hand them by.

5. When verbal compounds ending in a preposition are turned into passives, the complement of the preposition becomes the subject in the finite constructions, whereas it is absent in the infinite constructions :

These were, of course, highly thought of.

How strange it is to talk to in such a way.'

He further says :

'The content of prepositions may be distinctive, reduced or all but

lost.'

For example, the content of the preposition is distinctive in :

The book is in the desk.

The book is on the desk.

The content of the preposition is reduced in :

Down the centuries more and more live beats were brought to Smithfield for a sale.

Over the centuries Lloyd's have developed an uncanny skill in assessing risk.

The content of the preposition is lost when it is used as the grammatical means of expression such as of in the same sense as genitive and by to indicate an agent.

And :

'Not all prepositions behave as described in the preceding paragraph. Some prepositions are not (very rarely) found without a succeeding complement such as concerning, during, except, near, etc. :

Thirty years during which Europe had enjoyed peace.

Books, saving only the professor's own, you may ignore.

This also applies to prepositional compounds :

He consulted his watch at ten minutes intervals, in spite of which the service finished late.'

Schibsbye's description of the preposition is clear but incomplete, because he does not mention anything about the form of the preposition. About the function he says that prepositions are subordinating connectives, i.e. : the preposition takes

as its object a noun or a phrase with the function of a noun which it connects with another part of the sentence or the whole part of the sentence. Here we observe that he refers to the noun or the phrase with the function of a noun as the object of the preposition. He further says that some prepositions are closely linked with the verb or adjective preceding them that the object of the preposition is rather the object of the verb + preposition and that the preposition is greatly reduced as to content and may be said to be nothing but a formal means of connecting the adjective with its complement. He clearly says that the great members of prepositions rarely occur without their complements. In short, the function of prepositions is subordinating connectives, and some prepositions are closely linked with the preceding verbs and adjectives, many prepositions rarely occur without their complements.

As to the meaning of prepositions he says that the content of prepositions is distinct, reduced and lost, he does not say anything about the grammatical meaning the preposition carries.

About the position of prepositions he said that the preposition is always followed by its complement except in some cases such as interrogative clauses, emphasis, relative and relative contact clauses and passives. In all, his description is clear but remains incomplete.

12. Randolph Quirk, Sidney Greenbaum, Geoffrey Leech and Jan Svartvik¹⁴⁾.

They describe prepositions as :

'Most of common English prepositions such as in, at, for are simple, i.e.: consist of one word. Other prepositions, consist-

¹⁴⁾ Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech, and Svartvik (1972), 299-317.

ing of more than one word are called complex.'

They also say :

'In the most term, a preposition expresses the relation between two entities. One being that represented by the prepositional complement.'

And :

'Of the various types of the relational meaning those of time and place are the most prominent and easy to identify. Other relationship such as instrument and cause may also be recognized although it is difficult to describe prepositional meanings systematically in terms of such labels. Some prepositional uses may be elucidated best by seeing a preposition as related to a clause :

The man with the red beard - The man who has the red beard.

My knowledge of Hindi - I know Hindi.'

Also :

'The fields of prepositional meaning are notoriously difficult to identify, and in some cases it is better to think of a range or spectrum of meaning first as a single category, then as broken up into separate overlapping sections. First, we deal with two important spectra which may be visualized as follows :

cause		manner	} with
reason		means	
motive	} for	instrument	
purpose		why	agentive
destination		stimulus	
target			

Also :

'Normally a preposition must be followed by its complement, but there are some

circumstances in which this does not happen, because the complement has to take first position in the clause, or absent through ellipsis :

- WH Questions : Which house did you leave it at ?
- Relative clauses : The old house which I was telling you about is empty.
- WH clauses : What I'm convincing of is that the world's population will grow to an unforeseen extent.
- Exclamations : What a mess he's got into !
- Passive : He was sought after by all the leading impresarios of this day.
- Infinitive clauses : He is impossible to work with.
- Ing-clauses : He's worth listening to.'

And :

'A prepositional phrase is a structure consisting of a noun phrase dominated by a preposition and the preposition is always followed by a prepositional complement, which is characteristically either a noun phrase or a clause (WH clause or V-ing clause) in nominal function :

with certainty
at the bus stop
from what he said
by signing a peace treaty'

Also :

'There are few words which behave in many ways like prepositions, although they

have affinities with verbs and adjectives :

except	granted
excepting	pending
bar	less
barring	like
considering	unlike
concerning	worth
following	near
including	save

Their description of prepositions is clear and complete since the four criteria are fulfilled :

- form : simple or complex words and some words which have affinities with verbs and adjectives.
- function : it shows the relationship between two entities.
- meaning : time, place, cause, reason, motive, purpose, destination, target, manner, means, instrument, agentive, stimulus, and many others.
- position : it must be followed by its complement but in some circumstances the preposition comes at the end of the sentence, since the complement has to take the initial position in the sentence or absent through ellipsis in constructions such as WH clauses, relative clauses, WH questions, exclamations, passives, infinitive clauses, and ing-clauses.

13. Based on all these descriptions and definitions the writer would suggest a definition of a preposition. A preposition is a simple or

complex function word or a special word which has the affinity with a verb or an adjective, whose function is to connect its complement (a noun, pronoun, noun phrase, clause : wh clause, ing- clause) with the preceding word (a noun, adjective, verb) to form a coherent unity and results the grammatical meanings such as time, place, reason, means, instrument, agentive, stimulus, and many others, and is always placed before its complement or in some cases after it.

CHAPTER III

THE FORM OF PREPOSITIONS

According to the form prepositions can be divided into two major categories¹⁾:

1. Simple prepositions
2. Complex prepositions

1. Simple prepositions :

A simple preposition consists of one word only. Here is a list of simple prepositions :

aboard
about
above
across
after
against
along
alongside
amid(st)
among(st)
around
as
at
atop
bar
barring
before
behind
below
beneath
beside
besides
between
betwixt
but
by
concerning
considering
despite

¹⁾Quirk cs (1972), 300-1.

down
during
except
excepting
excluding
failing
for
from
granted
in
including
inside
into
less
like
minus
near
notwithstanding
of
on
onto
outside
over
past
pending
per
plus
re
regarding
respecting
round
save
saving
since
through
throughout
till
touching
toward(s)
under
underneath
unlike
until

unto
 up
 upon
 versus
 via
 with
 within
 without
 worth

Of these simple prepositions the following have the affinity with verbs and adjectives :

bar
 barring
 concerning
 considering
 except
 excepting
 excluding
 failing
 granted
 including
 less
 like
 near
 pending
 regarding
 respecting
 saving
 save
 tauching
 unlike
 worth

2. Complex prepositions :

A complex preposition consists of more than one word. Occasionally, a complex preposition is called a 'phrasal preposition' or a 'compound preposition'²⁾.

The following is a list of complex prepositions:

according to
 across from

²⁾ Frank (1972), 201, and Schibsbye (1965) , 299.

ahead of
along with
alongside of
apart from
apropos of
as against
as between
as concern
as far as
as for
as from
as opposed to
as regard
as to
as upon
aside from
astern of
astride of
at the cost of
at the hands of
at the instances of
at the peril of
at the midst of
at the back of
at variance with
away from
because of
beyond the reach of
but for
by dint of
by reason of
by help of
by means of
by the aid of
by virtue of
by way of
concurrent with
contrary to
counter to
down at
down to
due to
except for

exclusive of
face to face with
for fear of
for lack of
for the behoof of
for the benefit of
for the ends of
for the purpose of
for the sake of
for want of
in accordance with
in addition to
in agreement with
in back of
in between
in care of
in case of
in charge of
in common with
in compliance with
in conflict with
in conformity with
in connection with
in consequence of
in consideration of
in contrast with
in course of
in default of
in defiance of
in disregard of
in exchange for
in the face of
in favour of
in front of
in fulfillment of
in lieu of
in need of
in obedience to
in opposition to
in place of
in teeth of
in point of
in reference to

in process of
in proportion to
in pursuance of
in quest of
in recognition of
in regard of/to
in return for
in search of
in spite of
in support of
in the case of
in the event of
in the matter of
in the middle of
in the midst of
in the name of
in the presence of
in the way of
in token of
in view of
inclusive of
inconsistent with
inside of
instead of
irrespective of
next to
on account of
on behalf of
on the contrary to
on board of
on pain of
on the face of
on the occasion of
on the part of
on the point of
on the presence of
on the score of
on the side of
on the strength of
on the top of
opposite to
out of
outside of

over against
 owing to
 previous to
 prior to
 pursuant to
 relative to
 regardless of
 round about
 save for
 short of
 subject to
 subsequent to
 thanks to
 to and fro
 together with
 under cover of
 up against
 with reference to
 with respect to
 with regard to
 with the exception of
 with the intention of
 with the purpose of
 with the view/intention of
 within reach of
 without regard to

The complex prepositions can be further sub-
 divided into three groups :

A. Adverb + preposition

1. Adverb + from :

across from
 apart from
 aside from
 away from

2. Adverb + of :

ahead of
 aside of
 alongside of
 instead of
 out of

3. Adverb + with :

along with

together with

4. As + preposition :

as against

as between

as for

as to

as upon

as from

5. Down + preposition :

down at

down to

6. In + preposition :

in between

7. Up + preposition :

up against

up at

up till

up to

B. Verb/Adjective/Conjunction, etc. + preposition

1. Verb + preposition :

a. Verb + for :

except for

save for

b. Verb + to :

according to

owing to

2. Adjective + preposition :

a. Adjective + to :

contrary to

counter to

due to

next to

previous to

prior to

opposite to

pursuant to

relative to

subject to

subsequent to

b. Adjective + of :

apropos of
 astern of
 astride of
 exclusive of
 irrespective of
 short of

c. Adjective + with :

concurrent with

3. Conjunction + preposition :

because of
 but for

C. Preposition 1 + noun + preposition 2 :

This is the commonest category and the noun in some complex prepositions can be preceded by a definite or indefinite article, for instance :

in the light of
 as a result of

This category can be further subdivided into :

1. At + noun + of :

at the cost of
 at the hands of
 at the instance of
 at the peril of
 at the midst of
 at the back of

2. At + noun + with :

at variance with

3. By + noun + of :

by dint of
 by reason of
 by help of
 by means of
 by the aid of
 by virtue of
 by way of

4. For + noun + of :

for lack of
 for behalf of

for the ends of
 for the benefit of
 for wants of
 for fear of

5. In + noun + of
 in care of
 in case of
 in back of
 in consequence of
 in consideration of
 in course of
 in default of
 in defiance of
 in the face of
 in front of
 in fulfillment of
 in prior of
 in process of
 in pursuance of
 in quest of
 in recognition of
 in respect of
 in support of
 in the event of
 in the matter of
 in the middle of
 in the midst of
 in the name of
 in the presence of
 in the room of
 in the teeth of
 in token of
 in account of
 in side of

6. In + noun + to :
 in addition to
 in comparison to
 in contrast to
 in proportion to
 in regard to
 in relation to
 in respect to

7. In + noun + with :
in accordance with
in agreement with
in common with
in comparison with
in connection with
in conformity with
in consequence with
in lieu with
in line with
in obedience with
8. In + noun + for :
in return for
in exchange for
9. On + noun + of :
on account of
on behalf of
on board of
on pain of
on the occasion of
on the part of
on the point of
on the presence of
on the source of
on the risk of
on the strength of
on the top of
on the other hand of
10. With + noun + to :
with a view to
with emerge to
with reference to
with regard to
11. With + noun + of :
with the exception of
with the attention of
with object of
with the purpose of
with the view of
within reach of

3. Cohesiveness of complex prepositions

According to Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech, and Svartvik³⁾ complex prepositions have 'cohesiveness' when they say that strictly speaking a complex preposition is a sequence that is indivisible in terms of syntax and in terms of meaning. However, there is no absolute distinction between complex prepositions and constructions which can be varied, abbreviated, and extended according to the normal rules of syntax. Rather there is a scale of cohesiveness running from a sequence which behaves in every way like a simple preposition (e.g. : in spite of (the weather)) to one which behaves in every way like a set of grammatically separate units (e.g. : on the shelf by (the door)). Nine indicators of syntactic separateness are listed below :

1. The preposition 2 can be varied :
On the shelf at (the door), but not + in spite for.
2. The noun can be varied as between singular and plural :
On the shelves (by the door) but not + in spites of.
3. The noun can be varied in respect to determiners :
On shelves (by the door), but not + in a/the spite of.
4. Preposition 1 can be varied :
Under the shelf by (the door), but not + for spite of.
5. Preposition 2 + complement can be replaced by a genitive :
On the surface/in spite of the table - on its surface but not + in its spite.
6. Preposition 2 + complement can be omitted :
on the shelf, but not + in spite.

³⁾Quirk cs (1972), 302.

7. Preposition 2 + complement can be replaced by a demonstrative :
on that shelf, but not + in that spite.
8. The noun can be replaced by nouns of related meaning :
On the ledge by (the door), but not + in malice of.
9. The noun can be freely premodified by adjectives:
On the low shelf by (the door), but not in evident spite of.

In all this respect, in spite of -'qualifies' a complex preposition, whereas on the shelf by does not. As examples of sequences which lie between these two poles, we may take in quest of, in search of, in comparison with, and in defence of as showing progressively less of character of a preposition and more of the character of a free syntactic construction.

In quest of is slightly less cohesive than in spite of in that it has property 8 (cf : in search of).

In search of is less cohesive still, in having property 6 (cf : in search) as well as property 8 (cf : in quest of).

In comparison with goes further in that it has property 4 (cf : by/through comparison with) as well as property 6 (cf : in comparison) and 8 (cf : in common with).

In defence of goes yet further, having four of properties of a free construction, i.e. : 3 (cf : in the defence of), 5 (cf : in her defence), 8 (cf : in support of), and 9 (cf : in keen, stubborn, bold, etc. defence of).

On the other hand, all these types might reasonably be considered 'complex prepositions' in that they have more in common with in spite of than with on the shelf by.

Analysis 2 (prepositional verb + prepositional object) accounts for the similarity between these structures to that of transitive non-prepositional verbs :

The girl was { looked at
admired

The modes of analysis are also applicable to sentences like :

He gave an apple to the girl.

Where to the girl can be considered as a prepositional adverbial (Analysis 1), accounting for the similarity between, for example, the following sentences :

He { gave an apple to
found an apple for } the girl
aimed an apple at

Analysis 2 by which the girl is a prepositional object, highlights the similarities with the parallel non-prepositional construction :

He { gave
found } the girl an apple
+ aimed

The two analyses can be regarded as different, but equally valid and complementary ways of looking at the same structure.

In relation to the prepositional object they further say that sentences with prepositional objects, which should be really termed 'object after prepositional verbs' can occur in the passive just like sentences with non-prepositional objects :

John searched { the room - The room was searched
for the key - The key was searched for
(by John)

The prepositional object may be a noun, a pronoun, an -ing, or a wh clause :

He concentrated on { the song
that
singing
what they would sing

Infinitive and that-clauses cannot be preceded by prepositions. Compare the following two series:

(a) with a prepositional verb

(b) with a non-prepositional verb :

(a) He objected { to the meeting
to it
to meeting her
to what had been decided
(that) they already met

(b) He forgot { the meeting
it
? meeting
what had been decided
(what) they already met
to meet her

1. The syntactic function of the prepositional phrases:

According to Quirk ^{cs}²⁾ the prepositional phrases can have the syntactic function as :

- A. Complementation of a verb
- B. Complementation of an adjective
- C. Postmodifier of a noun phrase
- D. Adjunct
- E. Disjunct
- F. Conjunct
- G. Obligatory 'predicative' adjunct following the verb BE

A. Prepositional phrases function as complementation of a verb :

Here the preposition is more closely related to the preceding word, which determines its choice, than to the prepositional complement :

(2) Quirk ^{cs} (1972) 304.

1. Verb + at :

connive
 frown (or on, upon)
 baze (or on, upon)
 glance
 grasp
 hint
 jeer
 laugh
 look
 marvel
 point
 rebel
 rejoice (or over)
 shudder
 smile (or on, upon)
 snap
 sneer
 spring
 stare
 wink
 wonder



Examples :

What are you gazing at ?

A man who grasps at too much may lose everything.

He hinted at my extravagance.

He looked at the girl.

He pointed the telescope at the moon.

2. Verb + of :

admit
 beware
 consist
 despair
 (dis)approve
 dispose
 dream (or about)
 repent
 smell
 talk (or about)
 think (or about)

Examples :

The words admit of no other meaning.

Beware of pickpockets.

The committee consists of ten members.

His life was despaired of.

He does not want to dispose of the land.

3. Verb + for :

atone

call

care (for someone, about something)

clamour

crave

cry

grieve (for someone, over or about something)

hope

long

look

mourn

pray

qualify

shop

strive

suffice

thirst

wait

watch

wish

Examples :

I'll call for you at six o'clock.

She was crying for joy.

Let's hope for the best.

She longed for him to say something.

Let's pray to God for help.

How he wished for an opportunity to go abroad.

4. Verb + to :

accede

accrue

adhere

allude
 appeal
 aspire
 assent
 conform
 consent
 defer
 listen
 object
 point
 reply
 resort
 respond
 revert
 subscribe
 yield

Examples :

Glue and paste are used to make one surface adhere to another.

The prisoner appealed to the judge for mercy.

You should conform to the rule.

He consented to the proposal.

The fields have reverted to moorland.

5. Verb + on, upon :

act

agree (on something, with someone, about something)

border

count

decide

depend

devolve

embark

enroach

exist

feed

impose

insist

knock

lecture (or about)

live
 plan
 operate
 reflect
 rely
 shine
 resolve

Examples :

We all agreed on the terms.

We count on your help.

In the end she decided on buying the house.

Children depend on their parents for food and clothing.

New taxes were imposed on wines and spirits.

6. Verb + with :

associate
 coincide
 cooperate
 consult
 cope
 deal
 dispense
 expostulate
 interfere (with a person, in a matter)
 join
 meddle
 part
 rank
 side
 unite
 vie

Examples :

We associate Egypt with the Nile.

We cooperate with our friends in starting a social club.

Consult it with your fellow workers.

He is not yet well enough to despense with the doctor's services.

7. Verb + from :

abstain
 cease
 desist
 deter
 deviate
 differ
 dissent
 emerge
 escape
 flee
 recede
 recoil
 recover
 refrain
 result
 retire
 shrink
 suffer
 withdraw

Examples :

His doctor told me to abstain from beer and wine.

Failure did not deter him from trying again.

Do not deviate from your custom.

French differs from English in having gender for all nouns.

He is slowly recovering from his illness.

He suffered from the loss of money.

8. Verb + in :

abound
 acquiesce
 believe
 concur
 confide
 consist
 deal
 delight
 end

engage
 excel
 indulge
 participate
 persevere
 persist
 result
 succeed

Examples :

The river abounds in fish.

I believe in that man.

Can I confide in his honesty ?

He delights in teasing his young sister.

He has been engaged in business.

9. Verb + for or against :

contend
 declare
 demonstrate
 fight
 strike
 vote

Examples :

The workers marched through the streets with flags and banners to demonstrate against rising cost of living.

The Great Britain has often fought against her enemy.

We strike for higher pay.

10. Verb + against :

immunize
 plot
 rebel
 strive
 struggle

Examples :

We struggle against our difficulties.

The prisoners rebel against having no physical exercise.

11. Verb + between :

arbitrate
discriminate
distinguish
intervene
judge

Examples :

Mr Smith has been asked to arbitrate between the employers and their workers.

Can you discriminate between good and bad books ?

People who cannot distinguish between colours are said to be colour blind.

12. Verb + into :

transform
turn

Examples :

A caterpillar is transformed into a butterfly.

Frost turns water into ice.

13. Verb + over :

reign
rule

Examples :

He reigned over the country for ten years.

An emperor is a monarch who rules over an empire.

14. Verb + D(irect) O(bject) + of :

accuse
acquit
convict
cure
deprive
persuade
rob
suspect

Examples :

How can I persuade you of my sincerity.

Trees that deprive the house of light.

The doctor cured the man of a disease.

15. Verb + DO + of or about :

advise

convince

remind

warn

Examples :

He advised us of the dispatch of the goods.

We couldn't convince him of his mistakes.

He reminds me of his brother.

16. Verb + DO + about :

ask

consult

question

Examples :

We must ask him about it.

17. Verb + DO + from :

absolve

abstract

borrow

buy

collect

conceal

deduce

defend

deter

discourage

dismiss

distinguish

divert

eliminate

exclude

hide

hinder
 import
 keep
 preserve
 prevent
 prohibit
 protect
 remove
 rescue
 request (or of)
 save
 shield
 stop

Examples :

Don't borrow books from me.

He tried to conceal the fact from him.

They exclude immigrants from the country.

He rescued the child from drowning.

We import wool from Australia.

Remove your hand from his shoulder.

I protect my friend from censure.

18. Verb + DO + for :

ask
 beg
 blame
 charge
 compensate
 condemn
 forgive
 pardon
 prepare
 purchase
 reprimend
 reproach
 scold
 search
 substitute

Examples :

The newspaper condemned the Prime Minister for signing the treaty.

The teacher prepared the pupils for the coming exam.

The mother scolded the child for being lazy.

We have searched through all the drawers for the missing papers.

We substitute margarine for butter.

19. Verb + DO + on :

base

bestow

inflict

stick

paste

Examples :

I base my hopes on the news we had yesterday.

The judge inflicted the death penalty on the murderer.

I bestow an honour on you.

20. Verb + DO + with :

burden

confuse

connect

entrust

exchange

furnish

help

present

provide

supply

Examples :

The company supplies the costumers with gas.

Parents provide their children with food and clothes.

He connects Oxford with Reading.

He furnishes the library with books.

I entrust you with the task.

21. Verb + reflexive pronoun + preposition :

absent - from
 ally - with or to
 defend - against
 familiarize - with
 free - from or of
 pride - on
 separate - from

Examples :

Why did you absent yourself from school yesterday ?

Students of foreign languages should familiarize themselves with the foreign languages they study.

He prides himself on his skills as a pianist.

22. Verb + with + DO + about :

(dis)agree (also with - on)
 argue (also with - regarding)
 confer (also with - regarding)
 consult (also with - regarding)
 contend (also with - against)
 converse (also with - on)
 correspond (also with - regarding)
 differ (also with - on or concerning)
 dispute (also with - over)
 fight (also with - over)
 gossip
 joke
 quarrel
 quibble
 reason
 speak (also to - about or regarding)
 talk (also to - about or regarding)

Examples :

The thieves quarrelled with one another about how to divide the loot.

I was speaking with him about plans for holidays.

23. Verb + of (about) + DO + to :

boast
brag
complain
talk

Examples :

He often boasts about the successes of his children to his neighbours.

He never complains about the pain to his mother.

24. Verb + from + DO + to :

a. Referring to a change in form :

alter
change (also from - into)
transform (also from - into)
translate (also from - into)
turn (also from - into)

Examples :

The traffic light changed from red into green.

Translate this book from English into French.

b. Referring to a change in variation:

drop
range
rise
vary

Examples :

Jesus Christ rose again from dead into life.

25. Verb + with : DO + for :

compete
fight
interfere
vie

Examples :

He compete with him for a prize.

The two boys vied with one another for the first place.

26. Verb + to + DO + for :

account
 appeal
 attend
 tend

Examples :

The boy has to account to his
parents for the money they give
him for school expenses.

The prisoner appealed to the
judge for mercy.

27. Verb + I(ndirect) O(bject) + (to) :

bring
 deny
 give
 guarantee
 hand
 lend
 offer
 owe
 pay
 promise
 refund
 refuse
 remit
 sell
 send
 show
 teach
 telegraph
 tell
 throw
 write

Examples :

Tell me where you live. (without
to)

We offer no assistance to the
enemy.

She sent a telegram to me.

I'll lend you £ 100, but I can't
 lend money to everyone.

Have you paid the milkman this month 7
(without to)

28. Verb + IO + (for) :

buy
find
make

Examples :

Please find Mary her bag. (without
for)

Find Mary's bag for her.

29. Verb + IO + to :

adapt
adjust
admit
affix
allot
apply
appoint
appropriate
assign
attribute
dedicate
demonstrate
describe
devote
dispense
distribute
entrust
explain
formulate
furnish
hint
import
impute
introduce
limit
mention
picture
point out
preach
prefer

relate
remember
restore
reveal
speak
say
state
submit
suggest
yield

Examples :

The teacher introduced his
young pupils to the intricacies
of geometry.

I shall limit myself to three
aspects of the subject.

Should a wife submit herself to
her husband ?

B. Prepositional phrases function as complemen-
tation of an adjective :

In this case as well the preposition is
more closely related to the preceding
adjective, which determines its choice, than
to the prepositional complement.

1. Adjective + from :

absent
different
distinct
free
immune
remote
safe
separate

Examples :

He was absent from school.

The method is different from
mine.

He lives in a house remote from
any town or village.

We are safe from attack.

2. Adjective + at :

angry (with someone, about something)
 expert (also in)
 good (at a skill, for a purpose)
 present
 quick
 slow
 swift

Examples :

He was angry at being kept waiting.

He is quick at figures.

3. Adjective + for :

(in)adequate
 anxious (for in the sense of desirous,
about in the sense of worried)
 appropriate (also to for an occasion)
 bound
 conspicuous
 eager
 eligible
 enough
 famous
 (un)fit
 good
 (un)grateful (to someone, for something)
 homesick
 necessary
 notorious
 proper
 responsible (to someone, for something)
 sorry
 sufficient
 suitable or suited (to a person, for a
 purpose)

Examples :

This town is famous for its hot
 springs.

You are eligible for the position.

I should be sorry for you to think.

He's notorious for his goings-on.

He is conspicuous for his bravery.

4. Adjective + in :

deficient

efficient
 proficient
 rich
 successful

Examples :

You are deficient in courage.

He is very proficient in English.

The country is rich in minerals.

5. Adjective + with :

commensurate
 comparable (to when used metaphorically)
 compatible
 complete
 content
 (in)consistent
 (dis)contented
 (un)familiar (I'm not familiar with that,
 but it's familiar to me)
 gentle
 identical (also to)
 indignant (with a person, about a thing,
at usually with a gerund)
 (im)patient
 replete

Examples :

His achievements are comparable with the best.

Pleasure is compatible with duty.

Are you content with your present salary ?

What you say now is not consistent with what you said last week.

40 inches is identical with 3 feet 4 inches.

6. Adjective + (up)on :

dependent
 drunk
 intent

Examples :

The man was out of work and dependent on his son's earnings.

He was intent on getting to the office in time.

7. Adjective + about (or over) :

careful
careless
enthusiastic
happy

Examples :

Be careful about what you do.

He is careless about leaving the door unlocked when he goes to bed.

8. Adjective + of :

abreast
(un)afraid
(un) aware
boastful
(in)capable
careful, careless
(un)certain
characteristic
cognizant
(un)conscious
(un)critical
(un)deserving
(un)desirous
destitute
destructive
devoid
envious
fearful
full
glad
guilty
heedful
heedless
hopeful
ignorant
illustrative
innocent
jealous
(un)mindful
neglectful

negligent
 positive
 proud
 rid
 sure (or about)
 thoughtless
 thoughtful
 (in)tolerant
 void
 weary
 (un)worthy

Examples :

Are you afraid of snake ?

We are fully aware of gravity of the situation.

He's quite capable of neglecting his duty.

I'm not certain of who he is.

Are you conscious of how people will regard such behavior ?

Officials who are destitute of ordinary human feelings.

9. Adjective + to :

abhorrent
 (un)acceptable
 adjacent
 amenable
 (in)applicable
 (in)appropriate
 (in)attentive
 averse
 beneficial
 (un)conducive
 detrimental
 distasteful
 essential
 (un)faithful
 fatal
 (un)friendly
 generous
 hateful
 hostile

indebted
 inferior
 injurious
 (un)kind
 (un)known
 (dis)loyal
 natural
 (dis)obedient
 painful
 painless
 (im)partial
 peculiar
 pertinent
 (un)pleasing
 (dis)pleasing
 (im)polite
 preferable
 preparatory
 prone
 (ir)relevant
 repugnant
 rude
 sacred
 similar
 strange
 subject
 superior
 susceptible
 tantamount
 (un>true

Examples :

The house adjacent to the church is
the vicarage.

We are all amenable to the law.

Is the rule applicable to this case?

Please be more attentive to your
studies.

He is averse to hard work.

Fresh air and good food are bene-
ficial to the health.

Is wealth essential to happiness ?

10. Ed-adjective + preposition :

absorbed in

(un)acquainted with
adapted to
afflicted to
alarmed at, by
amazed at, by
annoyed at, by
(un)ashamed of
associated with
astonished at, by
(un)attached to
blessed with
bored with
burdened with, by
clothed in
committed to
composed of
concerned about, over
confined to
confused at, by
covered with
dedicated to
delighted at, by
deprived of
disappointed in, with
disgusted at, by, with
drunk on
embarrassed at, by
employed at, by
endowed with
gifted with
hurt at, by
imbued with
(un)impressed by
indebted to
infested with
(un)inhibited by
interested in, by
irritated at, by, with
(un)known for
loaded with
married to
occupied with
overcome by, with

perplexed about, at, by
 (dis)pleased at, by, with
 puzzled at, by
 qualified for
 (un)related to
 (dis)satisfied with
 shocked at, by
 startled at, by
 (un)suited to
 surprised at, by
 tired from
 troubled by

Examples :

He is completely absorbed in his business.

This is not the kind of treatment I'm accustomed to.

This book is adapted to the needs of beginners.

He felt much afflicted by the news.

Everybody was alarmed at the news that the war might break out.

I was amazed at the news.

He was annoyed at the boy's stupidity.

He is foolishly attached to old customs.

I'm not greatly blessed with wordly goods.

We are disgusted at what we saw.

C. Prepositional phrases function as postmodifier of a noun phrase :

Examples :

The people on the bus were singing.

The road to London is always busy.

The tree by the stream is 350 years old.

The house beyond the church is Mr Black's.

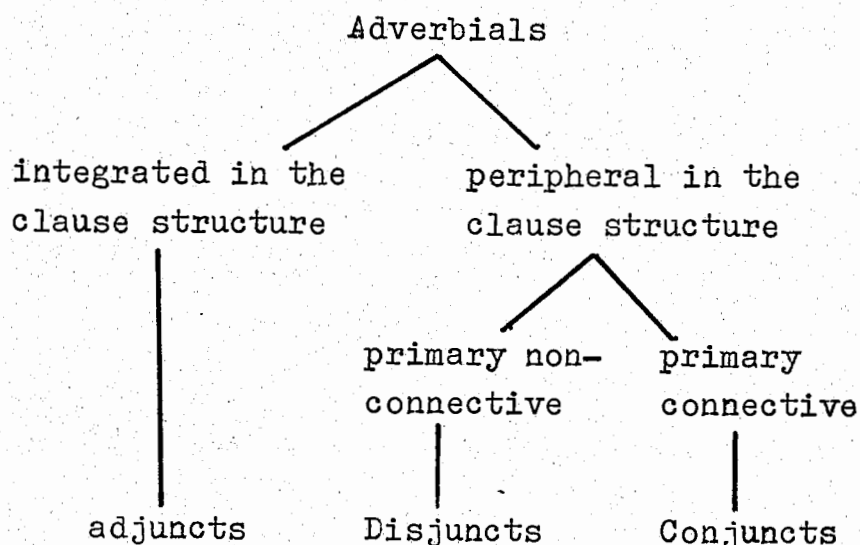
The year before the war is very critical.

The man for the job is John.

This book on grammar is out of date.

D. Prepositional phrases function as adjuncts:

According to Quirk ³⁾ adverbial can be divided into two classes, distinguished by whether or not they are integrated to some extent into the structure of the clause. Those that are integrated to some extent are termed adjuncts. Those that are peripheral to clause structure are subdivided into disjuncts and conjuncts, the distinction between these two being that conjuncts have primary connective function. The following diagram may clarify this case:



Criteria for adjuncts :

An adverbial is integrated to some extent in clause structure if it is affected by clausal processes. Three criteria have been selected as diagnostic for adjuncts, that it is as evidence that an adverbial is affected by clausal processes and therefore, an adjunct. If an adverbial satisfies one or more of the criteria it is an adjunct :

1. If an adverbial cannot appear initially in a negative declarative clause, it is an adjunct. For example, although quickly can appear initially in a positive clause as in :

Quickly they left for home.

³⁾ Quirk cs (1972), 421-522.

it cannot do so if the clause is negative (with the negative particle not or n't) :

+ Quickly they didn't leave for home.
Hence, quickly is an adjunct. On the other hand, perhaps is unaffected by whether the clause is positive or negative :

Perhaps they left for home.

Perhaps they didn't leave for home.

2. If an adverbial can be contrasted with another adverbial in alternative interrogation, it is an adjunct, alternative interrogation showing that the adverbial is the focus of clause interrogation.

For example, the adverbial clause in :

He writes to his parents because he wants to.

is an adjunct because it can be contrasted with another adverbial in alternative interrogation :

Does he write to his parents because he wants to or does he write to them because he needs money ?

On the other hand, we cannot contrast two since-clauses in this way when the since-clauses express reason and not time :

+ Does he write to his parents since he wants to or does he write to them since he needs money ?

3. If an adverbial can be contrasted with another adverbial in alternative negation, it is an adjunct since an alternative negation shows that the adverbial is the focus of the clause negation. For example, on Monday is an adjunct in :

We went to Chicagi on Monday.

because it can be contrasted with another adverbial in alternative negation :

We didn't go to Chicago on Monday, but

we did go there on Tuesday.

On the other hand, we cannot contrast the two prepositional phrases in :

+ We didn't go to Chicago, to John's amazement, but we did go there to Mary's amazement.

Criteria for disjuncts and conjuncts :

Disjuncts and conjuncts satisfy none of the above three criteria. That is to say, the following three statements can be made for both disjuncts and conjuncts :

1. They can appear initially before a negative clause.

Disjunct clauses that are sequentially fixed in relation to superordinate clauses are an exception :

They cannot, of course, appear initially before even a positive clause.

2. They cannot be contrasted with another adverbial in alternative interrogation.

3. They cannot be contrasted with another adverbial in alternative negation.

Distinction between disjuncts and conjuncts :

Conjuncts are distinguished from disjuncts because they have primarily a connective function. As an index of their connective function, conjuncts cannot serve as a response to a question, whether a wh-question or a yes-no-question, even when they are accompanied by yes or no. On the other hand, disjuncts can serve as a response to a yes-no-question, though they usually require to be accompanied by yes or no. For example, probably in :

He will probably be there tomorrow.

is a disjunct, since it can be as a response :

A : Will he be there ? B : Yes, probably.

In contrast, therefore in :

I sent him a personal invitation. He will therefore be there tomorrow.

is a conjunct, since we cannot use therefore

as a response :

A : Will he be there tomorrow ? B : +
Yes, therefore.

Here are the functions of prepositional phrases as adjuncts :

1. Viewpoint adjuncts :

Viewpoint adjuncts can be roughly paraphrased by 'if we consider what we are saying from an (adjective) point of view 'or' if we consider what we are saying from the point of view of a (noun phrase).

For example :

He has done better from a personal point of view than any other executive in the firm.

They behave with respect to their morals as they always have done.

As far as mathematics is concerned, he was a complete failure.



2. Focusing adjuncts :

Focusing adjuncts make explicit either that what is being communicated is restricted to a part that is focused, in which case they are called RESTRICTIVE ADJUNCTS, or that a focused part is an addition, in which case they are called ADDITIVE ADJUNCTS.

Focusing adjuncts constitute a fairly limited set of items, mostly adverbs, but also some prepositional phrases. Restrictive adjuncts are subdivided into EXCLUSIVES and PARTICULIZERS:

RESTRICTIVES :

- a. EXCLUSIVES restrict the application of the communication exclusively to the part focused.
- b. PARTICULIZERS restrict the application of communication

particularly or mainly to
the part focused, for
example :

It will cost at least
five pounds.

I remember one of them in
particular.

ADDITIVES :

He gave me advice, and
money as well.

He gave me money in addi-
tion to advice.

Examples of the use of focusing
adjuncts with an indication of a
part that is focused :

AT LEAST ten workers reported
sick yesterday.

The workers, IN PARTICULAR, are
dissatisfied with the government.

We bought some beer AS WELL.

3. Intensifier adjuncts :

Intensifiers have in common a
heightening or lowering effect on some
unit in the sentence. The intensifiers
can be divided into three semantic
classes :

A. Emphasizers

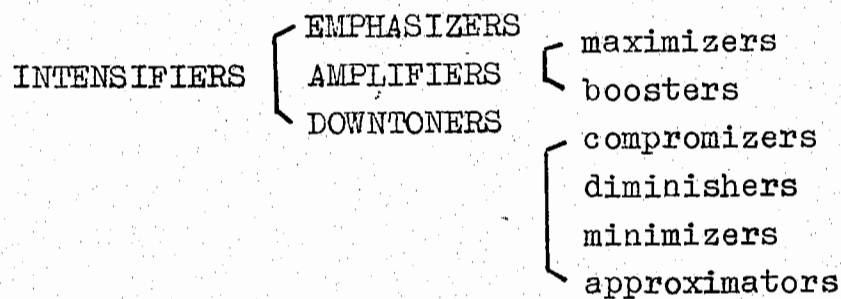
B. Amplifiers

C. Downtoners

It must be noted that intensifiers
are not limited to indicating an
'intensification' ; they indicate a point
on the intensity scale which may be high
or low.

Emphasizers have a general heightening
effect; amplifiers scale upwards from
an assumed norm; downtoners have a
lowering effect, usually scaling down-
wards from an assumed norm. Scaling is
possible when the verb is gradable. The

three classes are with their subclasses in the following diagram :



This classification is merely a rough guide to semantic distinctions. This is because :

- a. The varying effects of intensifiers represent a semantic gradient, which is obscured by a clearcut division into classes.
- b. Some intensifiers are sometimes used for different effects.
- c. Speakers vary in their use of intensifiers.

Most of the common intensifiers are adverbs, but there are also some noun phrases and few prepositional phrases :

A. Emphasizers :

Common prepositional phrases of emphasizers includes : for certain, for sure, of course. These items can also function as attitudinal disjuncts expressing the comment that what is being said is true. Since it is normally expected that a person intends his hearer to accept what he says as true, the addition of the comment or assertion emphasizes the truth of the communication. When these emphasizers are positioned next to a part of communication, without being separated intentionally or by punctuation, their effect is often to emphasize that part alone, though there may be ambivalence as to whether the

emphasis is on the part or on the whole.
Examples of the use of emphasizees :

They will warn us for sure.

To my regret, he did not accept our offer.

With justice, they have assumed their place among the nation's heroes.

To the great admiration of all the onlookers, he plunged into the water and rescued the struggling child.

On paper, he ought to have won, but in fact he lost.

Of course, nobody imagines that he will repay what he borrowed.

B. Amplifiers.

Amplifiers scale upwards. They are divided into :

- a. MAXIMIZERS, which can denote the upper extreme of the scale.
- b. BOOSTERS, which denote a high degree, a high point on the scale. Boosters are very much an open class, and new expressions are frequently created to replace older ones whose impact has grown stale.

Most amplifiers can be contrasted in alternative negation with to some extent, and this ability is a semantic test for their inclusion in the class of amplifiers :

He didn't ignore my request completely, but he did ignore it to some extent.

They don't admire his music greatly, but they do admire it to some extent.

On the other hand, emphasizees cannot be so used :

+ He didn't really ignore my request, but he did ignore it to some extent.

+ They don't definitely admire his music, but they do admire it to some extent.

Common amplifiers within these two subclasses are :

MAXIMIZERS : in all respects :
They resemble one another in all re-
spect.

BOOSTERS : by far :
By far the smallest.

C. Downtoners.

Downtoners have a lowering effect on the force of the verb and many of them scale gradable verbs.

Downtoners can be divided into four groups :

- a. COMPROMIZERS have only a slight lowering effect.
- b. DIMINISHERS } scale downwards con-
- c. MINIMIZERS } siderably
- d. APPROXIMATORS serve to express an approximation to the force of the verb, while indicating its non-application.

The four groups represent semantic distinctions among downtoners but the assignment of individual downtoner to particular groups is not beyond dispute.

Common downtoners include :

- a. COMPROMIZERS : -
- b. DIMINISHERS : in part, in some respects, to some extent :
I can admire his courage to some extent.
They resemble one another in some re-

spects.

- c. MINIMIZERS : in the least, in the slightest, at all :
 I didn't enjoy it in the least.
 They don't support him at all.
 We don't mind in the slightest.

d. APPROXIMATORS: -

4. Process adjuncts :

Process adjuncts define in some way the process denoted by the verb. They can be divided into at least three semantic sub-classes :

- a. MANNER
- b. MEANS
- c. INSTRUMENT

a. Manner adjuncts :

Examples of the use of manner adjuncts :

She replied to the questions with great courtesy.

He spoke in a way that reminded me of his father.

They played the game (in) a different way.

She dances (in) the same way as I do.

They cook(in) the French style.

He always writes in a careful manner.

They walked (in) single file.

b. Means adjuncts :

Examples of the use of means adjuncts :

I go to school by car.

He gained entry into the building by means of the bribe to the guard.

You can best influence them by your own example.

You can stop the machine by pressing this button.

c. Instrument adjuncts :

Examples of the use of instrument adjuncts:

You can cut the bread with a knife.

He was killed with a bullet.

5. Subject adjuncts :

Subject adjuncts characterize the referent of the subject with respect to the process or state denoted by the verb. Most are homonyms of manner adjuncts and all are either adverbs or prepositional phrases. Subject adjuncts relate to the person of the subject as well as to the process or state. Two groups can be distinguished :

- a. General group
- b. Volitional group

a. General group :

This group appears to be an open class :

With great pride, he accepted the reward.

With great unease, they elected him as their leader.

b. Volitional group :

Common volitional subject adjuncts include :

Without intention, on purpose, with reluctance :

On purpose, he left his proposal vague.

With great reluctance, she called the police to arrest her guest.

6. Place adjuncts :

Most place adjuncts are prepositional phrase, and they are divided into :

a. Simple destination :

Tom went to Cambridge.

Tom fell on(to) the floor.

Tom dived into the water.

b. Simple position :

Tom was at Cambridge.

Tom was on the floor.

Tom was in the water.

c. Negative position :

Tom is away from Cambridge.

The books were off the shelves.

He's out of the office.

d. Relative position :

He was standing by his brother.
 I left the keys with my wallet.
 The picture is above the mantelpiece.
 The bus is in front of the car.

e. Passage :

He jumped over a ditch.
 Someone ran behind the goal-posts.
 The ball rolled across the lawn.

f. Movement with reference to a directional path :

He went up a hill.
 He ran down the stairs.
 We walked along the street.
 Draw a line across a sheet of paper.

g. Orientation :

He lives across the moors.
 The village past the bus stop.
 The shop down the road.

h. Resultative meaning :

The horses are over the fences.
 At last we are out of the forest.

i. Pervasive meaning :

The child was running all over the flower borders.
 Chaos reigned all through the house.

7. Time adjuncts :

a. Time when :

I was awarded my Bachelor of Arts degree in 1970.

I suggest that we see him tomorrow night or at the very latest on Sunday.

The meeting will start at 10 o'clock.

b. Duration :

We camped there for the summer.

We camped there in the summer.

We camped there over the holiday.
 We camped there throughout the summer.
 We'll keep the trophy until summer.
 The sun gives us light during the day.
 She hasn't been home during her marriage.

8. Cause, reason, motive adjuncts :

Because of the drought, the price of bread was high this year.
 Richard and Ben, on account of their wide experience in climbing, were voted leaders of the expedition.
 I hid the money, for fear of what my parents would say.
 The survivors were weak from exposure and lack of food.

9. Purpose, intended destination adjuncts:

He'll do anything for money.
 Every one ran for safety.
For the journey, they packed three large picnic baskets of food.

10. Recipient, goal, target adjuncts :

He laid a trap for his enemy.
 He made a beautiful doll for his daughter.
 He sold the car to his next-door neighbour.
 I gave the book to my friend.

11. Source, origin adjuncts :

I borrowed the book from Bill.
 He comes from Austria.
 I'm from Madrid.

12. Stimulus adjuncts :

I was alarmed at his behavior.

13. Accompaniment adjuncts :

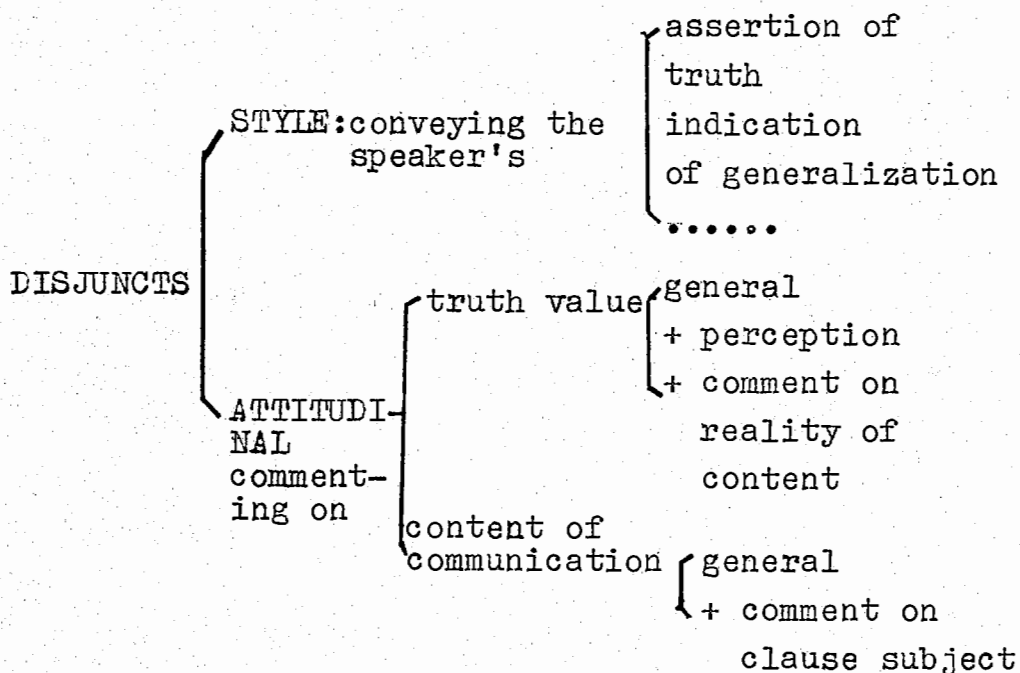
I'm glad you're coming with us.
 Jack, with several of his noisy friends, was drinking and playing poker till after two am.

14. Support, opposition adjuncts :

Are you for or against the plan ?
Remember that everyone of us is with
you.

E. Prepositional phrases function as disjuncts:

Adverbs as disjuncts can be divided into two main classes : STYLE DISJUNCTS (by far the smaller class) and ATTITUDINAL DISJUNCTS. Style disjuncts convey the speaker's comment on the form of what he is saying, defining in some way under what condition he is speaking. Attitudinal disjuncts, on the other hand, comment on the content of the communication. These two classes and their subclasses are displayed in the following diagram :



1. Style disjuncts :

With respect . none of them is competent to give an opinion on the matter.
(The speaker's assertion that he is being truthful in what he is saying).
In short, he is mad but happy. (The speaker is making a generalization).

2. Attitudinal disjuncts :

Adverbs as attitudinal disjuncts con-

vey the speaker's comment on the content of what he is saying.

They can be divided into two major groups, i.e. :

1. Those which present a comment on the truth-value of what is said, expressing the extent-to which the speaker believes that what he is saying is true.
2. Those which convey some attitudes towards what is said.

To my regret, he did not accept our offer.

They arrived, to our surprise, before we did.

With justice, they have assumed their place among the nation's heroes.

To the great admiration of all the onlookers, he plunged into the water and rescued the struggling.

On paper, he ought to have won, but in fact he lost.

Of course, nobody imagines that he will repay what he borrowed.

F. Prepositional phrases function as conjuncts:

Conjuncts can be divided into :

1. Enumerative conjuncts :

Enumerative conjuncts indicate a cataloguing of what is being said. Most of them belong to well-defined sets, though a member of one set may sometimes replace a member of another set in the appropriate position.

For example :

- I want to give just two pieces of advice. In the first place, there is no reason why he should know about your decision. In the second

place, it would be better if you acted before he finds out. (They mark particular position in the series).

- Tom Brown is well known in this city. He has been a member of the city council for many years. Above all, he is a football player of national reputation. (They mark by their position whether the series is in ascending or descending order of importance).
- Several reasons can be given for the change in the attitude of many students. To begin with (and most important of all), they fear the outbreak of the nuclear war. Such a prospect had not thought likely before. In the second place, they are concerned over the continuing pollution of the environment. Moreover, not enough progress has been made in reducing poverty or racial strife. And to conclude, they feel frustrated in their attempts to influence political decision.

Other prepositions as conjuncts are: for one thing (and) for another(thing) on top of it all, for a start, etc.

2. Reinforcing conjuncts :

The relationship of addition comprises both reinforcement (which includes confirmation) and equation, where there is an indication of the similarity with what has preceded. For example :

- This food is very good and it is probably something that people wouldn't get at home. In addition, It's not difficult to cook and it's quick to prepare.
- People do not think they need to

take precautions, but always consider the other driver to be the cause of road accidents. Above all, the wearing of the safety belts is thought to be a sign of fear.

- The public can see the paintings the whole of next week. On top of it all, they can buy them as little as ten dollars upwards.

3. Equative conjuncts :

Equative conjuncts indicate the similarity with what has preceded :

- The major was unaware of the contents of the pamphlet. The police were in the same way unaware of what appeared in it.
- There has been no progress in the negotiations between the union and the employers. The union is determined to get a better offer. By the same token, the employers have absolutely no intention of increasing their final offer.

4. Transitional conjuncts :

Transitional conjuncts indicate sequence of thought :

The complex preposition as for introduces a topic related to what was being discussed :

Mary has several close friends. As for John, he is always surrounded by friends.

Certain complex prepositions may mark a transition, but they can also begin discussion : with reference to, with regard to, with respect to. These are commonly used in official language, for instance, at the beginning of official letters immediately after the conventional vocative to the reader :

With reference to your letter of April 29th, I confirm my Directors' agreement to advance a further sum of £ 200.

With by the way the digression is always drastic.

5. Summative conjuncts :

Summative conjuncts indicate that the final part of a unit may consist of generalization or summing-up based on what preceded. Summative conjuncts are specialized for indicating this :

- The techniques discussed are valuable. Sensible stress is laid upon preparatory and follow-up work. Each chapter is supported by a well-selected bibliography. In all, this is an interesting and clearly-written textbook that should prove extremely useful to geography teachers.

- His plan for a British literary jury, fifty strong, sitting six times annually to choose the Serious Minority Writer of the year and other dignitaries seems to be bearing rapid fruit. Already about thirty-five eminent people have expressed interest.

Both BBC and commercial television have made encouraging noises about televising sessions. In sum, against every expectation, the literary show is about to be launched.

The style disjuncts in a word, in brief, in short, may also be used to mark summation. Another preposition of summative conjuncts is in conclusion.

6. Apposition conjuncts :

Apposition conjuncts indicate reformulation, exemplification and particularization:

- It is important that young children should see things and not merely read about them. For example, it is a

valuable educational experience to take them on a trip to a farm.

- The president of the United States, in other words, Richard Nixon, was on television last night.

Other prepositions of this type are : for instance, in particular, etc.

7. Result conjuncts :

They introduce the consequence or result of what was said before :

- They refused to pay the higher rent when an increase was announced. As a result, they were evicted from their apartment.
- The committee rejected the idea that consumers could be adequately protected by local consumer protection societies. As a consequence, the report recommended that legislation should be introduced as soon as possible to give minimum protection.
- The violent emotions aroused by the horrible crime make it impossible to find a local jury of people who have not made up their minds against the defendants.
In consequence, it is probable that the trial will be held in another area.

8. Inferential conjuncts :

They indicate inferences from what is implicit in the preceding sentence or sentences :

A : I'm afraid there isn't much I can help you with.

B : In other words, you don't want to be bothered.

A : He says he wants to marry Susan.

B : In that case, he shouldn't be

quarrelling with her all the time.

9. Reformulatory conjuncts :

They introduce reformulation :

You say you took the book without his permission.

In other words, you stole it.

10. Replacive conjuncts :

Replacive conjuncts indicate an alternative to what has preceded :

In order to buy a car, I may draw on my savings, though I'm reluctant to do so. On the other hand, I might approach my parents for a loan.

11. Antithetic conjuncts :

Antithetic conjuncts indicate a contrast with what has preceded. On the contrary, they emphasize that the opposite is true :

I didn't ask her to leave. On the contrary, I tried to persuade her to stay.

A : He is very foolish.

B : On the contrary, he's very clever.

In the first of the above pairs of sentences on the contrary introduces a restatement in affirmative terms of what has been said in the previous sentences with an implicit denial of the truth of 'I asked her to leave'. The other conjuncts introduce a comparison or contrast without entailing a denial of validity of what preceded :

- He's rather foolish, I'm afraid. By comparison, she's a genius.

- Even the largest of whales, the Blue Whale, with a maximum length of about 100 feet and a weight of up to 130 tons, can attain 20 knots for about 10 minutes. By way of

contrast, the common dolphin can keep up the speed of 20-22 knots for hours.

- A cut of one quarter in the total wages bill would bring only one five per cent saving in the ship's final cost. By contrast, the price difference between British and Japanese tankers is now as much as 25 per cent.

On the other hand, often indicates contrast, especially it is the second of a correlative pair with on the one hand :

On the one hand, you don't want to be too aggressive. On the other hand, you shouldn't be too timid.

12. Concessive conjuncts :

Concessive conjuncts signal the unexpected, surprising nature of what is being said in view of what was said before that, these are prepositions of concessive conjuncts :

- in any case
- in any event
- notwithstanding
- at any rate
- at all events
- for all that
- in spite of that
- in spite of it all
- after all
- at the same time
- on the other hand.

13. Temporal transition conjuncts :

They indicate that the temporal ordering is simultaneous with given time reference : prepositions of this type are:

- in the meantime
- in the meanwhile

G. Prepositional phrases function as obligatory predicative adjuncts following the verb BE :

The office is up the stairs.

He was at the end of the road when we arrived.

The statue is in front of the parliament building.

Maggy is in the kitchen.

They also say that prepositional phrases may function as :

1. Subject of a clause
2. Prepositional complement

1. Subject of a clause :

Between six and seven will suit you.

At night is no time to go there alone.

For him to speak at all was a wonderful thing.

2. Prepositional complement :

He crawled out from under the table.

He scooted across at about 40 miles an hour.

CHAPTER V
THE MEANING OF PREPOSITIONS

'We depend on context to help convey particular meaning that we suggest with our prepositions' (Jack E Corner, 1968, 154).

'Of the various type of relational meaning. Those of TIME and PLACE are the most prominent and easy to identify. Other relationship such as INSTRUMENT and CAUSE may also be recognized though it is difficult to describe prepositional meanings systematically in terms of such labels. Some prepositional uses may be elucidated best by seeing a preposition as related to a clause. And 'Meanings are elucidated best by paraphrase, by antonymy, or grammatical transformation'.

Fields of meaning are classified according to whether they chiefly involve the prepositional phrase as adjunct, postmodifier, disjunct, or complementation to verbs or adjectives. Fields of prepositional meaning are notoriously difficult to classify, and in some cases it is better to think of a range or spectrum of meaning first a single category, then as broken up into separate overlapping sections.

First, therefore, we deal with two important spectra which may be visualized as follows :

cause		manner		
reason	}	means	}	
motive		instrument		
purpose		agentive		
destination		stimulus		
target				

(Randolph Quirk, Sidney Greenbaum, Geoffrey Leech and Jan Svartvik, 1972, 306, 320).

'Prepositions usually come before the words they control. They indicate various relationships between words or phrase, but the most usual being those of time, space (position, direction, etc.) and mental or emotional attitudes.' (W. Stannard Allen, 1974, 292).

'The content of prepositions may be distinctive,

reduced, or all but lost.' (Knudd Schibsbye, 1972, 302.)

These statements lead us to the following points:

1. The meaning of prepositions is difficult to identify, therefore we depend on context to help clarify the meaning.
2. The meaning of prepositions can be elucidated by paraphrase, antonymy, grammatical transformation in relation to a clause.
3. The most prominent meaning of prepositions are of time and place.
4. Prepositions which convey the meanings of mental or emotional attitudes may have the derived meanings such as cause, reason, motive, purpose, destination, target, manner, means, instrument, agentive, stimulus, etc.
5. It is better to observe the meaning of prepositions in relation to the function of prepositions such as adjunct, postmodifier, conjunct, disjunct, or complementation of verbs or adjectives.
6. The meaning of prepositions may be distinctive, reduced or all but lost.

We will see the meaning of prepositions in this chapter based on these points¹⁾.

1. The meaning of prepositional phrases function chiefly as adjuncts :

- A. Prepositional phrase of place adjuncts :

Prepositional phrase of place are typically either adjuncts (relating an event or a state of affairs to a location) or postmodifiers (relating some objects to a location); they may also act as obligatory 'predicative' adjuncts following the verb BE as in Maggy is in the kitchen. The prepositional phrases of placed adjuncts can be divided into :

¹⁾ This part of this chapter is primarily taken from Quirk et al (1972) 307-333.

- a. Simple position and destination : at, to, etc.

Between the notion of simple position (or static location) and destination (movement with respect to an intended location) a cause-and-effect relationship obtains :

DESTINATION	POSITION
Tom went <u>to Cambridge</u> .	<u>As a result</u> : Tom was <u>at Cambridge</u> .
Tom fell <u>on(to) the floor</u> .	Tom was <u>on the floor</u> .
He dived <u>in(to) the water</u> .	Tom was <u>in the water</u> .

A prepositional phrase of 'position' can accompany any verb, although this meaning is particularly associated with verbs of STATIC meaning such as be, stand, live, etc. while the meaning of 'destination' generally accompanies a verb of DYNAMIC 'motional' meaning, such as go, move, fly, etc.

- b. Negative position : away from, off, etc.

The negative prepositions away from, off, and out of may be defined simply by adding the word not to the corresponding positive preposition :

Tom is away from Cambridge. (Tom is not at Cambridge.)

The books were off the shelves.

(The books were not on the shelves)

He is out of the office. (He is not in the office.)

Dimension types of prepositional phrases of place adjuncts : at, in, on :

The dimension type of a preposition of place adjunct is the dimensional property ascribed, subjectively

speaking, to the location denoted by the complement.

One may compare the three phrases at the door, on the door, and in the door. In the phrase at the door, the door is envisaged as a dimensionless location, a vague 'point on the map', and no details concerning its size come into focus. This is dimension-type 0. The phrase on the door, on the other hand, makes us see the door as a two dimensional thing, i.e. : a surface. On, in fact, can indicate location of either one or two dimensions (a line or a surface). This is, therefore, dimension-type 1/2. With in the door the door is seen as a three dimensional object having volume. In can also be applied to two dimensional locations, which are seen as areas (typically enclosed or bordered pieces of territory) rather than surfaces. (This is like other distinctions involving dimension-types, is psychological or perceptual, rather than 'real'). In, therefore, belongs to dimension-type 2/3.

It is clear from the foregoing that the same object can be viewed in terms of any three dimension-types :

The manager stood at the door.

There was a new coat of paint on the door.

There was woodworm in the door.

Further examples of each type are :

Dimension-type 0 :

<u>at the shop</u>	<u>at the North Pole</u>
<u>at the bus stop</u>	<u>at the end of the road.</u>

Dimension-type 1/2 :

line: The city is situated on the River Thames.

on the boundary.

on the cost.

surface : A notice was pasted on the wall.

on the ceiling.

on my back.

Dimension-type 2/3 :

area : in the world
in the village
in the park

volume: in a box
in the bathroom
in the cathedral

The contrast between on (surface) and in (area) has various implications according to the context :

on the window : The frost made patterns on the window.

(window = glass surface)

in the window/mirror : A face appeared in the window/mirror.

(window, mirror = framed area)

on the field : The players were practicing on the field.

(field = surface for sport)

in the field : Cows were grazing in the field.

(field = enclosed area of land)

on the island : He was marooned on a desert island.

(viewed as a mere space)

in the island : He was born in Long Island (viewed as an inhabited interior).

The opposition between at (dimension-type 0) and in (dimension-type 2/3) can also cause difficulty. In is used for continents, countries, and sizeable territories of any kind; but for towns, villages, etc. at or in is appropriate, according to point of view : at/in Stratford-upon-Avon. A very large city such as New York, London or Tokyo is generally treated as an area : He works in London, but he lives in the country.

But one could treat it as a point on the map

if global distances were in mind :

Our plane refuelled at London on its way from New York to Moscow.

With buildings, also at and in can be used. The difference here is that :

at : refers to a building in its institutional or functional aspect.

in : refers to it as three dimensional structure.

He is at school (Br E)

He is in school (Am E)

Both these sentences mean :

He attends/is attending school.

He is in school (He is actually inside the building - not e.g.: on the playing fields.)

c. Relative position : by, over, under, etc. :

Apart from simple position, prepositions may express the relative position of two objects or groups of objects :

He was standing by his brother. (at the side of)

I left the keys with my wallet. (in the same place as)

Above, below, over, under, on top of, underneath, beneath express relative position in VERTICAN DIRECTION! While in front of, behind represent it in a HORIZONTAL DIRECTION. The antonyms above and below; over and under; in front of and behind are not positive and negative, but converse opposites :

The picture is above the mantelpiece. =

The mantelpiece is below the picture.

The bus is in front of the car = The

car is behind the bus.

Over and under as place prepositions are roughly synonymous with above and below respectively. The main differences are that over and under tend to indicate the direct

vertical relationship and/or spatial proximity, while above and below may indicate simply 'on a higher level than' :

The castle stands on a hill above (rather than over) the valley.

The doctor and the policeman were leaning over (rather than above) the body when we arrived.

Underneath and beneath are less common substitutes for under; beneath is formal in style. Underneath like on top of, generally indicates contiguous relation.

Other prepositions of relative position are : beside, near to, between, amid(st) , among(st).

d. Relative destination : by, over, under, etc.

As well as relative position the prepositions mentioned above except above and below can express relative destination:

The bus was the only conceivable hiding place, so we dashed behind it.

When it started to rain, we all went underneath the trees.

This use is distinct from that denoting PASSAGE behind, under, etc.

e. Passage : by, over, under, etc. :

With verbs of motion these prepositions may express the idea of passage (movement towards and then away from a place) as well as destination. With prepositions mentioned above, this occurs in sentences like :

He jumped over a ditch.

Someone ran behind the goal-posts.

In sentences like the last or like :

The ball rolled underneath the table.

There is an ambiguity : we can supply either the meaning of passage (The ball passed under the table on its way to some other destination) or the meaning of destination (the ball rolled under the table and stayed



there).

f. Passage : across, through, past :

The sense of passage is primary locative meaning attached to across (dimension-type 1/2), through (dimension-type 2/3) and past (the 'passage' equivalent of by which may also, however, be substituted for past in a passage sense.

g. Movement with reference to a **directional** path : up, down, along, etc. :

Up, down, along, across (in a slightly different sense from that above) and round, around, with verbs of motion, make up the group of prepositions expressing movement with reference to a directional path or an axis.

Up and down contrast in terms of vertical direction.

Along (from one end to the other) contrast with across (from one side to another) in terms of horizontal axis. But up and down are also used idiomatically in reference to a horizontal axis:

He lives down the road.

He lives up the road.

I walked up and down the platform.

Up and down here express the notion of along and need not have any vertical implications. With around and round, the directional path is an angle or a curve.

We ran up the hill.

We ran around the corner.

h. Orientation : beyond, past, over, etc :

Most prepositions listed above can be used in static sense of orientation. This brings in a third factor apart from the two things spatially related : a point of orientation, at which (in reality or imagination) the speaker is standing. Beyond (on the far side of) is a preposition whose primary mean-

ing is one of orientation, furthermore, over, past, across and through can combine the meaning of beyond with more specific information of dimension-type, etc. on the lines described above :

He lives across the moors (from here).

The village past the bus stop/through the wood.

Up, down, across, along, and (a)round are used orientationally with reference to an axis in :

The shop down the road (towards the bottom end of)

His office is up/down the stairs (at (or towards) the top of)

There is a hotel along/across the road (on the other side/towards the other hand of)

i. Resultative meaning :

When combined with the verb BE, all prepositions which have motional meaning can also have a static resultative meaning indicating the state of having reached the destination.

The horses are over the fence. (have got(ten) over)

At last we're out of the forest. (have got(ten) out)

Resultative meaning is not always distinguishable out of context from other static meanings, its presence is often signalled, however, by certain adverbs (already, just, at last, (not) yet, etc.) and it is characteristically found with negative prepositions from, out of, etc. or with prepositions of passage such as across, through, and past, etc.

j. Pervasive meaning : all over, throughout, etc. :

Over (dimension-type 1/2) and through (dimension-type 2/3) especially when preceded by all, have pervasive meaning (either static or motional) :

The child was running all over the flower borders.

Chaos reigned all through the house.

Throughout substitutable for all through is the only preposition whose primary meaning is 'pervasive'.

Occasionally the 'axis' type prepositions are also used in pervasive sense :

There were crowds (all) along the route.

They put flowers (all) around the statue.

Verbs incorporating prepositional meaning :

When a verb contains within its own meaning, the meaning of a following preposition, it is often possible to omit the preposition, the verb then becomes transitive and the prepositional complement becomes a direct object :

climb (up) the mountain
 jump (over) a fence
 flee (from) the country
 pass (by) the house
 pierce (through) defences
 turn (around) the corner

Metaphorical or abstract use of place prepositions.

Many place prepositions have abstract meanings which are clearly related through metaphorical connection to their locative uses. Very often prepositions so used keep the groupings (in terms of similarity or contrast of meaning) that they have when used in literal reference to place. Examples in relation to literal meanings are :

In/out of, amid/amidst
 position into state, condition

in/out of danger

in difficulties

to keep out of trouble

quarrel/agree among(st) ourselves
 relationship/contrast/affinity between
two things

B. Prepositional phrase of time adjuncts :

A prepositional phrase of time usually occurs as adjuncts or postmodifier, but it can occasionally be itself a complement of a temporal preposition : a voice from out of the past. The temporal uses of prepositions frequently suggest metaphorical extensions from the sphere of place similar to the metaphorical extensions discussed previously. Prepositional phrases of time can be divided into :

1. Time when : at, on, in :

Thus at, on, in as prepositions of time when are to some extent parallel to the same items as positive prepositions of position, although in the same sphere there are only two dimensions-type i.e. : 'point of time' and 'period of time'.

At is used for points of time (chiefly clock-time) :

at ten o'clock

at 6.30 pm

at noon, etc.

it is also used idiomatically for holiday seasons such as at the week end (BR E) ; at Christmas, at Easter referring to the season of Christmas/Easter, not the day itself. And for phrases such as at night, at the/that time, etc.

On is used with phrases referring to days such as on Monday, on the following day, on the New Year's Day, otherwise, in, or less commonly during is used to indicate periods of time such as in the evening, during the Holy Week, in August, in the months that followed, in summer, in 1971, in the eighteenth century, etc.

2. Duration, for, etc.:

Duration is expressed by for :

We camped there for the summer (from the beginning to the end of the summer)

Contrast :

We camped there in the summer (probably not for the whole summer).

Frequently used idiomatic phrase of this kind are : for now, for ever, and for good. Also over normally accompanies the noun phrase denoting special occasions (such as holidays and festivals) and so generally refers to a shorter period of time than throughout/through.

From ... to is another pair of prepositions whose locative meaning is transferred to duration. The American alternative expression (from) ... through is useful in avoiding the ambiguity as to whether the period mentioned second is included in the total span of time :

We camped there from June through September (Am E : up to and including September)

We camped there from June to September (Br E : up to (? and including) September).

3. Before, after, since and until/till

They are conjunctions as well as prepositions. As prepositions they occur almost exclusively as prepositions of time, and are followed by either :

a. a temporal noun phrase : before next week

b. a subjectless V-ing clause : since leaving school

c. a noun phrase with a deverbal noun or some other noun phrase interpreted as equivalent to a clause :

until the fall of Rome (until

Rome fell)

before the war (before the war started or took place)
since electricity (since electricity is invented).

Informally until is sometimes preceded by up :

up until last week

4. Between, by, up to :

Other prepositions of time are between, by, up to :

I'll phoned you between lunch and three o'clock.

By the time we'd walked five miles, he was exhausted.

Up to last week, I hadn't received any reply.

Absence of prepositions of time

In many cases, a preposition of time is absent, so that the temporal adjunct takes the form of a noun phrase instead of the prepositional phrase :

I saw him last Tuesday.

I'll mention it next time I see him.

This year, plums are more plentiful than in any year I can remember.

Every summer she returns to her childhood home.

Prepositions of time when are always absent immediately before the deictic (or pointing) words such as last, next, this, and that, and quantifying words such as some and every, also before nouns which have last, next, or this as an element of their meaning :

I saw him yesterday/today

I'll see him tomorrow evening.

The omission of prepositions is optional with the deictic phrases referring to times at more that one remove from the present such as :

(on) Monday week

(in) the January before last (in Am E in
should be omitted here)

(on) the day before yesterday

also with phrases which identify a time before
or after a given time in the past or future.

(in) the previous spring

(in) the following weekend

(in) the next day

Thus both the following alternatives are
acceptable :

We went on the following day.

We went the following day.

We met on that day.

We met that day.

On the whole, the sentence without the
preposition tends to be more informal and more
unusual. Non-deictic phrases containing the
must have the preposition :

We met on the day/in the spring.

In addition the preposition for is often
omitted in phrases of duration :

We stayed there (for) three months.

The snowy weather lasted (for) the
whole time we were there.

(For) a lot of time we just lay on the
beach.

The omission almost invariably takes place
with phrases which began with all, such as
all day, all (the) week :

We stayed there all week (not + for
all week)

In other cases however, the omission
is impossible for example with many
'event' verbs :

I haven't spoken to him for three
months (not + I haven't spoken to him
three months)

Initial position in the clause also seems to
discourage omission :

For 600 years, the cross lay unnoticed.

C. Prepositional phrases of cause and purpose adjuncts : Cause, reason, motive : because of, etc. .

These prepositions express either the material or psychological cause or motive for a happening :

Because of the drought, the price of bread was high this year.

I hid the money, for fear of what my parents would say.

The survivors were weak from exposure and lack of food.

Some support charities out of duty, some out of sense of guilt, rarely is human compassion the chief motive.

He said it for fun, but they took him seriously.

On account of is a more formal alternative to because of as an expression of cause or reason. The other three prepositions are mainly restricted to the expression of motive, i.e. : psychological cause : from gratitude/kindness, out of gratitude/kindness, etc. For is found with a relatively small number of expressions : for fear of/love/want (of)/joy/sorrow, etc.

Phrases of cause, reason and motive answer the question 'Why ?'

D. Prepositional phrases of purpose and intended destination adjuncts : for :

He'll do anything for money.

Everyone ran for safety.

For the journey, they packed three large picnic baskets of food.

He died for his country.

The use of for illustrated above have in common a notion of 'purpose' as we see from the possibility of paraphrasing them by a clause (in order) to :

for money = in order to gain money

for safety = in order to reach safety, etc.

To express intended destination for is used with verbs such as run, start, head, leave and set out :

He set out for London.

Phrases of purpose or destination answer the questions 'Why ...?', 'What ... for?', 'Where for?', or 'Who ... for?'. They frequently occur as postmodifiers, as well as adverbials :

The scenery for the play.

- E. Prepositional phrases of recipient, goal, and target adjuncts : for, to, at :

When for is followed by noun phrases denoting persons or animals, the meaning is rather one of 'intended recipient' :

He laid a trap for his enemy.

He made a beautiful doll for his daughter.

So used, the for phrases can often be equated with an indirect object :

He made his daughter a beautiful doll.

She cooked him a dinner.

In contrast to notion of 'intended 'recipient' expressed by for the preposition to expresses 'actual recipient' in the sentence such as :

He sold the car to his next-door neighbour.

Here again there is a transformational relationship with the indirect object construction:

I { gave
lent } the book to my friend -
sold

I { gave
lent } my friend the book.
sold

At in combination such as aim at (where the prepositional phrase is complementary to the verb) expresses 'intended goal or target' :

After aiming carefully at the bird, he missed it completely.

A vicious mongrel was snapping at his ankles.

As the first sentence shows, the intended goal need not be achieved. A contrast in many cases (kick at, charge at, bite at, catch at, shoot at, chew at) may be drawn between this use of at in which some idea of 'aim' is implied, and the direct object construction, which indicates attainment, the goal or consummation of the action as planned.

He shot at the Commander-in-Chief.
means something very different from :

He shot the Commander-in-Chief.

to the first, one could add 'but missed him' but not to the second. In other cases, where the verb is intransitive, to must be used if the attainment of the goal is to be stressed.

He ran at me.

He ran to me.

F. Prepositional phrases of source and origin adjuncts :

The converse of to (goal) is from (source).

Bill lent the book to me. - I borrowed the book from Bill.

From is also used with reference to 'place of origin' :

He comes from Austria (he is an Austrian).

I'm from Madrid.

This type of prepositional phrase occurs not only as an adjunct, but as a postmodifier :

A man from Mars.

A friend of mine from London.

G. Prepositional phrases of means and agentive adjuncts :

Manner : with, in ... manner, like :

We were received with the utmost courtesy.

The task was done in a workmanlike manner.

Like pestilence, the army swept through the city, leaving nothing but desolation behind.

Note that like can have the meaning of 'manner' with extensive verbs; with intensive verbs, its meaning is purely that of 'resemblance'.

Life is like a dream.

This meaning is common with disjuncts in sentences whose main verb may be extensive, contrast :

He writes poetry like his brother. (manner)
Like his brother, he writes poetry. (resemblance).

Manner phrases, like manner adverbs, can sometimes be evoked by the question 'How?' , especially if the sense of means is effectively excluded :

How did he speak ? He spoke completely.

He spoke with great skill.

H. Prepositional phrases of means and instrument adjuncts :

By can express the meaning 'by means of' :

I usually go to work by bus.

The thief must have entered and left the house by the back door.

By working the pumps, we kept the ship afloat for another 40 hours.

Phrases of means answer the questions with 'How?'

With, on the other hand, expresses instrumental meaning :

He caught the ball with his left hand.

Someone had broken the window with a stone.

There is a correspondence between these sentences (which normally require the human subject and a direct object) and sentences containing the verb use :

He used his left hand to catch the ball.
 Someone had used a stone to break the window.

There is also an alternative construction in which the noun phrase denoting the instrument becomes the subject :

His left hand caught the ball.
 A stone had broken the window.

For most sense of with, including that of instrument, without expressed the equivalent negative meaning :

I drew it without a ruler (I did not use a ruler to draw it).

Phrases of instrument, like those of means answer the questions with 'How?'

How did he do it ? With an axe.

I. Prepositional phrases of instrument and agentive adjuncts : with, by :

Converting now the sentences with instrumental subject above into the passive, we obtain :

The ball was caught with/by his left hand.
 The window was broken by a stone.

In the passive that is the instrument may be expressed by a by-phrase, and is thus treated as parallel to an agentive.

While the instrument is an inert and normally inanimate cause of an action, the 'agentive' is its animate (normally human) indicating cause. Where either of this would occur as subject of an active sentence, there is a corresponding passive sentence, in which the agentive or instrument is expressed by a by-phrase :

We were observed by a passing stranger (A passing stranger observed us).

The crops have been ruined by the frost (Frost has ruined the crops).

The difference between instrumental phrases

containing with and by is a fine one :

He was killed by an arrow.

He was killed with an arrow.

Either of these sentences could describe the same incidents. The difference is that with-phrase is always an agentive : (Someone killed him with an arrow), whereas a by-phrase is not. This follows from the fact that the by-phrase corresponds, in transformational terms, to a subject of an active sentence. One could say :

We were driven indoors by the rain.

but not

+ We were driven indoors with the rain.

As there is no conceivable agentive (except God) for the action in the second sentence.

The agentive by-phrase also occurs as post-modifier to signify authorship :

A picture by Degas.

A novel by Tolstoy.

J. Prepositional phrases of stimulus adjuncts :

at :

The relationship between an emotion and its stimulus (normally an abstract stimulus) can often be expressed by at :

I was alarmed at his behavior.

This may be compared with the instrumental use of by : I was alarmed by his behavior.

Both of these can be treated as passive equivalents of : His behavior alarmed me.

And the noun phrase followed at may be treated as a 'quasi-agent'.

K. Prepositional phrases of accompaniment adjuncts:

Especially when followed by animate complement, with has the meaning 'in company with' or 'together with' :

I'm so glad you are coming with us.

Jack, with several of his noisy friends, was drinking and playing poker till after 2 am.

a flock of sheep (sheep make up the flock)

a glass of water (the glass contains water)

seven of my friends (... amounting to seven)

people of the Middle Ages (people who lived in the Middle Ages).

the house of my dream (the house which I see in my dream).

B. 'Having' :

In the case of 'the courage of the man' above, the relationship of 'having' can be in the opposite direction :

the courage of the man - a man of courage
the tremendous force of the wind - the wind of tremendous force.

the distinction of the performance -
the performance of distinction.

In the right hand examples, it is the notional subject of HAVE, not its notional object, that is the head of a noun phrase. This way round, of is limited to the expression of abstract attributes, and the notion of 'having' is more generally expressed by with :

a man with a red nose (who had a red nose or a red-nosed man)

an industrialist with a house on the Conta Brava (who has a house

a man with a large family (a large-familied man).

a box with a curve lid.

Elsewhere the negative of with is without:

a play without any faults (a play with no faults)

women without children (childless women)

the house without a porch (.... which has no porch)

The correspondence between phrases with

with or without and relative clauses with have applies also to clauses in which have is followed by a quasi-clausal object :

the girl with a boy friend in the army
 (..... who has a boy friend in the army)
 the factory with the chimney smoking
 a room with its door open

The object phrases with quasi-clausal complements are unlike any other kind of prepositional phrase, and could reasonably be regarded as verbless or non-finite clauses, with or without thereby being treated as conjunctions and postmodifiers :

He wandered in without shoes or socks on.

With so many essays to write, I doubt if I shall have time to visit you.

Here, the fuller clausal equivalent is a participial adverbial clause, not a relative clause :

Having so many essays to write, I doubt if I shall have time to visit you.

3. The meaning of prepositional phrases function chiefly as either disjuncts or conjuncts :

A. Concession : in spite of, despite, for + all, with + all, notwithstanding :

I admired him in spite of his faults.

Despite strong pressure from the government, the unions have refused to order a return to work.

With/for all his boasting and orientations training, he was knocked out in the first round by a man lighter than himself.

Thomas Carlyle, notwithstanding his tedious rhetoric, is a master of sublime in prose style.

In spite of is a general-purpose preposition of concession, despite, is rather more formal, and for/with + all (all being an obligatory

predeterminer with this meaning) are rather restricted in their use. Notwithstanding is formal and rather legalistic in style.

- B. Reference : with regard to, with reference to (formal), as to (Br E), as for :

With reference to your letter of April 29th, I confirm my Directors' agreement to advance a further sum of £ 200.

With regard to education, it is one of the most backward places in the country.

As for the burglar, he escaped through the attic window.

As to and as for (returning to the question of) are less formal than the other complex prepositions in this group. As to and with regard to can be used in post-modifying phrases as well as in disjuncts :

I'd like to know your opinion as to/with regard to the burglar's behavior.

Other prepositions within the same general area of meaning are : regarding, in regard to, with respect to, in respect of, and in the matter of.

- C. Exception : except for, with the exception of, apart from, excepting, but, bar, barring :

We have a very pleasant time, except for the weather.

With the exception of James, none of us had any money.

The worst period of my life, apart from the war, was when I was out of work.

They were all rescued excepting the captain, who stayed behind to safeguard the vessel.

Finally, we had packed everything but the typewriter.

Except for, with the exception of, and apart from are used primarily as disjuncts. Except,

excepting and but on the other hand, function generally (in the case of but exclusively) in postmodifying phrases :

all except two
any time but now

Thus but cannot occur initially as a preposition :

+ But me, everyone was tired.

The prepositional phrases in such constructions is often separated from its noun head and placed at the end of the clause :

Everyone but me was tired - Everyone was tired but me.

Further noun phrase must contain a determiner or indefinite pronoun of absolute meaning (positive or negative) : no, any, every, each, nobody, anywhere, everything, etc.

Hence one may say all but one but not e.g.: some but one, or many but one.

Bar, and barring are rarer substitutes for except and excepting.

D. Negative condition : but for :

It is to be noted that but for is not used in the sense of exception, but rather a negative condition :

But for Gordon, we should have lost the match (If it hadn't been for Gordon ... or If Gordon hadn't played as he did...).

4. The meaning of prepositional phrases chiefly function as complementation of a verb or an adjective :

A. Subject matter : about, on :

He told me about his adventures.

He's lecturing on new techniques of management.

With the meaning 'on the subject of, concerning' about and on can combine in a considerable range of verbs and adjectives including:

speak about/on
 argue about/on
 hold forth about/on
 lecture about/on
 preach about/on
 confer about/on
 write about/on
 communicate about/on
 be acknowledgable about/on
 learn about
 teach (someone) about
 read about
 hear about
 quarrel about
 keep quiet about
 tell (someone) about
 inform (someone) about
 find out about
 be reasonable about

On is reserved for deliberate, formal linguistic communication (speaking, lecturing, writing, etc.) and is therefore inappropriate for verbs like read, quarrel, and teach, which do not necessarily involve the subject of the sentence in using language, also for verbs like chat and gossip (both are informal) which denote inconsequential use of language. Thus :

He spoke on butterflies.
 would suggest that he was making a formal speech.

He spoke about butterflies.
 would probably refer to an informal conversation or casual allusion.

This difference of meaning occurs also with postmodifying phrases, in which on and about (on the subject of) are quite extensively used :

a book about/on butterflies
 a talk about/on antiques
 a discussion about/on drugs

a word about/on the garden
 a story about a princess
 ignorance about sex
 the fact about Suez
 a fuss about nothing

These two prepositions are similarly introducing adverbials following the verb be :

This book is on/about the stamps.

B. Ingredient, material : with, of, out of :

After verbs of 'making', with indicates an ingredient, whereas of and out of signify the material or constituency of the whole thing :

You make a cake with eggs. (eggs are one of the ingredients)

He made the frame out of wood. (wood was the only material)

The same contrast of meaning is seen with build and construct :

The terminal was built/constructed with reinforced concrete.

The terminal was built/constructed out of reinforced concrete.

With also enters into expressions such as paved with bricks, filled with water, loaded with hay.

Of (used with nouns denoting 'material') is found in postmodifying function as well as in adverbials :

a bracelet of solid gold
 a table of polished oak (made/consisting of polished oak).

Here it may also be used metaphorically :

a heart of stone

C. Respect, standard : at, for :

We could not say : This boy is bigger without relating the comparative adjective explicitly to a standard of comparison, so a gradable adjective without the comparative form

implies some standard or norm : big means something different in :

This elephant is big. And

This cat is big.

since 'big for an elephant' presupposed a large scale and a larger norm, than 'big for a cat'. We can make the norm explicit by for-phrases :

He is not bad for a youngster (considering he is a youngster)

The dog is long-legged for a terrier.

A further way in which a prepositional phrase may specify the meaning of a gradable adjective is to use at to introduce the respect in which the adjective is appropriate to its noun phrase :

He is good/clever/brilliant at organizing things.

He is bad/hopeless/terrible at games.

These two prepositional uses are not restricted to adjectival complementation, they occur also in a number of other grammatical roles, as the following examples show :

I'm a complete dunce at mathematics.

She is getting on very well at her job.

For an Englishman, he speaks foreign languages remarkably well.

It's a dreadfully expensive toy for what it is.

D. Reaction : to, at :

A sentence such as :

Their rejection of the offer surprised me. presents, by means of straightforward subject-verb-object construction, the relationship between an event and emotional reaction. The same relationship can be expressed by the passive :

I was surprised by their rejection of the offer. or alternatively, by the passive with

the preposition at replacing the agentive preposition by :

I was surprised at their rejection of the offer.

Here at signals the relationship between the emotive reaction and its stimulus. Surprised in this context is a participial adjective (note that it can be preceded by very) and it is with such adjectival forms that at (stimulus) characteristically combines :

alarmed at
amused at
disgusted at
delighted at

Less commonly, verbs and non-participial adjectives have this construction :

laugh at
rejoice at
be angry at
be glad at

Another way to state the same idea is to let the main clause represent the event acting as a 'stimulus' and let the reaction to be expressed by the preposition to followed by an abstract noun of emotion :

To my annoyance, they rejected the offer. To my annoyance in this context is an attitudinal disjunct, comparable with adverbs such as surprisingly.

Yet another way of putting it is to use a to-phrase to identify the person reacting :

To me, their rejection of the offer was a surprise.

In this last sentence, to is not limited to emotive reactions, it applies equally to intellectual or perceptual responses :

To a mind based in common sense, his ideas are utterly incomprehensible. It looked to me like a vast chasm.

In this last case the to-phrase is not a disjunct but an adjunct.

The meaning of prepositions in alphabetical order.

After observing the prepositional meanings, now it is a turn to observe them in alphabetical order. Not all prepositions will be discussed here, only some of them which the writer thinks are most common 2).

1. Aboard : 1. Simple position : on a ship, train, air craft, bus, etc.
There are 45 passengers aboard the plane, fifteen of them are Europeans,
2. Simple destination : with motional verbs it indicates 'simple destination' : into a ship, boat, bus, aeroplane, etc.
Passangers are requested to get aboard the plane, we are going to take off in five minutes.
2. About : 1. Movement with reference to a directional path, the complement is not necessarily a curve or angle.
We walked about the street.
He flicks at the bats circling about her head.
He paused and looked about him.
2. Areal position : the complement is not necessarily a curve, angle : here and there within an area.
There is a strange smell about him.
Don't leave bottles, tins, papers about the park.
3. Subject matter :
Tell us about what happened.
Have you a book about stars ?
Lamb write about herself.
Are you thinking about her ?

²⁾ The part of this thesis is primarily taken from Procter (1978); Quirk et al (1972), 306-33; and Schibsbye (1972), 303-81.

4. Approximity :

The gold stock has declined by about \$ 7,500 million this year.

He will arrive at about 9.30 am.

5. In the character of :

There is a sense of power about him.

3. Above : 1. Relative position in the vertical axis : directly higher than a point, higher level :

The picture is above the mantelpiece.

At noon when the sun is right above the head, the walls are casting no shadows, the children have an hour's recess.

The minute hand of the clock above his head jumped forward, in an almost imperceptible click.

2. Degree :

1. More than :

She values safety above excitement.

2. Higher in rank or position :

The captain of the ship is above the sea man.

3. Higher in quality than, not having bad thoughts, or doing bad things :

He wouldn't steal it, he is above that.

4. Out of reach because too great or too good:

His behavior is above praise.

5. Too good, proud, etc. :

He is not above doing what is necessary.

4. Across : 1. Movement with reference to a directional path : from one side to another.

He swam across the river.

He ran across the busy road.

2. Passage : movement towards and away from one place :

The ball rolled across the lawn.

We drove across the forest.

3. Orientation :

They lived just across the road from us.

Our neighbours across the canal are Americans.

4. Resultative meaning :

They are across the house already.



5. Across from

: 1. Orientation : opposite, facing:
They live just across from us.

6. After

: 1. Relative position : following in place, order, behind :

He entered the room after his father.

Your name comes after mine in the list.

Put the direct object after the verb.

Shut the door after you when you leave

2. Following continuously :

Year after year went by without hearing about him.

3. Time : succession of events, chronological order, more than, lateness :

I'll see you after Wednesday.

I'll leave after breakfast.

They will return the day

after tomorrow.

We'll arrive after dark.

4. Reason, result :

After the way he treated me,
I shall never want to see
him again.

5. Concession :

After all my care in packing
it, the clock arrived broken.

6. Manner, style :

It was painted after a
great master.

7. Accordance :

You are the man after my
own heart.

8. Desire/purpose :

The policeman ran after the
thief.

9. Resemblance in name :

The boy was named after
his uncle.

7. Against

: 1. Direction : in the opposite
direction to :

We sailed against the wind.

2. Position : having as a background,
touching the surface :

The picture looks nice
against the wall.

I sat against the warm wall.

3. Opposition :

We'll fight against the
enemy.

There were twenty voters
for him and twelve against
him.

The hotel has a rule against
keeping animals in bedroom.

4. Protection, defence :

We're all taking medicine

against the disease.

5. Preparation :

We have saved money against
our old ages.

8. Over against : 1. Orientation : opposite to,
facing :

We live over against the
church.

9. Along : 1. Movement with reference to a
directional path in a
horizontal axis : from one
end to the other.

We walked along the road.

They ran along the river.

2. Relative position : in the
line, next to the length of :

Trees grow along the road.

3. Orientation :

The hotel along the road
is always full.

4. Pervasive meaning :

There were crowds (all)
along the route.

10. Alongside (of):

1. Relative position, by the
side of, side by side with,
near :

A car was parked alongside
of the hotel.

There is a post office
alongside the theatre.

11. Amid (st) : 1. Relative position : in the
middle of :

He was amidst the crowd.

Tarsan lives amidst the
monkeys.

Amidst such a world, if
anywhere, our ideals
henceforth must find a
house.

2. Figurative meaning : in the middle of :

Amid the panic around him he remained cool.

Amid the splendour and festivities of the court, she felt a pang.

12. Among

: 1. Relative position : in the middle of, surrounding by many objects or persons :

I live among the mountains.

I was among the crowd.

He was carried out to the clearing among the truth.

2. Association, in the association of :

The minister was among those who attacked me.

3. Class, membership :

This mountain is among the highest in the world.

4. Share, division :

Divide this cake among you.

5. Common action :

They talked about the matter among themselves.

13. Apropos (of) : 1. Reference : with reference to :

Apropos of John's new job, did he tell you how much he is earning ?

14. (A)round : 1. Movement with reference to a directional path in a surrounding direction :

A boy was running around the corner.

She twined a flower in the wreath....and bound

them in rings (a)round
the brown water jars.

Putting her gloved hands
around his neck, she
kissed him coolly.

2. Relative position : the
complement is surrounding or
a curve, angle, here and
there within an area :

The atmosphere in and
(a)round Danzig.

We sat around the table.

He put a frame around the
picture.

He lives somewhere around
London.

3. Pervasive meaning :

All around us us were
signs of decay.

She put flowers all around
the statue.

4. Orientation :

He lives around the corner.

5. Approximity :

I'll visit you around
Christmas.

The gold stock has declined
by around half that amount
during 1961.

I'll arrive at the meeting
at around 5 pm.

6. Figurative meaning : base,
foundation etc :

The society was built
around a belief in God.

15. As

- : 1. Resemblance, like :

They all rose together as
one man.

2. Figurative meaning : in the
capacity of, state, condition,
job, etc :

Speaking as a beginner he surprised all the audience.
 He was famous as a soldier.
 He works as a farmer.
 They regarded her as clever.

16. At :

1. Simple position : a point of position, a vague point on the map and no details concerning its shape or size :

He was at the door when we arrived.

You can find her at the bus-stop.

All goods are available at the shop.

He lives at Downing Street 25. (address)

Our plane stopped at London on its way from New York to Moscow.

2. Time when : before a clock time, seasons, holidays :

She will arrive at 7 am.

She came here at midnight.
 (idiomatic)

I'll visit you at Christmas.
 (the season of Christmas)

At the moment of speaking, everyone is calm.

3. Target :

He ran at him with a knife and drove it into his wicked heart.

After aiming his gun carefully at the bird, he missed it completely.

He shot at the General but missed him.

You always tend to be talking at me rather than to me.

'Up and at them boys' cried the General when we attacked.

4. Stimulus :

I was surprised at his behavior.

I was amused at his jokes.

I was pleased at his behavior.

He was angry at his acts.

I laughed at his foolishness.

5. Standard, respect :

He is good at organizing things.

He is bad at games.

He is genius at chemistry.

She is getting very well at her job.

6. Figurative meaning : state, condition, feelings :

Don't disturb him, he's at work.

At this time, he is at school.

He is at freedom to choose his partner.

7. Degree :

1. Superlative : state :

He is at the best condition to win the match.

He is at the worst situation to suffer from heart attack.

2. Used before the rate, degree, position of something in a set of group.

At first, everything goes well, but in the end, the situation changes.

Water boils at the temperature of 100°c.

3. Ages :

He is still strong at the age of 90.

You are considered mature in terms of law, when you are at 17.

4. Price :

I bought 90 pencils at 10 cents each.

I sold this car at \$ 5000.-

5. Speed, rates :

He left at a run.

He drove at 190 miles to win the race.

6. Level :

The water stopped rising at the level of 90 feet.

7. Distance :

He ran at 90 miles in three hours time.

17. Atop

: 1. Simple position : on top of :

The book atop the table is mine.

Put the book atop the table.

2. Simple destination :

We walked atop the stairs to his office.

18. Before

: 1. Relative position : in front of :

She stood before him.

The wide lands lying before the travellers.

2. Time : earlier in time :

He died before 1937.

He got there before me.

3. Figurative meaning :

1. In front of :

The case before the court.

The life is still before you.

2. In a higher or more important position than :

She put quality before quantity.

Spiritual needs are before material needs.

19. Behind : 1. Relative position : at the back of :
- We stayed behind the advancing army.
- He stood behind the tree.
- There is a garden behind the house.
2. Relative position :
- The bus was the only conceivable hiding place, so we dashed behind it.
3. Distance :
- He finished 90 seconds behind the winner.
4. Support :
- We are right behind you all the way.
- 'People like him who had no family or anything behind them'.
20. Below : 1. Relative position : in a lower position than :
- He got a wound below the knee.
- He built a new house a mile below the hill.
- Put the table just below the picture.
2. Degree : lower in amount , rank than, etc :
- A captain is below a general.
- Citizens below the age of 17 are not allowed to participate in the Election.
- Poor people usually live below the normal standard.
- He sold the house at the price below \$ 100.000,-.
21. Beneath : 1. Relative position : in a

Lower position than :

Everything beneath the sun is the creation of God.

2. Relative destination : in a lower position than :

When it started to rain, we all went beneath the trees.

3. Figurative meaning :

1. Not suitable to the rank:
Such behavior is beneath you.

2. Under the control or influence :
You are beneath the rule.

22. Beside

: 1. Relative position : close to the side of, next to :

She sat beside the driver.
There is a beautiful town beside the sea.

2. Comparison :

Beside last year result, the figures for this year have declined.

23. Besides

: 1. Addition : as well as, in addition to, also :

Mr Macleod was on the Guard Reverse besides being in the police.

24. Between

: 1. Relative position, relationship between two objects or group of objects :

She was standing in between Mr Palmer and his wife,

2. Time : the relationship between two events : I'll phone you between 2 and 4 pm.

3. Distance :

He ran at the speed between
5 - 6 miles an hour.

4. Connection : in connection with :

The railway between London
and liverpool is on
preparation.

5. Division :

Divide the cake between the
two children.

6. Result of shared activities of several people.

They all did the same job
between them.

7. Taking together to the total effect of a set of things :

Between cooking, cleaning,
washing, sewing, and writing,
she is always busy.

25. Beyond :

1. Orientation : on the further side of :

What lies beyond the mountains?
The hotel beyond the road is
always full with guests.

2. Resultative meaning : having reached the destination :

The horses are beyond the
fence already.

3. Time : latenees

Don't stay here beyond 11 pm,
it is dangerous.

4. Figurative meaning : out of reach, much more than, out side the limit :

The high fruits are beyond my
reach.

5. Exception :

Beyond that, there is nothing
now.

I own nothing beyond the clothes on my back.

26. But : 1. (after no, all, nobody who, where, etc.) meaning exception:
 There is nothing here but me.
 Who but George could do such a thing ?
 Anything but that.
 You cannot find this anywhere but in Scotland.
27. But for : 1. Negative condition :
But for Gordon, we should have lost the match.
28. By : 1. Relative position : near , beside :
 He was standing by the window.
2. Means : by means of :
 The ball was caught by the hand.
 The window has been broken by the stone.
 I earn money by writing.
 I can tell by looking at his face.
 I usually go to work by bus.
3. Passage :
 He walked by me without noticing me.
4. Time : not later than, before, during :
By this time tomorrow I'll finish the job.
 Do you think you'll have finished by 4 pm ?
 Cats sleep by day and hunting by night ?
5. Agentive, authorship, result of actions :

The play was written by Shakespeare.

He was killed by an arrow.

The song was composed by Mozart.

6. Instrument :

The action is taken by force.

It was struck by lightning.

7. Accordance :

You have to play by the rules.

You have to do it by my advice.

8. Degree : to the amount or degree of :

They paid him too little by £ 5.

9. Reason for judgement :

I can see you by your face.

I'd know you everywhere by your laugh.

It's dangerous to judge by appearance.

10. Seized, held part :

He led by the hand.

He seized the hammer by the hand.

11. Swear, conviction :

By God, he has done it.

I swear by everything I believe in.

12. Multiplication, division :

I live in a room 15 feet by 20 feet.

Divide 30 by 6.

13. Measurement :

He was paid by the hour.

He moved along by inches.

14. Succession :

Little by little at last
it will be great.

The animals went in two
by two.

15. Reference :

He is a doctor by profession.

He is a French by birth.

29. Despite : : 1. Concession : in spite of

He came to the meeting
despite his serious illness.

30. Down : 1. Movement with reference to a
directional path in a vertical
or horizontal axis : descending
direction or horizontal
direction :

The man ran down the hill.

He ran down the stairs.

He looked down the barrel
of the gun.

He lives down the road.

We sailed down the river.

2. Orientation :

The shop down the road is
John's.

There is a post office down
the road.

We can't look ahead down
the years and know what the
future will be.

31. During : 1. Time : duration, a period of
time, through the whole course
of, at some point in the
course :

I swim everyday during the
summer.

'We 're open from 10 o'clock
until 6 o'clock during the
day and then on Sunday
from ten o'clock until
2'clock.'

He came during the night.

32. For

: 1. recipient :

The parcel isn't for
you, it is for your
sister.

They had bought the new
chairs for the office.

Give one of the cake
for George.

What is this money for?

It's for buying some
food for dinner.

2. Intended goal :

The escaped prisoner ran
for the shelter of the
Woods.

The children set off
for school.

This train for Brighton
has left.

A first class ticket for
Oxford.

3. Time : duration or a point
of time :

He didn't answer it for
several minutes.

We camped there for the
summer.

We had invited our
guests for nine o'clock.

He has made an appointment
with the doctor for the
first of March.

4. Representation :

The member of the parliament
for Watford.

What is the word for
'to travel' in French ?

Red for bravery, white
for holiness.

5. Substitution :

'I can't do it', let me
do it for you.

Can you give a change for
a pound ?

I think I speak for
everybody.

6. Existence, partition :

I took him for a fool.

We have duck for dinner
today.

7. Support, Agreement :

I'm all for the young
enjoying themselves.

Are you for the government
or against it ?

He played well for his
side.

Would you die for your
country ?

8. Purpose :

They are waiting for the
bus.

For the details of this
part, write to the editors.

The demand for the coal
is greater in Winter.

9. Improvement :

The doctor has given her
some medicine for her cold.

He had an operation for
heart attack.

10. Concern :

For the one thing I didn't
like the colour, and for
the other the price is
too high.

11. Reason ; motive, cause :

For several reasons, I
would rather meet him.

He said it for fun, but
they took him seriously.

I hid the money, for fear of what my parents would say.

12. Regard, reference :

I have no ear for music.
France is famous for its wine.

Have you still all right for money ?

He has a great happiness for his father.

For all I have known he may be dead.

13. Suitability, fitting, preparation :

The men are all ready for the action.

He is the very person for the work.

It's not for the pupil to see the teacher what to do.

These materials are used for building houses.

14. Time, occasion :

He bought his son a boat for his birthday.

She is coming home for Christmas.

15. Cause, result :

You look all the better for your holiday.

This coat is the worts for wear.

16. Standard, respect :

He is heavy for a small boy.

The girl's abilities are no more than average for her age.

He is not bad for a youngster.

That dog is long-legged for a terrier.

17. Concession :

For all his effort, he didn't succeed.

Susan for all her heavy appearance is dancing there on her toes.

18. Degree :

price, payment, rate, worth, amount, number, length, distance :

I bought this book for 50 pence.

You can get a good room at the hotel for £ 4 per day.

He wouldn't go up in an aeroplane for anything (payment).

These cigarettes are 30 pence for 20.

He got full mark for his English exercise.

He promised a reward for finding the lost jewels.

She wrote a cheque for £ 20.000,-

They ran fast for a mile.

The desert stretched for many miles.

19. Addition, comparison :

For every mistake you make, you'll lose half a mark.

For every three who do, there are two who don't.

33. From : 1. Time : starting point, beginning at, since, after:

From the moment he saw her, he loved her.

She works from morning till night everyday.

We hope to go on a holiday a month from now.

It will be open from about 9 o'clock.

2. Source, origin :

The train started from London to Rome.

A cool wind blew from the sea.

The boy was covered in mud from head to foot.

She went from shop to shop, trying to find what she wanted.

The birds have come from over the sea.

Where are you from ? I'm from Indonesia.

3. Degree : Starting point in rank, order, position, beginning with, price, number :

Boys from the third class take their examination in the main hall of the school.

The rise from the office boy to the director of the company in 15 years.

The cost are from ten pounds.

There were from about 60 to 80 people present at the conference.

4. Material, ingredient :

Bread is made from flour.

The plastic from which the dish is made is very cheap.

The shape of the car is developed from the horse carriage.

5. Base, foundation :

I'm speaking from experience.

She played the music from memory.

All the characters in the book are drawn from real

life.

6. Relief, absence :

He needs a rest from work.
This medicine may give
you some relief from the
pain in your head.

7. Development :

From being a thin weak
boy, he became a healthy
active soldier in the army.
His behavior is going from
bad to worse.

8. Comparison :

His behavior is different
from his brother.

9. Point of view :

From the top of the hill,
you can see the sea.

From child's point of
view this book is not
interesting.

A picture of a car seen
from below.

He was looking at me
from over the top of the
newspaper.

10. Separation :

His absence from class
was soon noticed.

It's hard for a child to
keep apart from its mother.

He lives apart from his
family.

11. Distance :

The village is five miles
from the coast.

It's only a few steps
from here to the post
office.

Nothing was further from
my mind.

12. Absence :

She took the watches away
from the child.

Why did you move the book
from the table ?

If you subtract 10 from 15,
5 remains.

The wind blew his hat from
his head.

13. Protection, prevention :

She saved the child from the
fire.

A house gives us shelter
from rain.

Keep the bad news from the
sick woman.

Soldiers protect our town
from flooding.

14. Cause, result, reason :

He suffered from heart attack.

She wasn't ill, she stayed
in bed from laziness.

From no fault of their own,
they lost all the money.

The survivors were weak from
exposure and lack of food.

15. Judgement, consideration :

From his appearance you
wouldn't think he was old.

34. In

- : 1. Simple position : volumes ,
areas, cities, countries, place
concerns with an activity :

He lives in London.

Keep the money in the box.

We spent our holidays in
France.

He was lying in bed when we
arrived.

George is in hospital, school,
church, etc.

2. Simple destination :

He ran in the room.

He got in his car.

3. Figurative meaning : abstract inclusion :

The characters in the story are very difficult to identify.

People in the photograph are my family.

4. Employment :

He is in big business.

He took a university degree in history.

5. style, wearing :

He was dressed in suit.

The girl in red dress is my sister.

The gentleman in uniform is general Arthur.

6. Means :

Write in pencil, don't write in ink,

Write your paper in English.

The picture was painted in oil.

7. Time:

1. With a certain period of time, at some time, during, at the time of, esp:months, years, season, etc. :

He'll arrive in January next Year.

In spring the weather is very good for making tours.

He was born in 1967.

This book was printed in the nineteenth century.

The earthquake started in the early afternoon.

2. During, not more than the space of :

He learnt English in three months.

He finished the novel in three years'time.

3. After, at the end of :

It's two o'clock already,
I'll come in an hour.

8. Manner :

The government announced in public the next Five Year's Plan.

This problem is very essential,
let us discuss it in secret.
I'm not a pretender, I'll
tell you everything in earnest.

'in the way in which we would
make a living.'

What did you give him in return ?

She did nothing in reply.

9. Division, arrangement :

Pack them in bars.

The refugees went into the
camps in rows.

Discussed the question in groups.

Cut the bread in two halves.

10. Relation, proportion : per, each :

They arrived in large numbers.

They came in their thousands.

11. Regard, reference :

He is weak in judgement.

You are lacking in courage.

They are equal in distance.

The house is ten miles in length.

12. Figurative meaning : condition,
state :

If you are in difficulties
contact me.

Be careful, you are in danger.

After his recovery from heart attack, he is in good condition.

After the holocaust the town is in ruins.

He is leaving for London in a hurry.

35. Inside : 1. Simple position, volume, area:
I saw a girl inside the car.
(fig) She finds pride inside the social clubs.
2. Simple destination : volume , area :
He came inside the classroom.
3. Relative destination :
When it started to rain, we all went inside the room.

36. Inside(of): 1. Time : in less time of :
He'll be here inside of an hour.
He'll arrive there inside of two days on foot.

37. Minus : 1. Mathematical function :
1. Figures on quantity, made less by : 17 minus 5 becomes 12.
 2. Number of degrees, below the freezing point of water:
The temperature was minus 10° C.
 3. (Old usage) : absence , without, lacking :
He won the fight, but when it ended he was minus two front teeth.

38. Notwithstanding : concession, in spite of :
Notwithstanding any other

agreement, the law will
go into action.

39. Of

: 1. Belonging, possession, having:

The colour of the dress
is green.

The size of the wing ...

The courage of the man
is admirable.

The envy of the world...

The trial of the
conspirators is considered
unjust.

2. Relation to a whole or all;
partition :

1. After expressions of
quantity :

Two pounds of sugar for 1.

2 miles of bad road.

Much of the night is a
trouble for her.

How many hours a day of
actual lesson ?

2. With dates :

She was born on 27th of
February 1975.

3. Before mass nouns :

Lots of sugar are available
at the shop.

3. Picking out in groups : from
among, division :

1. After norms and numbers:

Members of the team have
come with victory.

One of his last process
was admired throughout
the world.

Two of us should come
first.

2. After the comparative or
superlative:

The older of the two is



five years old.

The most important of all
is having a recreation.

3. After sort, type, kind, +
singular nouns :

Any sort of flying accident.

What kind of question do
you want to ask ?

4. Agent :

The plays of Shakespeare
are always difficult to
understand.

The love of God for men.

The shooting of the
hunters

He was loved of all who
knows him.

The novels of Tolstoy.

5. Target :

The love of God by man.

The shooting of the
animals.

The love of music by the
young.

6. Apposition :

The city of New York is
governed by a mayor and
a city council.

7. Origin :

A girl of a good family.

A man of the common people.

8. Reason, cause :

I do it of my own will.

It did not happen of
itself, it must be of
something.

He died of hunger.

9. Material,

The dress is made of wool.

The table is made of wood.

The shoes are made of

leather.

10. Characterization :

A bag of potatoes (a bag which contains potatoes).

A woman of great abilities in needed everywhere.

She is a woman of no importance.

11. Connection, in connection with, part of; belonging :

We sailed to the east of Suez.

The king of England had declared war against France.

The result of the meeting is disappointing.

A teacher of English as a FL should know the culture of English

Speaking people.

The time of his arrival has been delayed.

12. Subject matter :

He asked his mother of his father.

Children usually like to read stories of adventures.

A picture of John is hung against the wall.

13. Time :

1. Before :

It's five minutes of two o'clock.

He'll arrive at 15 of 6 pm.

2. During :

They always like to go out of evening.

14. Separation :

He robbed the man of his

money.

15. Improvement, removal :
The doctor cared you of
disease.

16. Reference :
He is very fond of music.

17. Judgement :
How kind of John to buy
this ticket.
It's very annoying of the
government to have raised
the tax of beer.

40. Off : 1. Negative position, absence :
He's off his office now.
She's off school for
laziness.

2. Simple position; near :
The ship sank off the
Atlantic.

3. Movement : absence :
Get off my food.
Keep off the grass.
Cut the piece off the loaf.
He borrowed a pound off
me.

4. Figurative meaning : no longer
here or found of :
I have gone off love
stories from some reason.

41. On : 1. Simple position : line or
surface :
The book is on the table.
The picture on the wall
is painted by John.
He left his purse on the
shelf.
(fig) you can find this
explanation on page 12.

2. Relative position :
1. Very near.

There is a town right on the river.

The village right on the border is isolated.

2. Along : from one side to another :

Trees grow on both sides of the street.

(Fig). I'm on my way to college.

3. Time when : during, at the time of, phrases of days :

They arrived here on Sunday.

I'll visit you on Christmas Day.

They come here on time.

4. Reference , regard : directly after, on the occasion of :

On thinking about the idea I decided against it.

5. Simple destination :

He jumped on the horse.

He blew a stick on his head.

They marched on Rome.

They made an attack on the enemy.

Turn on the right and the post office is before you.

6. Subject matter :

Have you a book on India ?

I don't find any articles on stars here.

A seminar on TEFL will be held next month.

7. Means : means of transportation :

They arrived on foot.

She came here on horseback.

The hijackers left Italy
on a plane.

8. Means :

They live on rice.

Cars run on petrol.

Have you heard the news
on television ?

I'll speak with you on
telephone.

He cuts his foot on a
piece of glass.

9. Cause, reason, motive :

He acts on a lawyer's
advice.

10. Figurative meaning :

condition, state.

The house is on fire.

The workers are on strike
against the government.

The cars are on sale.

I was on my way to home
when I found an old
friend.

She is on the run to
hospital.

This money is on offer
to the famine victims.

You must have done it
on purpose.

11. Support :

He went around the world
on the money his mother
gave him.

He spoke on the bases of
his new theory.

12. Membership :

He served on a committee
for five years.

13. Inclusion, belonging, working

for :

She is on the Times
Newspaper.

Which side was he on
in the game ?

14. Effect :

A tax on income

15. Addition : added to,
after :

We suffer defeat on
defeat.

42. Opposite (of) : 1. Simple position : facing :
The houses opposite the
street are Americans.

43. Out of : 1. negative position : absence
He is out of the office.

2. Direction : from inside ,
away from :
'Michael is moving out
of Adison Gardens.'

3. Figurative meaning : from
a state of :
He woke up out of a
deep sleep.

4. Beyond the limit of :
Out of sight.

5. Lacking :
We are out of water.
I'm out of money.

6. Cause :
I came out of real in
trust, not have just a
good time.

7. Material :
This house is made out
of wood.

44. Outside : 1. Simple position : on the
outside of :
Everybody should wait

outside the door.

'Outside the west gate
of Chiung-Lai-city'.

2. Beyond the limit of, not in:
Staying somewhere outside
New York
- It's quite outside my
experience (fig.).

45. Outside of :

1. Simple position : outside
Passengers are not allowed
to ride outside of their
part of the train.

2. Exception :
- Outside of John, there
is none for the job.

46. Over :

1. Relative position: directly
above, higher than but
not touching :

A lamp hangs over the
door.

The doctor leaned over
the body.

I kept my hand over the
top of the bottle.

2. Destination :
- They threw a blanket
over her.

3. Passage:

They climbed over the
wall.

He jumped over the ditch.

The ball rolled over the
grass.

The car ran over the
dog and killed it.

4. Orientation :
- They live over the road.

5. Resultative meaning :

At last we were over
the crest of the hill.

6. Pervasive :

Leaves lay thick all over the ground.

They splashed water all over me.

They travelled all over England.

The child was running all over the flower borders.

Over the years he has become more and more patient.

He ruled over a large kingdom.

7. Degree : higher in rank :

I don't want anyone over me.

8. More than something that can be measured :

It's just over £ 500,-

Over years our country was still alien for many people.

I can read over 15 books a month.

9. Means :

I don't want to say it over a telephone.

10. Subject matter :

Difficulties over his income tax.

Taking rather a long time over it.

47. Past : 1. Time : after, beyond the time :

This time is half past six.

She is a woman far past her youth.

The train left half

past seven.

2. Orientation :

The village past the bus-
stop.....

3. Passage :

The boys rushed past us.

4. Resultative meaning :

The boys are just past the
forest.

5. Figurative meaning : beyond :

The richman's condition is
past hope.

48. Per

: 1. Degree, amount, price; for each:

Apples costing ten pence
per pound.

2. Time : during each :

How many books can you read
per day ?

3. Accordance :

The work has been done as
per instruction.

49. Plus

: 1. Mathematical function, with the
addition :

9 plus 3 becomes 12.

The cost is a pound plus 10
pence for it.

This needs experience plus
care.

50. Since

: 1. Time : duration, from a point
in the time until now, during
the period.

I haven't seen her since
last week.

I haven't met him since 1973.

It's a long time since
breakfast.

51. Than

: 1. Comparison :

Paul is taller than me.

They arrived earlier than

usual.

52. Through : 1. Passage :

He pushed his way through the crowd to the room.

The ball rolled through the lawn.

We travelled through France and Belgium on our holidays.

You have to walk through the gate.

Is it quicker to drive round the town or right through the middle ?

2. Means :

The murder must have entered through the window.

I got this book through the library.

It was through John that they found us.

3. Pervasive meaning :

It rained all through the night.

The disease has spread all through the country.

I read through the article and found it uninteresting.

4. Reason :

The war was lost through bad organization.

5. Without stopping for :

We drove through a red light.

6. Time : duration, up to and including:

I'll stay here from Wednesday through Saturday.

We camped there from June through September.

7. Concession :

I could hear his voice through the chasing of the bombs.

53. Throughout : 1. Pervasive :

It rained throughout the night.

The disease spread throughout the country.

54. To : 1. Simple destination :

The road to London is always busy.

He stood and walked to the window.

He threw the bottle to me.

He went to Oxford.

2. Intended goal :

We're hoping to go to London on our holidays this year.

The robber was sent to prison for five years.

3. Attainment ; distance :

I read the book from the beginning to the end.

The water came to our neck.

It's ten miles from here to London.

I'm wet to the skin.

4. Result:

The child was kicked to death.

Wait until the light went to green.

5. Attachment :

The two lovers danced cheek to cheek.

The paper stuck firmly to the wall.

The two enemies sit back to back.

I was sitting with my back to the engine.

6. Time : duration :

I stayed here from Friday
to Saturday morning.

The meeting will start from
the first of July to the
fourth.

7. Recipient :

Have you told all your
needs to John ?

This letter is from George
to Mary.

8. Comparison, relation :

I know he is successful
but he is nothing to what
he could have been.

The result of the match is
5 points to 3.

The wine is the second to
none.

9. Accompaniment :

We sang a song to a new
tune today.

Do you want an egg to your
tea ?

10. Degree, amount :

10 pence to everyone.

11. Accordance :

Your dress is not really
to my liking.

You will hear of something
to your advantage.

12. Addition :

Add 2 to 4.

13. Honour :

Let us drink to the health
of the King.

They built a temple to
church.

14. Belonging, possession :

The prince has no right to
the title.

15. Time : before :

It's five minutes to four.

How long is it to dinner?

16. Agent :

He is well known to the police.

17. Simple position :

Scotland is to the north of England.

18. Reaction :

To my great surprise we won.

To me their rejection of the offer was a surprise.

To a mind based on common sense, his ideas are utterly incomprehensible.

19. Connection :

What is your answer to that ?

He is always kind to animals.

This'll do a lot of good to your chest.

Things Susan did to me.

20. Concerns :

It looked to me like a rabbit.

To me this seems silly.

55. Toward(s) : 1. Movement with reference to a directional path, destination:

He was walking towards town when I met him.

I hope we're not moving towards war again.

She showed tendency towards wisdom.

2. Time : approaching, near :

Towards the end of the 19th century, people began to

demand one man one vote.

3. Regard, relation :
What are your feelings
toward us ?

4. Purpose, payment, fulfillment:
We saved £ 5 towards paying
for our holiday each week.

56. Under

: 1. Relative position : in a lower
place than, directly below :
The box is under the table.
He came out from under the
trees.

2. Relative destination :
When it started to rain we
all went under the trees.

3. Degree : price, temperature ,
less than :
I can buy it if it is under
£ 5.
The temperature in Tokyo is
under 30°C.

4. Rank : subordination :
They work under his
leadership.
You are under the rule of
this country.

5. Control, reign :
Spain under General Franco
is terrible.

6. Bearing :
Many parts of Asia are kept
under rice.

7. Class :
Rabbits come under the
heading of animals.

8. Cause, during :
Under present conditions
no change is possible.
I'm under the impression

that you are a fool.
 You cannot charge a person
under the influence of
alcohol.

9. Mistaken impression :

You are under his
apprehension.

I'm under the impression
 that you are a fool.

He goes under the name of
Smith.

57. Underneath : 1. Relative position : lower
 than :

The letter was pushed
underneath the church door.

2. Relative destination :

When it started to rain ,
 all of us went underneath
the trees.

58. Until/till : 1. Time : duration: up to the
 time that :

I'll wait here until
tomorrow.

You should wait here until
4 o'clock.

We stayed from Friday till
Sunday.

He was here up until last
week.

2. Distance : as far as, up to
 (a place to which one is going):

Stay on the train until
London.

59. Up : 1. Movement with reference to a
 directional path in a vertical
 or horizontal axis :

He climbed up the hill.

He walked up the stairs.

They live up the road.

He was sailing up the Seine.

2. Simple destination :
I'm going up the West End
tonight.
3. Orientation :
The hotel up the road is
always full.
4. Resultative meaning :
The boys are already up
the forest.

60. Up to : 1. Degree, so far, to and including:
1. number :
Up to ten men can sleep in
this tent.
 2. Higher position or degree
in a set :
Everyone works, from the
boy who sweeps the floor
up to the manager.
 2. Equal to, good, well, clever
enough (for) :
Michael's not really up to
the job.
My German is not up to
translating that letter.
 3. Duty or responsibility :
It's up to you whether you
decide to take the job.
 4. To do something bad :
What in the world are you
up to ? Stop it now.
 5. Time : duration :
He was here up to last week.

61. Via : 1. Means :
- We flew to Australia via
Paris and Rome.
I have read this play via
an English translation.
I sent a message to Mary
via her sister.

62. With

: 1. Accompaniment :

I was staying with a friend
when my mother arrived.

She lives with her five
children when her husband
died.

A man walked down the road
with his dog.

2. Possession, belonging, showing:

I have a book with a green
colour.

The child with a dirty face
is my nephew.

A man with a black dog came
to me.

The girl with the blue eyes
is Susan.

3. Instrument :

He fought with a sword.

She ate the bread with a
spoon.

You can hear the news with
your ear.

She cut the bread with a
knife.

He was killed with an arrow.

What will you buy with the
money ?

I write this letter with a
pen.

4. Material, content :

I filled it with sugar.

It was covered with dirt.

This cake is made with eggs.

5. Support, favour :

I fought with the government.

The whole country is with the
queen.

I agree with every word.

You are either with me or
against me.

Don't worry, all of us is with you.

6. Opposition ; competition :

Stop fighting with your brother.

If you dare, have a race with me.

Our national companies are now competing with the foreign ones.

7. Parallel direction :

We were sailing with the wind.

He was carried along with the crowd.

8. Simultaneosity :

With the dark nights comes the bad weather.

Her hair becomes grey with the passing of that year.

His earnings increased with his power.

9. Comparison :

Do not compare chalk with pencil.

She matched her coat with a skirt.

10. Concession :

With all your success, you are not a success.

With the best will/intention in the world,

I cannot make her like me.

11. Cause, reason :

She was singing with joy.

The grass is wet with rain.

When he heard of his passing the exam, his eyes were wet with tears.

With five children we cannot afford the new furniture.

With winter coming on, it is time to buy warm clothes.

I can't go out with all these dishes to wash.

With John away we have got more rooms.

12. Care :

Your secret is safe with me.
 Leave your little daughter with me, while you go on a holiday.

13. Concerns :

Be careful with the glass.
 Be gentle with the baby.
 There is a difficulty with this new time table.
 We should be at peace with our friends.
 She is in love with him.
 What is the matter with you ?

14. Combination :

Combine it with your opinion.
 Mix the sugar with eggs.
 This cannot be connected with that one.

15. Command :

Down with school!
 off to be with you!
 On with the dance!

16. Choice :

The decision is with you.

63. Within : 1. Place : distance, inside the limit of, not beyond or more than :

He'll arrive within a shouting distance.

2. Time : inside the limit of time :
 She'll arrive within an hour.

3. Figurative meaning : condition , state :

You have to keep within the law.
 I'm within the organization.

4. (Old usage) inside (a place):
Within the wall of this
house lies a secret.

64. Without : 1. Absence, lacking :
 He went there without a
coat.
 It is a night without
sleep.
 We could do it without Hohn.

2. Negation :
 He left without telling me.
 Can you wash it without
breaking it ?

3. Outside (old usage) :
 He waited without a city.

65. Except : Exception :
 He answered all the question
except the last one.
 I can take my holidays at
 any time except in August.
 I know nothing about him
except his laziness.

66. Except for : exception
 I know nothing about the
 accident except for what
I read in the newspaper.
 I like her except for when
she is angry.

67. Excepting : Exception :
 He wouldn't eat anything
excepting a small piece of
meat.

68. Bar (ring) : exception :
 The whole group was at the
 party bar (ring) John.
 We shall return at midnight
barring accident.

69. Concerning : regard, reference :
Concerning your letter I'm

pleased to inform you that
your plans are quite
acceptable to us.

70. Considering : If one takes into account the
rather surprising fact (of) :
He did poorly in his
examinations, considering
how hard he had studied for
them.
71. Following : After, succession :
Following the speech, there
will be a few minutes for
questions.
72. Including : Partition, belonging, having as
a part of :
There are 125 people attending
the meeting, including 50
women.
73. pending : duration, until :
This matter must wait pending
his return from England.
74. Regarding : Reference (business letters) :
Regarding your recent inquiry
I agree to employ you.
75. Less : lacking :
She gave me £ 100 less £ 5
for her own cost.
76. Like : 1. Manner :
He did it in the street like
a dog.
You must do it like this.
2. Resemblance :
He was like a son to me.
When the car's painted it
will look like new.
Jimmy's mother is very rude
like him.
It was just like him to think
of helping her.

3. You seem like a sensible man.

3. Examples :

There were several people interested, like John and Dr. Palmer.

Some Semantically related prepositions³⁾.

1. About, around, round:

1. Indicating position :

- She looked a little heavy about the eyes.
- The atmosphere in and around Danzig.
- A noose round his neck.

About : connotes proximity to the complement + the concept of 'surrounding', the latter is vague so that the complement is not necessarily surrounded.

- Throngs may crowd about a man whose back is to the wall.
- This plant grows in the meadows about Oxford.

Around/round : are used when the idea of a circle or curve attached in the surrounding phenomena.

- Her eyes have a suggestive redness around them.
- That boy hiding round that corner.
Of these two around predominates in USA and round in Britain.

When around is used in Br E the surrounding phenomenon is usually expressed by substantive associated with the non-countable or the plural :

- The pipe music shrilled suddenly around her.
- She began to be frightened at the pandemonium of sights and noises that surged around her.

³⁾ This part of this chapter is primarily taken from Knudd Schibbye op cit 303-81.

2. Indicating movement :

- He flicks at the bats circling about her head.
- Putting her gloved hands around his neck, she kissed him coolly.
- I find my own thoughts always swinging round the same pole.

The distinction is similar to the above :

About : The complement is not necessarily surrounding.

Around/round : the complement is surrounding.

3. With substantives denoting 'area' as their complements, these prepositions are used without any concept of 'surrounding', denoting instead 'here and there within (the area)', This applies to both position and movement :

- Don't leave bottles, tins, and papers about the park.
- Travel around the country.
- The savage wandered restlessly round the room.

4. Indicating approximate dimension and the like :

- The gold stock has declined by about \$ 1,700 million a year.
- The gold stock has declined by around half that amount during 1961.
- Meet me round 7 o'clock.

2. About, of, on (as concern, as regards, as to, concerning, regarding, relating to, respecting, touching, with reference to, with regard to, etc.) :

These prepositions denote topic, they approximate one another in content.

The bracketing prepositions are technical or mannered words, used in good writings only with special associations or in a special style; not all of them have a full status of prepositions, since several of them seldom

occur separated from their complements; thus The subject which I wrote to you concerning, is an example.

They have an afficial or formal ring. These words plus their complements form more or less independent phrases, the predicate being complete even without them, while about, of, on + their complement form part of the predicate; Compare :

- I told what I had heard about his father.
And
- I told him what I had heard reported concerning his intimacy with the actress.

Here are some qualities of the bracketing prepositions, some have certain associations corresponding to their verbal origin :

1. Concerning (as concerns) : carries the subordinate idea of 'affecting, influencing' :
 - Make laws concerning public welfare.
2. Regarding (as regards, with regard to) : indicates that the circumstance stated applies to the complement in particular:
 - She is lax as regards allowing her daughters to meet young men.
 - They avoided all discussion regarding the scandal.
 - The gesture of 'full implementation and faithful execution' promised with regard to the new civil rights law takes on a sinister note.
3. Relating to : carries the subordinate idea 'closely connected with' :
 - Matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security are appropriate for regional actions.
4. Respecting (with respect to) : indicate 'selection' - that the complement is

the choice made among co-ordinate possibilities :

- He had nothing to say respecting Spain.

But these expressions are very commonly used merely in an attempt to avoid the frequently used and consequently worn prepositions : about, of, on :

- In Vathek there was a suppressed chapter concerning it (incest)..... Shelley wrote a play about it.
- Concerning Glasgowmuch has been written.

5. About : Carries an association of 'vagueness' and 'varied range of approaches' :

- We had a long talk about the new theory.
- Until I own the dog, I never knew what is meant by the proverb about letting a sleeping dog lie, or the fable about the dog in the manger.

About here is equivalent to 'dealing with' while of in the same connections would have almost the value of 'definitive genitive' ; compare :

- No less than sixty books about travels in Switzerland.
- And
- She studied the little book of names and tickets.
- The stories of the prophet Merlin and the enchantress Nimue has the same origin.
- A luckless traveller called Bruce , whose truthful stories about Abyssinia were doomed to be disbelieved.

6. Of : Has no intellectual concept, but has been reduced to the meagreness of a formal grammatical device; of- phrases are often easily comparable to a verb + object, for instance :

dream of = envisage

dream about = to have a dream concerning

compare :

- He attached so much importance to victory in talk that he dreamed about it. And
- He had not dared to dream of such bliss.
- I have heard of it = I know it.
- I have heard about it = I have heard talk of it.
- We've heard of the fall of Wolsey, which was like the crash of huge palace (We knew and yet we did not realise that pride goes before a fall).
- He had heard about the troubles while in the United States.
- Can you think of a good name for this?
= suggest
- He was thinking about the youthful days in New Zealand.
- I'm not sure of it = I don't know the fact.
- I'm not sure about it = I'm not sure of facts regarding this point).

In all these cases it can be said that where of is used the complement is directly connected with (the object of) the subject-matter of the member to which it is linked by the preposition; while, there is in the use of about a conception of indirect attachment and a conception of multiplicity. But the two prepositions may approach one another even more, for about is displacing of :

- This may be a fair summary of what most people know about Horace Walpole.
- The exact story of Lord Hailes about the ass's milk, which Harvey took because he was a sick man, was that he confined himself to a diet of.....
- Most often he would talk not of France and the war at all, but of New York. He liked nothing better than sitting in a

shell hole with her and her sister and talk about New York.

- Patterson wrote of the British troops in 1862 : 'For solidity, bottom courage that never wavers, they are incomparable.'
- Walpole could write about the history of Richard III.



7. On : Here the subject expressed by the complement is assumed to be familiar ground (and any statement to be factual and thorough) :

- A paper on serfdom in Russia.
- Experts on the teaching of English
- Authorities on gas

In many cases it is in fact the preposition that expresses the association of more or less authority, objectivity, etc. :

- A sermon on selfishness
- The parson would preach a sermon about it.
- The department organization would provide information on Canada.
- Can you give me any information about this matter ?

3. Above and Over :

1. Indicating place :

- At noon when the sun is right above the head, the walls are casting no shadows, the children have an hour's recess.
- Over the gateway there rose a turreted tower.

Above : 'higher up than', expresses vertical distance, the horizontal relation being ignored, that is it denotes both 'vertically above' and 'higher up and to one side of'.

Over : May connote 'covering contact' and when the preposition is used of vertical distance it carries an association of

'connection with, importance to, effect upon'. In some cases, above and over are almost interchangeable.

2. Used figuratively :

Over : Command : - A colonel is over a lieutenant.

Concerned with : - Our neighbours argue about Balham and Ealing over our heads.

Above : Rank : -The rank of ambassador is above that of minister.

Level : -He soars above the conventions.

In measurement : above/over : 'more than', but above indicates only 'level', while over implies 'an evaluation of level' (whole, as much as)

4. Across and Over :

1. Indicating position :

- They found him lying dead across his mother's grave.

- They wore blue serge with watch-chains over their waistcoats.

Across : direction, at right angle to the longitudinal direction of the complement.

Over : On the other side of, beyond, has a value corresponding to its central significance (covering contact, influencing, characterising, etc.)

- The bridge across the river (across: the respective directions of the two phenomena connected by the preposition).

- The bridge over the river (over : implication 'bearing on' the complement; the phrase is more or less equivalent to 'the bridge spanning the river').

2. Indicating movement :

- Three figures were walking across the

lawn towards the window.

- He escorted the two ladies over the smooth lawn.

Across : direction; a relation to the phenomenon than that stated in the complement: In :

- The German has already crossed the outer lines and were now streaming across the causeway which enclosed the Zuider Zee (we should really expect along in connection with 'causeway' but across is related to the 'Zuider Zee'). Similarly
- The scattered across the grass (makes sense only when we know that the context indicates a football field).

Over : descriptive, movement in progress:

- Unrealistic discussion on these issues over the past few years (a process taking place throughout a number of years); but :
- The inability to communicate across the years is that there is too much to communicate (the fact of the gulf between young and old).

5. After and behind :

Behind : Direction and location :

- There is a garden behind the house.

Mutual local relation :

- Close the door behind you (the person has not passed through the doorway).

After : Chronological order :

After school

succession :

- Close the door after you (the person has passed the door, but behind can also be used here).

In succession the two prepositions may

approach one another :

- Put the direct object after the verb.
- I heard someone run behind me.

The two prepositions express succession and relative locality.

When expressions with close are used of what is irrevocably past behind is used as the clearer figure :

- The gates of childhood had for ever closed behind them.

Time span expressions may represent distance :

- He finished 96 seconds behind the winner (of a boat race).

Of the two prepositions only behind carries an association of less progress :

- He is behind his sister in mathematics.

6. After and by :

After : whole sequence :

By : Attention to the individual members of the sequence (compare every day and each day).

These prepositions may approximate one another in content :

- Year after year they would be alone together.
- Year by year the initials carved on the trees deepen.

7. After and following :

Following : after + the concept 'as a consequence of' :

- Following Nazi precedents the Soviet Newspapers first gave warnings of... sequence, only as an 'elegant variation' :
- After his marriage to Princess Elisabeth and following her accession

to the throne as Queen Elisabeth II in 1952, Prince Philip's many interests and sympathetic understanding of present day problems were reflected in the speeches he made on public occasions.

After : succession :

- After ten years in office, the Conservatives took stock of the nationalized industries in 1961.

8. After and for :

After : desiring, but it is more difficult to attain :

- He hankers too yearningly after common human fulfillment.
- These virtues (truth, honesty, etc.) are not exactly the ones most sought after at the political conventions.
- Strive after success.

For : Desiring :

- She hankers for affection.
- Unsought-for fame.
- They Strive for victory.
- She yearns for home.

9. After and past :

Past : 'more than' in statements of time with denotations of hour as complement:

- Half past two.
- Seven minutes past the hour.
- Stay up till past 11 o'clock.

In USA : after is a common usage here.

- Half after six.

After for past occurs in Br.E also:

- The debate ended at seven minutes after noon last Thursday.

10. Against and from :

Against : defence, when the preposition can

be said to link together designations for two (possibly figurative) active opponents.

For : The complement of the preposition is conceived of as active.

- This will guard you against temptation.
- He defended Italy against the Gots.
- He is well protected against the weather.
- The policeman guarding the coal-tips from shivering midnight predators.
- Raise a large army to defend the country from aggression.

The verb shield, which is more or less synonymous with the verbs mentioned in the examples, corresponding to this distinction, is normally combined with from ; since this verb is linked solely with the conception of inactive protection :

- He shielded her from harm.

11. Against, (up)on, to, toward(s) :

These prepositions may be said to form a scale extending from 'hostility to direction':

1. Against : hostility and contact : in the first sense (hostility) we find in figurative use against alternating with on and (figuratively weakened) with to :
 - A strong attack against the government's policy.
 - The attacks on religion of Froude, Clifford, and Bradlaugh.
 - Disbanding the foot-guards was a blow against serfdom.
 - M.Defferre's withdrawal is an extremely serious blow to the opposition.
 - The reaction against the accepted fashion began on the continent.

- What was his reaction to your proposal ? (reaction : responsive feelings).

In the second sense (contact) against may approximate in various ways to and on :

- Place the piano with its back against the wall (against : up against).
- Place the piano with its back to the wall (direction).
- The ship was dashed against the rocks (the complement resists (stops, hinders) the activity in question).
- The ship drifted on the rocks (the complement denotes the surface on which an activity acts).

2. (Up)on : 'hostility directed against' and approximates either against or to :

- Draw a knife on somebody.
- The dog turned on me and bit me.

3. To : Direction towards a complement + a connotation that is reached . Approximation to on (beyond that mentioned above) may occur when the same phenomenon can be regarded as movement reaching its goal and as (the resulting state) :

- He fell on/to the ground. But
- Turn to the left/right.
And both prepositions are possible in :
- The British contingent to its right lay now beyond the Merne (direction).
- On the left was a tuft of trees

sloping upwards into the dark
(proximity).

4. Toward(s) : Direction but with the
association that the complement is
not reached :

- From the crown down toward the
nape of the neck.
- From top to toe.

The same distinction is found in
figurative usage :

- A maze of questions, instructions
and cross-references soon turns out
to a clear path towards self-revelation.
- He had inclinations towards art.

The difference is often slight in :

- He behaved very meanly to his
children.
- You have behaved toward me with
hostility.

But actual confusion arises in :

- She would prefer to have done some
real wickedness towards Jane.

12. Against and versus :

Against : The action derives from the
preceding substantive and is
directed against the preposition.

Versus : Reciprocal concept and is used
in connection with lawsuits and
contests :

- Man against nature.
- One's reason against one's desires.
- The Rookes versus Barnard case.
- The complex agonies of society are
often presented as a simple struggle
of good versus evil.

13. Against and with :

Normally these prepositions express opposing
concepts :

- We were rowing against/with the current.

But they approach each other in combination with words such as battle, compete, fight, and struggle :

- England fought with France against Germany.
- Compete against other countries in trade.
- England fought with Germany in the war of 1914-1918.
- Compete with other countries.

Here with : reciprocal concept.

against : only one aim in the action ,
i.e.: the direction of the
prepositional complement :

- Run a race with somebody for a prize.
- A race against time.

14. Along, alongside(of), down, up.

Along : Movement on, the complement being a substantive indicating a line or length :

- Cars move along the road.
- Boats sail along the river.
- I've been looking back along the corridors of history.
- They spread along the grass (the location is a football field).

In this case along approximates to up and down which add the concept of two dimensions :

- They walk down/up the street.
- We sail up/down the river.
- Cars were rattling up and down the pier.
- Brooks advanced up the laboratory (from the entrance).
- A fat heavy man passed down the laboratory (on his way out).

Down and up may also pass into denoting 'position', they then express distance:

- Oxford is far down the river.
- I ask the landlord of an inn up the river.

Along : Parallel lines (of movement or position) :

- They walk along a wall.
- Boats sail along the shore.

This value is also pressed by alongside (in USA also alongside of) with the secondary value : near :

- The tug drew up alongside the freighter.
- A car parked alongside of the curb.

The same reality is expressed by the two prepositions in :

- The Lords spread themselves luxuriously along the river.
- The turreted parliamentary buildings alongside the Thames.

15. Amid, amidst, in the centre of, in the middle of, in the midst of :

1. In the centre of : exactly in the middle of :

- A table is in the centre of the stage.

It is found more vaguely in the sense in the middle of as in :

- The little pink house with the snow roof.....half melted away in the centre of the table.

2. In the middle of : Purely place or time, namely 'at an approximately equal distance from the sides of' as in :

- Horace Walpole.....would sit in the middle of the room at French inns (to avoid the floss in the panelling).

And 'at an approximately equal distance from the beginning and end of it' as it:

- In the middle of the month.

In addition it is used figuratively in the sense 'busily engaged with'; 'in contact with' :

- The intense satisfaction to feel himself once more in the middle of things.

3. In the midst of : Situation, the relation (often contrast, threat or the like) between the thing and its surroundings, as in :

- A small boat in the midst of ranging waves.

The figurative element is perceptible. The difference between in the middle of and in the midst of is clear in the example such as :

- The churchesare gathered into the silence of their own in the very midst of the town, so that one passes them by without observing them (i.e.: not the place (where in the town) as would be expressed by in the middle of, but the contrast between the silence of the churches and the noise of the town).

Note phrases :

- In our (your, their) midst = among us, etc.

4. Amidst : The figurative element has disappeared, and the preposition denotes only situation (contrast). Amid is common in the USA and perhaps amidst in Britain.

The preposition is literary (for in or something of the kind). It generally has a singular substantive as its complement, if the complement is plural, the concept of discrete phenomena has reduced into the

background, and they are regarded as a mass. If the concept of single phenomena is recognizable in the complement among (st) will be the preposition used :

- It (Great Britain) also offers the distinctive lands and peoples of its different regions—the Welsh speaking their own ancient language amid their mountains and valleys the French speaking Channel Islanders , and among them all the English.

16. Amid(st) and among(st) :

At all events among can always be substituted for amongst, while the opposite is not the case. Fowler in Modern English Usage says that the desire for euphony plays a part, so that among is followed by a consonant and amongst by a vowel, this seems to be a determining factor:

- Culture I define as being, amongst other things a capacity for subtle determination of words and ideas.

There seem, however, to be a semantic consideration as well; a plurality (or a phenomenon with the non-countable association) among a plurality shows proportionally more instances with -st. With regard to amid(st) as against among(st) some insist on their taking a singular and plural complement respectively (thus Collins : The Choice of Words 5 : among the guests, but not among the crowd). Actual usage is more apt to consider the content; thus a singular form implying a plurality counts as a plural; in the examples given among is quite commonly found with crowd, less commonly with grass, (tufts: of grass), not commonly with sand and everyone.

Other examples :

- Amidst the splendour and vestifities

- of the court she felt a pang.
- When we have on our left hand a downland cliff or quarry, on our right hand a valley rich in trees, one tall red house stands up among them.
 - Red brick houses with poplars/coming up amongst them.
 - Amid such a world, if anywhere, our ideals henceforth must find a home.

17. Among and between :

For locality between indicates the relationship 'placed between two' which may shade onto reciprocal and/or figurative value :

- The house stands between the river and the road.
- A look passed between them.
- There was great love between them.

This does not mean that the complement necessarily denotes two individual phenomena, but merely that the plurality (or a mass) is distributed into two groups :

- There are signposts pointing between the trees.
- Compare with :
- A valley rich in trees.
 - One tall house stands up among them (trees on both sides).
 - He was carried out to the clearing among the trees (surrounded by trees).
 - Below, among the mighty trees of golden leaf, and some that lie prone there is a track (the landscape surrounding the track, but not the landscape as seen from the track).

With a group (of persons) as complement between indicates that the whole group is involved :

- There is a constant hot water, true only two taps between 140 men or more.

- Staff conversations between the three countries.

In connection of this type among connotes that the statement applies to some, but not excessively all within the group :

- You may settle the matter among yourselves.
- There were not five pounds among them.

Thus either the preposition may often occur according to whether the application is general, or the situation applies (to some) within the group :

They had not five pounds among/between the crew. Note that 'between the members' implies 'all' and 'among members', 'some'. Yet another factor is involved : in expressing division among is used to express the dividing of a whole :

- The money was divided among the heirs.
- He left some money to be divided among the servants.

18. As and for :

As : The identity of the complement with the member with which it connects it.

For: Serving as, sometimes with a subordinate sense of intentions.

The complement after as is given naturally acting in the capacity in question, the complement after for is often striking :

- A large nuclear power plant at Fairport.....
It will use natural uranium as fuel and heavy water for the fission process.
- A shoe polish which has for long used the lion as its emblem.
- He had picked up a prominent man for a father it was counted to

him for righteousness.

- He had brought with him for a body guard eight hundred men.

19. As for, as to, etc. :

As may precede a number of prepositions, and give the preposition the vaguer (often) figurative value :

- The power of the barons as against that of the King (where the compound preposition expresses comparison, not resistance).
- As for how to make the policy fair, as between wage-earners and salary-earners and as between both the classes and those who live by profit, the council has obviously come to the conclusion.
- Much of the communique bears the work of having been drafted by Mr. Nehru and expresses his well-known ideas as upon Algeria.

As for and as to may replace about, concerning, with reference to, etc.

1. As for + complement : introduces a sentence and is extrapositional : the comma separating the prepositional phrase from the rest of the sentence. This compound preposition implies that the complement denotes a theme, and the succeeding statement usually involves dissociation or disapproval :

- As for their women, the beauties who were the contemporaries of Walpole lived through romances of such intricacy and splendour that Hollywood in delirium would scarcely do them justice.
- As for the shop winder - it's twice the size it was when I was a young 'un.

2. As to + complement : may follow a predication

and be connected with it :

- The best possible estimate will be made at the conference as to the total number of the houses can be completed in each district during this year.
- They could not agree as to whom they should elect.

This usage is disapproved of as being vague form of expression replacing prepositions such as about, of, on. But extra positionally, both before and after the sentence proper, as to is considered correct.

- As to your liability for previous years, I will go into this and write further to you.
- As to the horned cattle, Mortimer's warning was scarcely needed.

When this phrase introduces the statement extrapositionally, it approximates closely expressions with as for; both draw attention to the theme to be dealt with in the succeeding statement. But while the statement after the as for-phrase expresses reservation or the like, the statement after the as to + complement expresses mental interest in what is denoted by the complement, and the subject in question is taken to be, as it were, already present in the context :

- As to my brother, I'm surprised at their conduct towards him.
- As to their assistance, there is nothing he dreads more than their offer of it.

20. At and by :

1. Of position : In this case both the prepositions express proximity.

At : in addition, contains a concept of 'connection with', 'interest in' ,

'use of' the complement :

- He stood by the door (where in the room).
- He stood at the door, as if afraid to enter.

How slight the difference may be is perhaps best seen in such cases as :

- The honeymoon may take place at a hotel by or in a holiday camp at, the seaside.
- The ass had stopped and was eating grass at the side of the road.
- The door of the coach was pushed open, revealing to those by roadside a glimpse of sumptuous interior.

2. Of movement through an aperture :

- The visitor came out at the shop door.
- Soon after the sunrise he went out at the gate at which he had so lately
- In at one ear and out at the other.
- When the Queen's Minister came in at one door, the Baroness went out by another.

This final example might tempt one to postulate a distinction between movement in and movement out as the determining factor in the choice between at and by, but a glance at the other examples will show that this is impossible.

At here has a distinctive localizing values (the aperture in question as distinct from others) while by has the association of the means or medium.

The same distinction is to be seen figuratively in : at/by night :

at night : (time: at night fall, during the night) :

- At night he said his prayers.
- A burglar is a person who breaks into

the house at night in order to steal.
by night : (undercover of darkness, aided
 by the dark) :

- He breaks into the house by night.
- The core of blue persists, and so it is by night. Then the stars hang like lamps.....

With complements denoting point of time the difference is more marked:

- At the end of the period..... there was 10.437 benefits.
- By the end of his life, what with hot rooms and cherry brandy, he was too fat and too ashamed of his stomach to go out.

Thus the two prepositions cannot be said really to approach one another in content.

Adjectives denoting a state of mind are often linked by at with a substantive expressing the source or object of the mood:

- I felt still, hurt and cross rather than seriously anxious at George's behavior.
- Angry at being kept waiting.

But here, vacillation between at and by is possible. since the complement of the preposition may denote either what the mood is directed at, or the agent of the verbal concept behind the past participle form :

- Milly was tentatively, wearily pleased at the diversion for her friend.
- No wonder they disapprove of penniless demagogues like Wesley and were pleased by a church bell, cast during the eighteenth century in defiance of that preacher.
- I hope you won't be shocked at his coarse stories.

- Probably even Queensberry would have been deeply shocked by the opinion of a modern biologist.

21. At and for :

When used for price these may approach each other .

At : a point on a scale and thus expresses a level :

- He bought the book at half its real value.
- Three yards of cloth at 12s a yard.

For : exchange :

- I'll give this horse for your gun.
- He paid a pound for the book.

But the two attitudes may approach each other to some extent, in connection with statement of price :

- He would not sell the horse for twenty pounds.
- He sold the book for a pound.

So that in :

- He sold the horse at a good price.

For may be found instead of the correct at, price being regarded as the equivalent of 'sum'.

22. At and in :

Of position : In the case of the names of towns the choice of prepositions varies, as in :

- There were 'seasons' at Bath or at Tunbridge Wells or in London.

This type has led to the slightly incorrect statement that the choice of preposition depends on the size of the towns. But another formulation which covers the usage with other place-names also, is to be preferred :

- Seventeen private storage yards at London, Bristol, Bath.

- There would be less chance of losing the luggage, if I were to tie on new labels at Paris, where she would have to re-register.
- Last night I slept and dreamed. I thought I was once more in Cambridge.
- The Queen's third child and second son was born in Buckingham Palace at 3.30 last Friday.

The two prepositions express respectively the place regarded as a point, with a distinctive association 'address' and the place regarded as an area, with an association of 'appearance'.

Thus the names of towns and places known to the speaker are more apt to be preceded by in and only a global point of view would make an Englishman use at of London. This distinction means that at is often used when the place is first mentioned to the reader, and in after this, since the distinctive concept is then no longer present :

- The news from India continues to be very gloomy.
The plague spread at Bombay - It would be just as well to describe the horrors of the plague in Bombay.
- Labour demonstration at Bristol - One of the Labour demonstrations ever held in Bristol took place on Saturday.

At is used for 'address' :

- He lives at 141 Wood Street.
- The Commonwealth conference at Marlboro House.
- The conference office will be in 39 George Square on the first floor (the organizers are visualizing the interior of the house).

In the case of substantives denoting place and having in addition the association of function or activity these two aspects of

the complement's concept are attached respectively to phrases with at and in :

- I asked him to apply to the professors of shortstory writing at some reputable university.
- Since she was at school every morning, he could have the undisturbed use of the studio.
- He has spent four years in a builder's office.
- She has been something in a canteen.

Applied to page the same distinction is found between at used distinctively of a point :

- We stopped at page 40.

In conoting the content of the page :

- A description was given in these pages last week.

Used figuratively : inter alia of time, a corresponding distinction is found between at indicating a point of time and in indicating a period of time and accompanying circumstances :

- Fight at this eleventh hour would be criminal.
- This remarkable man, who after the loss of a leg at the battle of the Waterloo, was known as 'One Leg' Paget.
- Something strange happened in that instant.
- Four people were killed and a large number injured in the explosion in Broadgate, Coventry, on Friday.

At may follow substantives, adjectives and verbs and indicate that the concept of attitude or skill inherent in these is directed towards a complement :

- She'd talk at us for years and years.

In this usage at may approach various

other prepositions, in the example just given, talk to would equal the transitive verb : address, while at in the same sentence merely indicates the direction of the action. Indignant at something, is the more exact expression. While Greville is indignant about this is vaguer. Adjectival past participle forms can vary between at and by as a link:

- The French are not concerned at American policy and at what they take to be gradual raising of the nuclear threshold in Western Europe.
- The Revolutionary Council is deeply concerned by rumours.

This value of at may appear to approach the use of in mentioned above :

- He was an expert in (compare: at) treating syphilis.
- He is particularly good in (compare: at) tracing the voyages, analyzing the battles on land and sea and estimating the difficulties encountered (at : the direction of the skill in question, and in : the area within which it displays itself).

23. At and on :

Indicating a point .

At : distinctive, signifying a point.

On : the complement denotes an expanse :

- The boxes where you could see and hear what was happening at the other side of the world.
- We stopped at page 40.
- The post office is on the other side of the street.
- Let's leave the decision to the man on the spot.

Figuratively the distinctive value at is correspondingly to be seen in :

- Consultation at the highest level.

- The spread of education has led to an increased demand for English at primary level.

Compare :

- The narrative can be read on so many different levels.
- It was at this point, however, that the mind of this particular canon of St Paul's performed its usual volteface (at this point in the course of events).
- I cannot recommend her to give way on this point (points signifies 'sphere', 'subject').

The value of 'point' attached to at as against that of 'expanse', 'extent' attached to on, which the latter used figuratively leads to an association such as duration and/or accompanying circumstances is to be seen in cases such as :

- He would stay a few days at the farm.
- He works on the farm.
- I looked at her hand.
- It was a new and fierce pain to look on all this (the well-loved rooms, pictures, rugs, etc.).

works at : the direction at the activity:

- He is working at the new invention.
- He had worked at Chinese.

work on : duration :

- He is working on a poem.
- She was darning on a sock.

In knock at : the complement has little content :

- I heard the knock at the front door.

is more or less equivalent to 'someone knocked' as against

- I knocked on the drawing-room door and looked inside.
- Someone is knocking on the window.

With the substantive denoting occasions (point of time + action) there may be a close approach between the two prepositions; only at is possible in :

- Nelson was thirty-nine at Walpole's death.
- He has ensured the return, at the next election of Lord M's brother.

But both are possible in :

- At his death the Duchies were to fall to Prince Christian of Augustenburg.
- The heritage which she received at her coronation.....
- On his arrival New Zealand was bankrupt.
- (Caption) The scene of Victoria on the departure of M and Mrs Lubrun at the conclusion of their state visit. The president is kissing the Queen's hand.

Here at only expresses the time, but on may have an association of 'basis', following upon' and possibly also 'as a consequence of', as in :

- Upon the death of her father, the young girl had become her own mistress.
- A sum payable on the occurrence of a certain event.
- They (justification for a man's position) vanished on analysis.
- On the death of the Lord George Augustus Selwyn's elder brother, the young man was left heir to the family property, and, at his father's death, became proprietor of the customary sinecures.

24. At and to :

These may approach each other when used

with the perfect and plu-perfect of BE :

- I've been at York for two days.
- Have you ever been to Rome?
- They had been to/at church.



at : present on the spot.

to : covers the journey there and back and generally implies that the person is no longer there :

- He told her of the lecture he had been to.
 - Fox asked him if he had been to the execution.
- Compare :
- When he was not at the hanging, his friends took care to send him a description.

This however is not the essential implication of the to-phrase, which lies in the resultative concept :

- The oldman felt a flutter of strange excitement: not for years had he been to Lord's (where now he was once more).

With a number of substantives, to is formed with a resultative value of this kind :

- Smuts had impressed himself on world history as a delegate to the peace conference.....
- A visit to Liverpool, impressed upon his mind the immensity of modern industrial forces.

Here at without an association of preceding movement is also a possibility, but rarer :

- The King himself paid a visit at Kensington Palace in their absence.

25. Before, ahead of, in front of :

In the case of position (figurative or otherwise) there is some approach between them:

1. Ahead of : direction (in front) + distance

of the complement.

2. Before : direction, in addition to an association of "influence upon, significance for," the complement; it is the only one of them that can be used when contact is in question :

- Alice was holding her handkerchief before her face.
- She took another deep breath and utter a long sob.

3. In front of : position only :

The difference between before and in front of is probably best illustrated by uniform examples such as :

- There are some trees in front of the house (position only is expressed).
- A tree stands before the door of the house (association such as ' and shades it', 'makes approach difficult', or the like).

26. Before, ere, previous to, prior to :

1. Ere is archaic : Ere long.

Gods have dwelt in woods ere now.

2. Previous to : a favourite expression in commercial English :

- Previous to that date.

3. Prior to : Greater importance than and therefore preceding :

- This obligation is prior to the one just mentioned.

But it is often merely a mannered alternative to before denoting simply chronological order :

- Nothing very honest or clear could have been settled between us prior to it.
- The two nights prior to my departure.
- In the days before man's fall (natural

expression).

27. Before, till, until :

In general the distance in content before and till, until is great :

- He lived here before his father's death.
- He lived here till his father's death.

Before : This was a state of affair throughout a certain period preceding the point of time stated in the complement.

Till/until : the state of affair changes at the time given in the complement :

A negative statement such as :

- I had asked for gas masks, and was told that I could expect none before 1939 (the gas masks could not be expected within the period stated, while till in the same context would imply that they could be expected in 1939).

In many cases, either two might equally well be expressed :

- New efforts to open the safe cannot be made before Monday.
- This situation is unlikely to change until 1966 when the first of VC-10s goes into work.

28. Behind, at the back of :

In addition to the proper meaning at the back of, when the back denotes the rearmost part of of's complement :

- You gaze down the long gallery towards the tombs of Nelson and Wellington and far beyond, at the back of the crypt, the black majesty of Wellington's funeral bier.

The expression may have the value 'close behind' :

- There is a garden at the back of the house.

It here approaches behind which however is neutral as regards greater or less distance, compare :

- Her slateblue skirts were kilted boldly about her waist and dovetailed behind her. And
- The mystery of the bush seems to recede from you as you advance, and then it is behind you if you look around.

Like behind, at the back of can be used figuratively of a hidden cause :

- She was often at the back of Ma's oddness.

The abbreviated form back of is common in USA but dialectal in Britain :

- I s'll have peas along the side o' the wood..... and perhaps back of the well.

29. Below, beneath, underneath, under :

1. Underneath : has an association (something figurative) of 'covered' or 'concealed' :

- There are mines underneath the towns.

Without this association and used within the conceptual field where below and under meet, it is not frequent :

- The names inscribed on the small brass tablet beside the bell on the street door were Skeat and Wylie..... The bell underneath theirs was labelled : Mr. Douglas Jefferson.

2. Below and under correspond to respectively above and over : that is below denotes level, 'further down than'; under : denotes 'down under', 'affected by', 'covered by', etc. :

- The whole visible landscape is below,

but only a small portion of it is under, an observer in a balloon (Webster).

- They were seen under the tree ('sheltered under' or the like); as againstbelow the tree ('further down the hill').

Cf : - Fermain Bay, pleasant cove below wooded cliffs.

Parts of Holland are below sea level.

Cf : - The fields are under water after the heavy rain.

Used figuratively they may be sometimes seem to approach each other more closely :

- A captain in below a general in rank.
- Under the general (subordinated to).

In expressions of measurement below indicates attention to the dividing line, the figure, so that it often signifies 'just below', while under denotes 'every - thing below' :

- Incomes under £ 160 (small incomes).
- Incomes below £ 160 (the form of expression used, for instance, is case of dividing the line with regard to tax).
- With two young persons under thirty, moments of depression were rare (since it included two young it was a lively company).
- Any applicants below thirty ?

In figurative use under is gaining ground from below :

- He was under six feet tall.
- 'He does look delicate' said Ella under her breath.

3. Beneath : 'Of poorer quality than', 'below one's dignity' :

- It is heneath you to complain.

- Marry beneath one.

But beneath can also replace both under and below in literary English :

- His hand upon her side so close beneath her breast.
- The polished surface beneath which the light of the candles seemed to burn again.

30. Beside, at the side of, by the side of :

Used of locality :

Beside : proximity .

at/by the side of : the proximity plus direction :

- He snatched the revolver lying beside the bed.
- Beside the chestnut mare, he looked like something that ought to have been carting.....
- The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh beside the Wall during their tour of West Berlin.

As against :

- He paused by the side of the bed.
- 'These paintings are not good, you know', her husband was saying at her side.

Of the two compound prepositions : at/by the side of (at/by.....side), the by-phrase, in addition to the association of proximity + direction, may express the connection with the complement :

- A side car is a small one-wheeled car fastened at the side of a motorcycle.
- A side walk is a path at the side of the street.
- Benston walked at his side, not hers.
- She looks small by the side of her companion.

- Come and sit by my side.
- She passed some hours by his side.

Only beside is used metaphorically :

- He was beside himself with fear.
- This is beside the question.

Beside and by side of are used with the connotation 'compound with', the latter having a clear figurative value, while beside is reduced to merely expressing comparison :

- Clothes are of no consequence beside health.
- My work is poor beside yours.
- By the side of the solid boy she looked like an exquisite bit of Venetian glass.

31. Beside, besides, alongside (of) :

1. Beside : of place, equivalent to 'by the side of'

- I saw the doctor on one knee beside the body.

2. Besides : of an amount or number, 'equivalent to 'as well as', 'in addition to' :

- I have no adviser besides you.
- Have you any money besides this ?

The older use of beside to signify 'as well as', may however still be encountered :

- Beside the two ruinic letters, the old English alphabet included a new letter formed by putting a stroke to d.
- At the gallows which led out its arms for many crimes, beside the one of murder.

3. Alongside : 'along + close to' may occur with the first-mentioned value weakened, thus approaching beside (or by the side of) :

- A miner had left the pits to carry

home the body of his mate who had been killed alongside him.

In the USA where this preposition alternates with alongside of, a transition to metaphorical use is found, and thus an approach to besides:

- In 1485 they (the statutes) began to appear in English alongside of France.
- They (strong verbs).....had developed weak forms alongside the strong.

32. Betwixt, between :

Betwixt is an archaic form for between and can, like the latter, be used of more than two :

- Let there be no misunderstanding betwixt us.

33. Beyond, above and below :

In certain topographical statements beyond may approach either of the other two, namely when the locality is regarded from the point respectively below and above the point appearing in the complement :

- They passed the Euphrates just above the city of Babylon.

gives no information of the speaker's position, but if he was further down the river than Babylon beyond could have been used instead. In place description when beyond can be an alternative to above and below an association of 'considerable distance' is often attached to beyond :

- There is a waterflow beyond the bridge.
is distinguished by this association of :

- There is a waterflow above the bridge.

Or

- There is a waterflow below the bridge.

The association appears more clearly in certain figurative uses :

- The book is beyond him (far too difficult).

As against :

- This book is above him.

- He is above his brother in Latin (their respective attainments, while beyond in the same context would have indicated that the difference in knowledge is great).

34. Beyond and after :

Applied to time, these can be identical in content.

Beyond : the association mentioned above (see number 33), the time stated is regarded as late :

- Don't stay out beyond your time.

According to the situation, we may thus find:

- Don't stay after/beyond 10 o'clock.

35. Beyond, besides (over and above) :

Applied to value, amount and number, these may approach one another, but beyond has the association mentioned above :

Beside : may have a complement of any size:

- Other hats besides this.

Beyond : Association of considerable amount or number :

- He had to pay something beyond £ 80.

- Beyond his labours as a preacher he composed 26 books.

- 'Teenage culture' something has a life of its own beyond the commercially proffered emotions.

Over and above : was originally an emphatic expression with an association of 'more than could be expected', or 'more than normal', it is now worn

and approaches besides in content :

- The quality which gives to his work, over and above its pure beauty, its own peculiar character.
- The waiters get good tips over and above their wages.

36. Beyond, on the other side of :

Beyond includes the association of great distance :

- Beyond the river; there is a great valley.

37. Beyond, past :

These approach each other in expressions of movement ;

past : 'without encountering' + further than :

beyond: 'further than' + its special association of great distance :

- He walked beyond/past the gate.
- Her eyes were constantly straying past him to the open window.

Similarly in figurative use :

- She danced at Welwyn assembly, a free woman, when past eighty.
- An old man past work sat at the rough deal table.
- She is beyond medical aid.
- Your work is beyond all praise.

38. By and before :

In at/by section a value of by is mentioned:

- By the seventeenth of January there had been sacked and burned : the churches of St Sophia and St Irene.....

This by may approach before to some extent:

You must come and see me before Christmas.

They differ in that :

by : comprises the point stated in the complement (signifies 'up to and including' ;

before : does not :

- Can you finish this work by tomorrow?
- Can you finish this work before tomorrow?

Furthermore by-phrases presuppose that the complement marks the end of a development.

- By the 6th the situation had passed out of hand.
- (Of the lessening prestige of men of letters) By 1780, Johnson himself, when flattered by Lord Newhaven, was bowing his head almost as low as the table, to a complimenting nobleman.
- Sun and breeze will have a tan on your face by the second day.

39. By, in and on :

One of the meanings of by is the concept 'means', 'method' : to travel by train/bus, etc.

As a number of these complements can often be regarded as place concepts - enclosed space expanse, etc.

- I had lunch on the train.
- There are restaurant cars on this train.
- It's cold in trains.

By : in many situation shows some approach to in/on :

- He left by the evening train for Dublin.

With live the prepositional complement may be regarded sometimes as a basis, thus on :

- He had the appetite of one who has lived on greens and potatoes for ten years.
- They live on £ 500 a year.

Sometimes as an activity that forms a means:

- He lives by being a writer.

But the boundary between the two concepts may be somewhat blurred :

- It isn't scenery one lives by.
- One cannot live by thrills.
- A country does not live by tourists.

With gerund forms as complement by express

means, in simultaneity, and on a concept such as 'immediately after + possibly on the basis of' :

- His popular success last week in helping to restore the joys of commercial television.....
- On reviewing these points, it may seem possible that Harry.....was a Hervey than a Walpole.

In many contexts another choice would have been quite possible :

- These Negro families are running some risk by accepting white people in their homes.
- In daring to suggest the possibility of Arab-Israel negotiations Bourguiba has made it most unlikely that any Arab leader will take such an initiative again.
- 'Quel ton!' observed the Marechal de Luxembourg, on reading the Bible.

40. By, near and on :

As regard proximity,

near : only the short distance :

- There was a house near the river.
- Balmoral Castle near the city of Crathie.

By : a concept of dependence, attachment, etc :

- Stratford - the one by the Avon.
- She could see her with one of the children by her.

Here the association that the complement is important to the member it is connected with is marked.

In some of these examples given, on could also be used : where the complement denotes an expanse from which something rises :

- He has a house on the river.

41. By and past :

In expressions of movement they may to some

extent approximate each other :

- I went by his house every day.
- He walked straight by me and into the his study.
- Carry on until I get past the house.
- He pushed past her across the room.

By : direction (passing without encountering, meeting, etc).

Past : distance, 'further than'.

42. By and through :

Used of locality :

By : means :

- Rest of the class came crowding in by the lecture theatre door.
- 'Here we are my dear', said the bearer of the mackintosh coming in through the window.

Through : the movement is from (the out) side to (the in) side of the complement (or the) reverse.

In figurative use the result is that the complement has the value of means and agent or instrument respectively :

- Mr Callow's hero manages to get away from it all by physical love and by trips to the sea.
- The Belle Dame represented Love, Death by consumption and by poetry all at once.
- The Dowager Queen promoted the tragedy in order to reign through her own son.
- While his Lordship consumed his port with a due sense of God's mercies through Christ, the country clergyman lived in penury.

Used metaphorically to denote means, these two prepositions approach each other closely.

By used when the complement is indefinite and not limited, through : when it is definite and limited :

- The Buganda Parliament will be elected by universal suffrage.
- I wanted to find out by personal test how the Five Year Plan was working.
- The present dispute will be settled by negotiation.
- It was mainly through their influence that the promotion took place.
- Through his imagination, patience and sympathy Bishop Dean would be a worthy successor to Bishop Bayne.
- Through an addition to his salary, he was unable to purchase the house he wanted.

Since the gerund and the verbal substantive are used particularly, often of the action in general, by is more frequent before the type of the complement :

- He often frightened me by talking as if he were angry.
- By reading this book, he incurred the charge of atheism.
- He was thought to reward his mistresses by giving them sweepstake tickets.

But through is gaining ground here :

- It is thus, through wisely employing so enlightened and efficient an agent, that the Post Offices have themselves come to be regarded as amongst the more civilized of our government departments.
- We lost ourselves through not knowing the way.

43. By and via :

Both can be used of routes with geographical names as the complement :

- He went to France via Newhaven.
- A return tour via Braemore takes in Loch Marce.
- We travelled to Paris via Dover and Calais.

- I went to Japan by Siberia but my wife went by Canada.

If the complement is not a geographical name, only by can be used in British English whether a route or a form of transport is expressed :

- We came by the fields not by the main road.
- We shall have to go round by the bridge.

But in the USA via can also be used here :

- The letter was arrived via air mail.
- They came via a train.

Used figuratively via is common in British as well as American English :

- We complete the circuit.....via the description of substance and form, through context, to language in use.
- The egghead who went from Upper Canada College to Grenoble and on via Rhodes scholarship to Oxford.
- This book is no way minimizes your individuality, but it approaches that individuality via widely shared characteristics.

44. By, with, (of) :

By and with approaches each other when the complement is regarded as means, if the complement is a denotation of something concrete only with is used :

- Kill the bird with one stone.
- One of the more exasperated fathers endeavoured to kill him with a pistol.
- The miners attempts to knock Sue with Scotch.

When it denotes something intangible by is used here :

- The upper classes had to buy their pence of minds by actual money payment.
- He had astonished people by his sincerity.
- He effaced, by his personal courage

and energy, the stain left on his reputation.

Many substantives have both a concrete and intangible content and we, therefore, find a corresponding variation in the prepositions used :

- She moved him with/by her tears.
- They punished him with/by a fine.
- There is a patented invention for catching fish by electricity.
- The policy of governing Kaffirs by the sword.
- We'll win our battles by its(thought) aid.
- It was only too easy to break Struensee by torture-thumscrews , his page said latter.

There may be a particularly close approach between the two prepositions in the passive: If the concept of action is prominent, there is still a considerable difference between by-phrases expressing the agent, and with-phrases expressing the means :

- He was beaten by his father.
- He was beaten with a stick.

But when a state or condition is denoted there may be a close approach :

- They were fuddled with wine, entangled with the cord at their feet, blinded with pepper and paralyzed by sneezes.
- A table covered with books and manuscripts.
- In the mouth of the transept, a stately dais, covered by a carpet, worked by 150 ladies in Berlin wool.
- A huge Norman Castle, surrounded by a triple mont.
- The modern electric fireplace is surrounded with the same glass.

But even though there is a close approach the content is different. The state expressed can be regarded either as something

static, when with will be used, or with a resultative association, when by will be used:

- The town was then lit with gas.
- A room lit by some last beams of February sun.
- He wore a cocked hat adorned with a plume (the appearance of the hat is expressed).
- I make them a present of my story, which adorned by a pretty woodcut of the old gentlemant and his dog, would make, I submit an effective pamphlet (this illustration must be inserted).

Unusual cases are often particularly illustrative :

- Deddy began his trip to Bali accompanied by an eighty-pound pet tortoise. Here he made his first film and became bitten with the bug to travel and record and film wild life and primitive peoples.

Removed from its content, the wording expected would naturally be 'bitten by the bug', but in combination with 'became', with of state or condition is naturally to be expected. Conversely in :

- The garden was infested by Angus McAllister.

normally infested describes a state :

- The place was infested with rats. but here the result of a disagreeable person's presence is described.

But even in cases when the past participle can only be regarded as describing a state, and no resultative association can be assumed, the two prepositions are used alternatively:

- A road flanked with trees.
- A road flanked by small, expensive -looking shops.
- Her sweet face was surrounded by a great number of pearls.
- He showed an extensive baldness surrounded with a mere fringe of hair.

- (Stage direction) She is covered by a long mantle of furs, worth on a moderate estimate three times the furniture of the room.
- The still figure on the bed, its face covered with a sheet.

Here the distinction might be said to be as follows :

With + the complement is unobtrusive in the concept of the utterance (the latter may make sense by itself, as in the last example above) and the subject is a more important member than than the complement of with. The by-phrase is essential to the utterance, and the complement coming after by is a greater interest than the subject of the sentence or clause. A frequent consequence of this is an indefinite complement is linked with with and a more definite with by :

- They were eaten up with envy of one another and devoured by petty jealousies (+ countability).
- He was weighed down with sorrow.
- She sounded weighed down by my troubles (+ determinative).

But the two are so close that the preposition used may be the one not expected:

- I was so upset with seeing the master (murdered).
- Europe, and Poland especially, is disturbed with new romours about Danzig.
- Meredith himself has described once for all in The Egoist the delight of walking soaked through by rain.

In the last example, when with rain would be an obvious wording, the sentence then expressing 'to walk while one is soaked through', by gives the whole another slant

so that it is 'walking in rain' that becomes the dominant association.

By and of may be found in almost identical contexts in combination with the past participle of certain verbs.

Of was formerly an agent preposition as can still be seen in biblical language :

- Being warned of God in dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.

When the two prepositions are found in cases such as :

- He was beloved by everybody.
- The nerve-racking decorations beloved of proprietors who wanted to get customers out quickly.
- He was frightened by a shadow.
- Many people, he had found, are frightened of anger (This is colloquial and influenced by afraid of).

She was tired of being brave alone; of + the complement here either has the value of an agent, and is then archaic :

- A God-forsaken place, is it really forsaken of God ?
- The witty bachelor, that creature so sought of hostesses.

Or it serves to connect a past participle with adjectival value with its complement:

- He was frightened of the lower classes.
- They grew up terrified of the court.

Where frightened of is thus equivalent to 'afraid of' and not to 'frightened by'; cf : 'enamoured of' = 'in love with', not 'captivated by'. The by-phrases have the value of agents; 'possessed by' thus = 'dominated by', while 'possessed of' = 'in possession of', the following are clear examples of the two values :

- Semantic analysis, sometimes tends to make obscure what to the ordinary

reader, not possessed by (or of) seven ambiguities, is perfectly and pleasantly plain.

- Laurence, then, possessed, or, if you care to put it the other way round, was possessed by, a gift.

45. During and for :

During : has as its complement a designation of a period of time, and during connects this either with the predicate having a durative association of this extent of this period, or a predicate containing a connotation of one or more points within the period indicated by the prepositional complement :

- He spent a night that he imagined to be sleepless, although in truth he slept during most of it.
- ! The Soviet Union will sign a separate peace treaty with East Germany, during the next few weeks.

The first type approaches for, during + complement gives information as to 'when' and for + complement information as to 'how long' :

- No rainfall during that month.
- He waited for a month.
- After the Norman Conquest Anglo-Norman was, for 300 years, the official language of the court, of justice, and of politics, and its influence of written English can be traced to an ever increasing extent during all this period.

Often both views can be taken of same reality :

- The city as it was during several years after 1945.
- There are no rivers of importance, and even the mountain streams are dried

up for the greater part of the year.

46. During and in :

In both the uses mentioned above, during may approach in :

- During building, conditions are also carefully controlled.
- In insisting on Thursday on the need for real interdependence, Mr. Wilson was launching no new campaign.

The difference here is that during refers only to time (duration), while in refers to circumstances ; it is thus natural to say :

- He was killed in an air-raid.

while in :

- He gained a smattering of Spanish and lost a leg during the Chilean revolt.

during has ousted in because it can more easily be combined with the first-mentioned circumstance. But the two can be very close:

- Devonshire cream.....is eaten with raw fruit salad in the summer and with fruit pies during the winter.

But the complement solely denoting period (with no connotation of circumstance) also occur with the two possibilities:

- In/during the reign of Queen Victoria/ 1940/January.

Here during refers only to the period in question in itself :

- During 1949 there were negotiation with France.

in : has a distinctive value, namely 'within the period in question not another'.

In phrases where the preposition links its complement with a predicate having an association of the same duration as the complement, in-expressions have in addition

an association of development throughout the period in question :

- The slowing down of the expansion in the last few months.

During does not have this association :

- It has been clearly shown during the course of of the war that precisely our most 'passionate' novelists have been our least patriotic citizens.

47. During and under :

The difference is great that the two prepositions are not interchangeable.

During : refers to time, and under has the figurative value 'subject to'. But certain substantive of the type of 'administration, government' can denote both period and activity, and thus be connected with the two values:

- It was during the Regency that the power of Napoleon was broken.
- 'Beef ?' he was supposed to have said once, possibly under one of these attacks by ignorant gluttons.

48. Except(ing), bar(ring), but, save, saving :

Of these except is commonest .

- Every day except Sunday.
- Nobody was late except me.

In combination with the negative pronouns, nothing, none, the interrogative pronouns, and all, every, and any (with their compounds), but is common :

- No one would have thought at it but him.
- Everybody thinks so but you.
- Who would do such anything but him ?
- There wasn't anything to do for either of us but pour out more whisky.

Exception can be used in corresponding

contexts, the difference being in that in sentences using but the emphasis is on the principal part of the sentence, and the complement of but is of no great significance, while in except sentences the emphasis is on the exception expressed in the complement :

- The USA has a higher 'African' population than any country except Nigeria.
- Nothing is worth our hatred if You (God) exist, except You.

Save : formal, often archaic or literary :

- The snow fell, invisible save in the light from the window.
- They lost all save honour.

Apart from a few stock expressions such as bar none = without exception, bar is colloquial :

- Of course he is Anglo-Catholic, they have holy water and the saints, everything bar the faith.

Bar, except and save are found together with for to express a reservation as to the whole statement. The prepositional phrase usually precedes or follows the predicate and is extra-positional, often separated from the rest of the sentence by a comma. If the predicate is hypothetical, but for is used, otherwise except for or save for, with the stylistic distinction mentioned above, under save :

- But for his sister Constance and her hawk-like vigilance, he might, he thought, have been able at least to dodge the top-hat.
- His skin was fresh and young except for a small blue patch no larger than a half-crown.

Except for instead of but for is frequent, but is regarded by some as incorrect :

- There was something warm and ridiculous about all of them, which would have been lost except for the gossip of this age,

Beside but, except, save there are forms in ing which may have prepositional status :

- (Czechoslovakia) Barring East Germany ...here was the most highly developed industry in the region.
- I don't suppose there is anybody in this place as knows as much about it as I do - barring Bob himself.
- The whole staff, not excepting the heads of department.
- Books, saving only the Professor's own you may, it is even expedient to - ignore.

This use of excepting is considered correct only after not, always, and (without).

49. For :

For + complement denoting distance or period of time is in many cases interchangeable with expressions without for :

- He had an alarming habit of changing the subject of any conversation that had lasted for more than two minutes.
- The steady, gentle look, their interchange, lasted moments.

For-expressions contain a subordinate idea that the period or distance in question is a part of a course or extent. The expressions without for normally presuppose that the designation of time or distance follows immediately after the verb :

- I might stay the night that would do me very well.
- They paused there for a moment.

For may express 'in (someone's) interest', 'to (someone's) advantage' or the like :

- Here is the present for you.

This value may approximate closely that of the indirect object, and sentences are often encountered, particularly when this member is a personal pronoun, where both possibilities are present :

- It'll do us till we find a flat or something.
- He pulled me a chair to the fire.
- This sort of work won't do for you.
- Please find Mary's hat for her.

The concept of 'in(someone's) interest'; 'to someone's advantage' is more reduced in indirect object than in the prepositional phrase, and in several of the examples given the indirect object could be omitted without any particular change in the statement's content.

50. For and against :

When used for precautions against something undesirable, there may be a certain approach between these prepositions :

- He has a few pounds against the 'rainy day'.
- We have no remedy against those optical deceptions.
- The 'bootikins' worn by Horace Walpole for his gout.
- Turnip water, with a poultice of mushed turnips was used for chilblains.

Against : particular association that the measure is preventive.

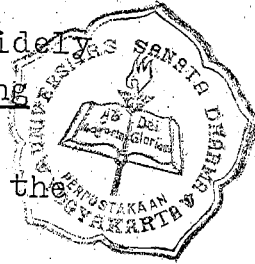
For : implies that the malady is present.

51. For and in :

These prepositions, which have earlier been separately compared with during may approach one another very closely. When followed by designations of periods of time, for expresses the concept of 'how long', while in : one or more single actions take place in the course

of (within) the period in question or that a situation begins at the expiration of the period :

- In a heavyweight championship bout in Dublin in 1908 he lasted for exactly 88 seconds.
- Republican sentiments are more widely held today than for quite a long time.
- Two appointments in two weeks is the score for Mr Lions.
- In twenty years since VE-Day, 1945, there has been a great increase in the world's wealth.



In few contexts, either could be found with the association mentioned ; in : 'in the course of', 'within'; for : 'how long' :

- His foreign policy has had only one setback in seven years.
- I haven't seen half enough of you in these last three years.
- I was having lunch with Maurice for the first time for two years.
- For the first time in fifty-six years Mrs.Smythe was speechless.
- No large U.S. corporation.....has failed or been seriously in danger of insolvency in many years.

This use of in is common in the USA and dialectal in Britain, but has gained so much ground in educated speech, that it must be said to have established itself; this applies particularly in negative statements and in statements expressing a change that has taken place at the expiration of the period expressed by the complement.

52. For and to :

With verbs and substantives expressing movement, we find the two prepositions before substantives denoting the goal of the movement.

To : this goal is reached.

For : a movement in progress has the goal in question :

- He has sailed for New York (sail: set out for).
- We sailed to the mouth of the river.

Departure : used for

- We started for India last week.
- We are leaving for Cairo tomorrow.

Entire movement : to

- He went to the station.
- Their journey to Canterbury will take place tomorrow.
- It was glorious for the Catholic frontiersmen of English stock to travel to the established centres of their faith.

However, quite often, it is less probable of the two association that is combined with the expression of movement :

- I was back after my long detour, on the straight road again for Rome.
- His departure to Germany was the one thing he has desired all his life.

Meals : for : subordinate idea of intention;
to : accomplishment = have dinner ,
 etc :

- Susan came home for dinner.
- So they stayed in for tea.
- You'll stay to dinner of course.
- I should simply love to have him in to dinner sometimes.

The first paragraph dealing with for shows that phrases with this preposition may closely approach the value of an indirect object; a similar reduction of content in to may be seen by comparing :

- He handed the book to me. And
- He gave the book to me.

where to in the first example can be interpreted

as having its primary value 'movement towards + achievement' but in the second is so reduced that the prepositional phrase corresponds in content to an indirect object :

- He gave me the book.

In this blurred and reduced usage, where for and to can be regarded as dative equivalents, they may approach one another very closely :

- For the man to whom a Cathedral is a poem and for the man to whom it is merely a stone building, to each equally Bishop Peterson and Archdeacon Green are real men.

- Marvellous days, when she had all his tall, supple, fine-fleshed youth to herself, and for herself, and he had her like a ruddy fire into which he could cast himself for rejuvenation.

The difference in such cases is that to + complement is closely linked with the predicate - where the two prepositions are found in co-ordinate phrases, to + complement is placed nearest the predicate - and of the content it may be said that the activity implicit in the predicate 'encounters', 'reaches', 'affects' the complement (a transitive verb with a similar content often springs to mind : bow to = salute; lie to = deceive, it happened to me = it befell me), while for + complement is less closely linked with the predicate - the phrase may be separated from it by a comma:

- The heat of the piece of wood or iron is in fact more passionate, for us, than the laughter or tears of a woman.

and of the content it may be said that for expresses a concept expressed by words such as 'touch', 'concern'.

Thus while it was a shock to me corresponds to 'it agitated me!', it was a shock for me, corresponds to, for instance, 'it was a shocking

event, which concerned me'.

When placed at the the beginning of a statement the prepositional phrase with for is generally outside the predicate (and has a value such as 'in....'s view', or the like):

- For a nation staggering under the weight of every imaginable economic malady, this gratuitous burden (carrying pennies) seems singularly perverse.
- For him the historic mission of the Jew is to keep steadily before the world that uncompromising spirit of pure reason and absolute justice characteristic of the Hebrew prophets. Compare :
- Fresh air is a necessity to the constitutions (not the position, but the content is the decisive factor).
- To me he was always a faithful friend (corresponding to 'he befriended me').
- To eighteenth century Denmark, his reforms must have been outstanding.

For phrases are generally found, corresponding to expressions, where the dative equivalent normally has to, in cases where the latter is followed by an infinitive :

- There are also 90 Youth Hostels open to motorists.
- It was important to them that I should let them off morally.
- If the British withdrew, the way would be open for the Soviet Union to establish itself in the Eastern Mediteranian.
- It will do something very important for me to to see you there.

This is not merely a matter of euphony (the avoidance of the repetition of to), the prepositional phrase is in this case linked

more closely with the infinitive and less
closely with the preceding part of the
statement :

- It was a shock to me to learn this
(= For me to learn this was a shock).

Expressions with to +(pro)noun + infinitive
are in fact quite common, with the attached
concepts of a dative equivalent :

- You know how important it was to me.
- It was awful to her to have him
about - moving about in his shirt
- sleeves.

When too and enough is added to adjective, the
phrase is followed by for :

- This task is too difficult for me.
- This book is not difficult enough
for my son.

Even though the adjective without verbs could
be followed by to :

- These books are equally difficult to
me.

But again the content, and not the presence
of either of these adverbs determines the
choice of preposition :

For: sufficiency or suitability of the degree in
question for the preposition's complement. If
the effect of the adjectival concept on the
complement is to be expressed we still find
to used in phrases :

- The world (moon) outside the sphere
I knew, would be sold and inhospitable
enough to me.

With substantives with verbal association, we
find the two prepositions alternating, with
the difference to be two prepositions alternat-
ing, with the difference to be expected : to :
the complement can be said to correspond to
the object of a verb corresponding to the
substantive.

For : in the more independent phrase having a value such as : 'for the good of.....', 'in 's view' or the like :

- That same manner might even prove an attraction to anyone who loved him.
- He is under an obligation to Simon for his help.
- It was a shock for the young soldier. He felt something sink deeper, deeper into his soul.....
- Mr. Robinson has a way of striking off storms and no doubt he will often act as a lighting-conductor for Mr. Lloyd.

Expressions such as open the door to/for perhaps deserve a special mention, since one may come across the assertion that in for-expressions the persons in questions are on the same side, and in to-expressions on either side, of the door, this may appear to be true in cases such as :

- He passed out by the door Ferdinand opened for him.
- It was Bill's wife who opened the door to Mary.

This is however an irrelevant circumstance; the distinction is that already stressed: the to-phrase is closely linked with the preceding predicate : Open the door to is roughly equivalent to 'admit'; cf: He opened the gate to the enemy.

While the for-phrase is more independent, and expresses the concept such as 'for.....'s benefit', or more reduced 'in answer to a knock', or the like and the preceding predicate is more descriptive :

- With a fierce delight in his own realism he described the woman who had opened the door for him.

This distinction between the two prepositions described in this section naturally means that a phrase using the preposition least to be

expected has a particular slant to the content, for instance, 'happen to' is the common phrase = 'encounter' :

- We do not care what happens to his puppets.
- The Bishop of Accra....said that..... his expulsion was the best thing that could have happened for the church in Africa.

Where the special implication is 'seen from the church's point of view' or perhaps 'to the benefit of the church'.

Cater for : is the common phrase meaning 'to supply food or entertainment to' :

- Richard and Ben have catered fastidiously for every occasion, whether it be a State Banquet or a modest boardroom luncheon.
- The committee has done a great deal to broaden the festival's scope and almost every taste will be catered for.

While cater to may be said to correspond to 'pander to' :

This type of book caters to the lowest taste.

But the fact that the difference is so slight may result in vacillation in use without a specific intention :

- Tell me what certain words mean for you and I will tell you what you mean for the world of thought. (Where the first may be intentional, while we can hardly ascribe any other value to the second than that of the to it has replaced).

Lastly it may be mentioned that the cases where there is a wide difference between the two prepositions have not been included above, that is such cases as :

- President de Gaulle cannot do a great

deal to them (people in Latin America)
or for them.

- Westminster Hall should have a permanent exhibition of the history and constitution of Britain, with ready access for the public.
- This is the only access to the house.
- You too are good to me.
- He is too good for this world.

53. From :

In the case of few verbs which in themselves have an association of removal, expressions without prepositions formerly used where from is now necessary :

- He was expelled the country.
- He was expelled from the country (now).

In the cases of a few expressions the possibility still exists :

- He departed (from) this life.

And with 'dismiss' to denote loss of a post:

- He was dismissed from the service.

- (That will not prevent me (from) reading detective stories, does not belong to this type; here me reading is the object of prevent and in content equivalent to my reading).

54. From and by :

By : immediate basis or cause :

From : Distance from the basis or cause :

- He might profit by their experience.
- None of those who intend to marry can fail to profit from her advice.
- By the look of Mary's face she could see that anything might happen now.
- Troilus oblivious (you could see from his expression) of everything but the eyes of Cressida.

55. From, for, with :

These prepositions approximate one another to some degree after intransitive verbs and

adjectives; to express the cause of condition or quality denoted by these :

- When I thought of it, I could have died for shame.
- She died from natural causes.
- Ha was ready to die with vexation.
- Hilda dangled her long red hands, red from the night air, before the grate.
- My hands were blue with cold.

From's association of distance here leads to the subordinate idea 'after effect' :

- Her cheeks shone from recent soaping.
- The walls had grown to black from smoke and soot that you could write your name on them.

With : the cause is still present :

- They roared like bulls with pain and helplessness.
- His flanks dark with sweat.

In many cases both views are possible :

- The hand clenched slowly from anger and helplessness.
- She fled along the pavement until she was breathing with her flight.

In this usage for corresponds to with in content: a present cause, but is found only in few stock phrases :

- 'You believe in the life to come?', said Spode and immediately flushed for shame.
- Are you crying for joy or for sorrow this time ?
- With limbs stiffening for sheer terror, I stood listening.

56. From and of :

These may approach one another when used before complements denoting material of which something is made :

- This tabacco is made from (or of) selected leaves.

From : origin

Of : nature

- The manufacturer has to state whether it has been prepared from one substance or from more than one substance.
- The west-of-England hill country famous for its lovely golden stone from which many beautiful towns and village have been built.
- The furniture was made of pine.
- He was not of the stuff of which great men are made.
- This is a quotation from shakespeare.
- A piece of music still open on the rock, it was something of Debussy.
- They expect something from him and he is not at all sure that he has it to give.
- Perfect is a thing we none of us are, and I never asked or expected it of you.

Here we find the same distinction as before , though in figurative use; from origin or removal, of : existing nature or condition :

- He was relieved from fear and anxiety (carries an association on the lines of 'had left fear behind').
- While certainly he was relieved of the formality of paying eight pounds a week (contains the idea of 'did not have the burden of').

Compare also :

- He died of fever and starvation.
- One day you'll catch your death of cold (of referring to the immediate cause).
- He died from the wound.
- There had been several deaths from drowning this year (from indicates a more remote, external (accidental)

cause.

57. From and out of :

These two may be very close when the complement denotes a space, or there is an association with such a concept : (a 'room' with complements such as 'window', 'door' :

- She undid the basket and emptied out the biscuits and oranges from their bags.
- A sailor selling bunches of green out of barrels of cork dust.
- The face of a ghost from the future starred at her out of the looking glass.

From : the complement is a starting point of the movement in question.

Out of : in addition that this is a 'space' thus :

- He fell out of a tree and broke his neck (carries the association that 'the tree is high').

Figuratively the same slight distinction is found in :

- A word from you and he'll be happy.
- The minister reads from a text designed to give as little as possible away.
- One crack out of you and I tender my resignation.
- He read a scene out of a new play by Simon.

It was stated above under from/of that from may express 'origin + charge', this use may approach out of when used of transformation from one state to another :

- Steel is made from iron.

- A man was weaning sweetstuffs from a pliant roll of warm toffee.
- She made these toys out of cigar-boxes.
- He has still, it seems, some of the material out of which all capacity for happiness is made.

58. In and into :

In : position within

Into : movement directed towards a point within what is denoted by the complement.

- He was sitting in the garden.
- He walked into the garden.

But of these two only into is distinctive.

- She appeared into the house is unequivocal.

In can be widely used with the content corresponding to into :

- Throw it in the fire = throw it into the fire.
- She disappeared in the house (ambiguous).

Because of its distinctive content into can be used with a particular stylistic effect when the context naturally expresses position, the use of into then enriches the concept of position with the idea of preceding movement:

- I had only been into the room on rare occasions.
- We aren't into open water yet.

Figuratively and metaphorically we find :

- Here in New York we are well into a new cricket season.
- Dr Johnson was the last of the great Moguls of Grub Street, who lived into the patrician period.

In was formerly commonly used of movement and direction, but it has gradually been almost entirely replaced in this sense by into. The former usage is, however, found in certain connections in modern English. Certain stock expressions have only in, despite their content:

- He fell in love with such a girl.
- (Break something) in two (but into two parts).
- (Cut the loaf) in half (but into halves).
- The number of people he has already put in prison.

With a number of verbs variation is found between retained in of the resulting position and into of movement or change :

- He has probably come in contact with a greater variety of people than....
- A rope hanging from the balloon came into contact with an electric power line.
- Few things made the leaves of the book stick together so easily as being dropped in a hot bath.
- He dropped the letter into the pillar box.
- Of ocean cables alone, there are now nearly one hundred and forty-three thousand miles, which have been sunk in the depths of the sea.
- She sank lifeless into his arms.

In many of the examples given above, the distance between the two values attached to the two aspects of the verbal concept is small enough to permit the use of the other preposition, i.e : the type :

- He stuck his hand (in)to his pocket.

But in many cases such an alternative form of expression is not found in normal speech, even though both concepts are conceivable :

- He stuck a rose in his button-hole.
- He placed the book in the drawer.
- The academic may become over-excited when pitched into the centre of power - and perhaps still more when pitched out again.
- Saint Augustine, Calvin and Martin Luther were among those rendered into English.

The use of in where into is normal can seem mannered :

- At lunch he went in the room when a long time ago he used to take his young nephew.
- Racialism is bound to grow in Parliament divided in two blocks - of 50 whites facing 13 blacks.

Or it may actually be misleading as in :

- PLANE DIVES IN RESERVOIR (as a headline of an account of a crash).

Into where in is normal is encountered in careless speech :

- The Labour member for B. has been landed into an uncomfortable position.
- A number of compositions, cast into the same mould.
- The threads ran away into various directions.

59. In and on :

In : 'enclosed by, inside, at the bottom of a space'.

On : outside, on top of an expanse.

Both **are** in combination with many complements, so different in content that there is no question of any approximation :

- In William's sick-room..... he sat gazing.....at the ghastly skeleton in the bed.
- She found the old man lying fully dressed on his bed.
- She kept the books locked up in the desk.
- Dickens had to have certain objects on his desk, without which he could not write a line.

The content of prepositional phrases is here clearly distinguished by the locality concepts attached to the prepositions, while the reality denoted by the complement may be exactly the same in the parallel examples:

- Every morning he sat in the high-backed chair under the window of geraniums,dangling on the arm of the chair.
- He had tea alone, then sat on a deck-chair on the lawn and read.

These examples differ from those already given in that the complements of the prepositions also differ in content (arm-chair as against an ordinary chair). The difference of the preceding type is perhaps best seen by comparing the first example with :

- I who lie here on a hospital bed, have where on is used because of the type of the bed, (its height, etc).

An alternation between the two prepositions corresponding to such a difference in content as can be attributed to the complement is found with many substantives :

- The earliest in that list were Geoffrey Saint-Hilaire, Dr Erasmus Darwin, Lamarck, and apparently Goethe (list roughly equivalent to 'a number of names').
- Put my name on the list (list roughly equivalent to 'flat expanse with names or').
- A batch of black hens dust-bathing in the hot road.
- I have dropped it somewhere on the road ('area' as against 'line or 'route').

The closest approximation between the concept of the two prepositions is found in combination with complements denoting a limited expanse; here

In : within the limits of the area stated.

On : the attention to the expanse :

-An engagement took place in the plain between Rastatt and Kuppenheim.

-The climate of Cyprus is healthy, though on the plain in the summer the heat is apt to become excessive.

-Two bright spots of colour had flamed up high in her cheeks..... the two scarlet spots were still on her cheeks.

Certain substantives denote phenomena where one or the other of the associations mentioned is prominent, and these are then combined (almost) solely with one of the two prepositions:

-Cows were grazing in the garden.

-Goods are available in the market-place.

-The players were practicing on the field.

In a number of indications of locality in and on are interchangeable in so far as in + complement has an association of appearance ('scenery', 'community', 'world' etc), while on-phrases lack of this:

- Every fine day he went out fishing, with his son, every fair day there was fresh fish in the island.

- Minorca on the island there was an octogenarian governor.

- Preoccupied with social problems in their own continent.

- The reaction against accepted fashion began on the continent.

Lastly two special cases : with mind as a complement, in has its usual value of 'within a space' (here figuratively), on + mind has a special association of a heavy problem :

- I turned it over in my mind.
- The Commonwealth Prime Ministers have had much else on their minds.
- He lies heavily on my mind (of the character that is giving the author trouble).
- The machine had to be assembled in the street.
- When he and they passed each other on the street, they raised their canes and touched the brims of their hats with them, in formal salute. (Here British and American English differ, Br E : on the street can be used in the sense 'living as a prostitute').

In + designations of the time of day regarded as periods of time :

- He arrived on the 17 th in the morning.
- At eleven o'clock in the morning of 28 April they were brought to the scaffold.

On : stating dates :

- On the 7 th there were romours that the lions from the tower had been let loose.

They may approach each other to some extent, in so far as such expressions serve as 'statements of date' :

- On the afternoon before, Henry had wavered.
- The details of the nights on which Tristram Shandy was conceived.
- The front door opened and closed, just as it had on that other night when

60. Inside (of), in, within :

In : of what is two dimensional :

- In the London area amateur Sunday games of all kinds are now almost universal.

Of what is three dimensional :

- He is in the next room.

In approaches respectively within and inside, these, however, carry more significance :

Within : within the limits of the complement.

Inside : having secondary meanings such as 'covered with', (hidden', 'protected' :

- Within his own square mile of the City he (the Lord Mayor) owes precedence only to the reigning **sovereign**.

The noise came inside the house.

Inside : also used with area designations as complement when expressing opposition to outside.

- Only in the Arabian Peninsula is there still open discord. Here in three areas, fighting or the threat of fighting continues - Inside Yemen, on the border of Yemen and the South Arabian Federation and in Muscat.
- The Geneva talks are beginning again while tension is rising inside Turkey.
- The appointment of the Lord Home as Prime Minister is the result of bitter power struggle inside the Conservative Leadership.

But inside also occurs where the distinctive concept is weak or lacking, and then closely approximates in :

- One of the most interesting development in recent years has been the growth of the republican forms of government inside Commonwealth Countries that have retained the Crown as a symbolic link.

Certain words whose central significance is something three dimensional, can also be used of 'area' and are then combined with 'within' :

- It would be more difficult to achieve a rational distribution of accommodation within the palace (of Westminster) than it would to build a new building (the matter under discussion is the floor space available).
- Discussions are now resounding within the palace.
- The latest proposal for the reform of the Lords have originated within that house.

The same distinction - the concept of (a sheltering) space versus limits - is seen in connection with complements denoting the limitation of an area :

- He was scarcely inside the door when the crash came.
- (Stonehenge) inside the bank is a ring of 56 pits.
- The labyrinth of narrow streets lying within the walls of Nicosia.
- (Stonehenge) On the outside is a circular ditch with a bank immediately within it.

Inside may also be followed by a complement denoting the goal of a movement, i.e. : it also corresponds to into (+ a resultative association):

- We have to dismiss so much from our minds before we can crawl inside theirs.
- The darkness seemed to have got inside one's head.
- He (a policeman) passed inside the cells which he has helped others to enter.

Within is used of distance = less than, at the most :

- The church must be within a stone throw.
- The attractive premises are within a few minutes' walk of the Palace of Westminster.
- This is within one cent of a normal price.

Of time we find in in the sense 'in the course of' :

- He accomplished this in one year.

In approximates within : in the course of, not more than, in less than :

- Within several weeks, the unlucky Caroline was dead.
- Within 40 years a third of the urban population and one fifteenth of the rural may become literate in English.
- George I had been told that he would die within a year of his imprisoned wife.
- I shall be back inside an hour (common in

the USA; less common in Britain).

The approximation between in and within with complements denoting a period of time is closest when the phrases give an information as to when :

- An historic island fortress built in the reign of Elisabeth I.
- He was perhaps the first of the great Moguls of aristocracy, born within the Age of Reason.

The distinction is that stated of indications of locality, namely that within stresses the limits.

In figurative use, within is found, as was to be expected, of 'area' :

- Within the region of the common language.
- Most Victorian agnostics thought and felt within conventional Christian term.

Inside : is, however, used here as distinct from outside :

- George acted in a way which the rules don't permit, while I kept strictly inside them.

Before the complement denoting states of mind, within is commonly used :

- Hope sprang up within him.
- The fire that burned within him.

In an example such as :

- she too, like a neurotic, was nailed inside her own fretful self-consciousness.

the mataphore is given a more vivid significance by the preposition used.

Inside of is common in the USA, both of place and time :

- He parked his car inside of the gate.
- I shall be back inside of an hour.

61. Near (to) and close to :

Close to and near to both denote proximity.

Close to : closer proximity, and sometimes even contact :

- She held the body close to her breast.

Used of a short distance close to implies that the distance is significant .

Near : The distance does not exist :

- Campdon Hill situated conveniently close to the market-town of Notting Hill Gate.
- The picture was taken close to the object.
- The 6th Frence army, supporting the exposed flank of the British contingent was, near Noyom.
- Don't go near the edge.

Near (to) : if near is not immediately followed by the complement, to must be attached:

- He was as near as could be to being knocked down by a bus.

With the complement immediately attached, near is most frequently used alone of locality (see examples above), more rarely near to :

- He.... went to join a group of his comrades who were lounging in the shade He only stood near to them for the association.

Figuratively near to is usual :

- The present ideal in writing seems to be to get as near to the spoken idiom as possible.
- He was unheeded, happy and near to the wild heart of life.
- I was near to breaking down.

Although near alone is not uncommon :

- This will always be near my heart.
- The US Federal Maritime Commission's attempt to restrict the trade of British and other foreign shippingcomes somewhere near reproducing it (the old in modern form without the excuse of war.

62. Next (to), after and beside :

While next to used of position expresses only juxtaposition in a row :

- The house next to ours.

after in a corresponding usage also implies time and thus expresses succession :

- My name comes after yours.

They may approximate one another when used figuratively of order or rank :

- West Germany is now the world's third great industrial power after the United States and the Soviet Union.

- The finest sight after Mont Blanc.

- The very greatest of all such brands was Dr James's Powder Next to this cure laudanum and calomel.

Beside : side by side.

Next to : the idea of 'a row' :

- He sat beside the driver.

- Come and sit beside me.

- Spode had arranged to sit next to Mrs Cayman.

- Anna- there. Mr Inskip next to her.

Next is interchangeable with next to in the latter usage :

- Next me, on my left, was the dark young woman, whose.....

- The cubist sitting next him was not insane and actually knew a surprising amount about the old Masters.

This applies particularly when it is a question of proximity rather than order :

- The man standing next him glanced at Philip.

- He does not like wearing wool next to his skin.

63. Notwithstanding, despite, for, in spite of :

1. Notwithstanding : followed by a complement

denoting an obstacle present :

- Sylvia, notwithstanding her name, was accustomed to nothing more sylvan than 'leafly Kensington'.
- She was an English woman, an ash-blonde, and, notwithstanding her nationality, voluptuous.

2. In spite of : is followed by a complement denoting a serious obstacle, possibly active opposition :

- In spite of complex economic problems Poland is still making useful, unspectacular progress.
- He dropped the little darling in spite of warnings and protest.

3. Despite : is a little mannered and is found with both types of complement :

- Full employment has meant fuller larders even despite rationing.
- Carry Simon, he did, despite warnings and kickings.

The difference between despite and the other prepositions is light enough to allow them to be used interchangeably for the sake of variation :

- Notwithstanding the regularity of his tread, there was caution in it and despite the fact that it was not a black coat nor a dark garment of any sort that he wore, there was something about him which

But there is a marked difference between the first two, so that for instance:

- I shall remain fithful to him, in spite of everything and notwithstanding every-thing.

is not simply a case of tautology.

For can be used with a similar content, when followed by all :

- For all of that it worried him.
- It was painful, for all the extraordinary brilliance and profounding of what he said, to listen.
- The British Council, for all its comparatively tiny budget, has been a most effective centre of organization for language teaching.

64. Of :

A number of verbs are linked with their complement either directly or by of. Most often there is a considerable difference in content, but in certain cases there may be some approximation. With ask, of is found with its original value 'from' in the type :

- You ask too much of me (ask = demand),
as against
- I ask him his name.

But in the latter usage of was formerly used, and may still be encountered :

- I'm of whom you ask the way.
- 'Is that the thunder and lighting?', she asked of the young policeman.

In many cases immediate attachment expresses the verbal concept is complete 'control' of the complement, while an added of, with a content equivalent of 'concerning' has the effect of weakening the verbal concept's influence on the complement :

- You must have dreamt it.
- I dreamt of you last night.
- Have you heard the news ?
- I have never heard of it.
- I don't know the case, but you know of it.

But the difference may be slighter :

- The minutes of the meeting were read and approved.
- The maid Rose, who liked Mill but adored

Jane, whom Mill approved for the very reason of that preference, came

- I don't approve of his conduct.

where the direct complement denotes explicit approval and the use of of an approving attitude.

- Mr. Jame's comfortable bachelor quarters could not boast such married opulence.
- He is always boasting of his pictures.

here the verb is used in the first example in the sense 'display' and the the second in the sense 'brag', but the difference is too great to allow the use of of in the first type. In :

- He will soon bitterly repent his folly.
- Dont you repent of your sins ?

the difference is merely that the first is the new, and the second obsolescent form of expression, with the consequent subordinate concepts of the colloquial and the formal respectively. The vagueness of content of this preposition brings it into contact with other forms of expressions :

- He saw Sheila's face, pale, luminous , resolute and behind her the meanly precice face of her father, the tame and lumpy face of her mother.
- He had been ill since February of this year. (Compare 'this year' used adverbially without of).

Of most interest in this account are the many cases where of with blurred value is interchangeable with other preposition with a somewhat more clearly defined content :

- He looked out of the window.
- What lassitude, what utter weariness of spirit looks out, too often, at their eyes.
- He owed his knowledge of Latin to be plentiful flogging of his master, Mr. Hunter.
- Under one of these attacks by ignorent



gluttons.65. Off and from :

These prepositions can be used in almost identical contexts to denote 'movement from':

From : the complement is the starting point of the movement.

Off : distance (separation) from the complement results :

- The tiles flew off the gables.
- He fell off his horse.
- He leapt from a high rock into the sea.
- Take the book from the desk.

Off : figurative usage :

- The Prime Ministers have not come all the way to London to score points off each other.
- Take off my hands.

From off : evaluated style with the same value :

- Take this weight from off my heart.

Off could formerly be used with buy, borrow, hire, this is now obsolescent, and has been replaced by from:

- He bought a match-card off a boy on his favourite Mound stand.
- He might have borrowed money from Susan.

The two prepositions can be used of position with a corresponding difference :

- A back street off the Brompton Road.
- Keep off the grass.
- A village some miles from the main road.
- He is away from home.

Of position at sea, off has the special sense 'opposite' :

- The great, gold-laced coat which he hurled into the sea off Gibraltar.

Off : used figuratively in this part :

- He is off duty.

- She is off her head.

- The moon hung golden, three days off full.

Off and of are phonetic variants of one and the same word, but an approximation between them is rarely found now : off the mark may, however, be mentioned, which has of for off in combination with 'wide' both figuratively and literally used :

- As a rough, description of the pampas this is not so very wide of the mark.

66. On :

With a number of verbs the complement is attached either directly or by means of on, the former combination having a perfective value, the latter an association of an incomplete action :

- My grey stocking had been darned with blue worsted.

- She was darning on a sock.

- She embroidered the handkerchief with a pattern.

- He could not embroider on the story.

In a number of cases a distinction similar to that mentioned under of is found : used transitively the verb indicates 'control' of what is denoted by the complement, while this concept is not expressed in corresponding combinations with the preposition :

- Can you ride a bicycle ?

- The man approached riding on an old bicycle,

67. On and after :

Of time :

on : immediately after

after : later than :

- She mentioned the scandal to him with circulated indignation, on which his Lordship answered politely : 'Madame'

- He was born at St Cloud and came to England on the death of his father.

The two prepositions may approximate each other to some degree in the type substantive-substantive as in :

- Each broke law on law.
- IT IS TIME, LORD is beautifully written ,
page on page.
- The notion of bringing the same
characteristics into novel after novel.

On : addition, accumulation.

after : succession.

68. On and on to

Just as in which was formerly used both of movement + direction and of position, has developed into to cover the first concept, so on has developed onto or on to (the first spelling) is particularly common in the USA, But while the distinction between in and into is almost completely consistent, the use of on to of movement + direction is not nearly so consistent, and the corresponding to on of position, we frequently find either on or to when movement and direction are expressed :

- We descended the stairs together. When we issued on the court the moon had risen.
- The priests went down on their kness.
- He got on his feet.
- He gave his hand to Anne to help her down to the platform.
- The Bishop rose to his feet.
- Sometimes I would take her up to the promenade deck.

But on to is now fairly common, the concept of direction can be of any kind (up, down or movement on the same level) :

- The old man stepped over the low bulwark on to the deck.
- (Under a picture) helicopter lowering the two-ton fleche on to the Coventry Cathedral.
- Amid tumultuous applause Sarah was carried onto the stage.

Just as we found into used where the normal usage would be in, so on to can be found instead of the normal on :

- When you keep animals as petsyou generally manage to impress some of your characteristics on to them.
- He looked at me with confusion and dripped snow on to the parquet.
- The creature took refuge down a hole so we flug ourselves on to the grass.

69. Opposite (to), over against :

Over against : adds the content of opposite to the association 'facing' :

- Tom's coffee house over against the Unicorn.
- A man standing over against the house on the opposite side of the street.
- Mr. Brinston took a chair over against them.
- When a passer-by fell down opposite Brook's apparently dead, they betted whether he was alive or not.
- (Under a picture) Two-charity girls are toasting each other opposite Kilman the fistiller's.
- I saw opposite to me a double divan bed.

Like near, opposite was formerly an adjective and adverb and was linked with its complement by means of to, this is a case is figurative usage :

- Opinions opposite to mine.
- 'Left' is opposite to 'right'.

and likewise customary when a modifying adverb precedes :

- Two persons directly opposite to each other may converse without being overheard by the company in the middle.
- The large open space between Rotten Row and Kensington Road, immediately opposite to the entrance into Prince Gate.
- He got a good place all right, plumb

opposite the grand-stand.

But otherwise there is a great deal of vacillation :

- Alban stepped into the carriage and seated himself in the corner opposite to Anne.
- She sat down opposite to me.
- She came across to stand opposite to me.
- Presently she came opposite the window of the typewriting agency.
- We saw the lift gate opposite us.
- A strange traveller who sat opposite him.

70. Out (of) :

Out was formerly used as preposition as retained in the literary compound preposition : from out :

- From out the depth.

In the USA it is used with the value of 'through' :

- He threw it out the window.
- He ran out the door.

Apart from this usage it has been replaced by out of.

71. (Out) of and in :

Used of proportional figures, there is a certain approximation between these. Of : designation for specific (existing) group, as complement. In of average proportionals, while out of can be used in either connection :

- She is one of five new High Court judges named last week.
- Of the nine who had come into the laboratory three were girls.
- Two in three Americans now live in cities.
- Not one in ten of the boys could sleep weel.
- The pressed steel company manufacturers two out of every five car bodies produced in Britain.

72. Out of and outside :

Out of : movement and direction, is then the

opposite of into :

- She nearly fell out of the tree.
- Out of the window and beyond the chimneys you could see the long glare from the lights in High Holborn.
- He and his minion Brandt were hustled out of life with all the circumstances of medieval barbarity.

Of position : out of is used primarily of what is resultative :

- I spent a long periods out of England.
- Fish cannot live out of water.
- She remained out of the house until after dark.

But out of is also used without any resultative association and may then approximate outside very closely :

- The death of James Bone will grieve the heart of innumerable friends in and out of journalism.
- He lives five miles out of town.
- This plant is not found out of a small area in central Asia.

In this case out of and outside correspond to in and within (or inside) respectively; that is outside carries more 'significance'.

73. Outside (of) :

Outside : the opposite of both within and inside and is thus used both of what is two-dimensional and of what is three dimensional :

- This is outside our jurisdiction.
- The woman meet socially outside their cottages.
- The heat and the dusty leaves of the plane trees outside the window.

Formerly without was used like within but as a preposition the word is archaic in this sense :

- 'Lesser breeds, without the law'.

(Used in expressing opposition to within as in :

- Communism within the country and international co-operation without its borders.)

Without is very rare as a proposition and as an adverb literary (mannered) :

- These mysterious forces which are scattered without, and darkly concentrated within the body and mind of man.
- There are two bodies responsible for party organization, when whips within the House and the Central Office without.

Outside of is common in USA side by side with outside :

- The greater part of the additions to the English vocabulary in the period of the Renaissance was drawn from sources outside of English.

In British English this has a colloquial note :

- To live in flats and tenements is unusual outside of London.
- Don't think I'd say a word against him readily ... not to any one outside of just us.

74. Owing to and due to :

Owing with to before the complement is found with the adjectival function, and a fairly independent value corresponding roughly to 'deriving (from)' :

- It was to them that the great affection in which he was held was largely owing.
- George Saintsbury thought this was owing to the fact that for ten years he had written, post-haste a mass of novels just to make a bare living.
- This was chiefly owing to his gauntness.

This type where owing to is used as predicative complement is now literary (the first example has the mannered effect). Owing to is commonly used as a compound preposition, which together with its complement acts as independent adverbial phrase (note that owing to is not so established

a phrase as to prevent the separation of the complements by a modifying adverb) :

- He could not do less than behave handsomely by the bride, owing to his notorious admiration for her.
- A bet which turned out to be difficult of solution owing to the delicacy of asking the Duke how much he weighed.

Due normally acts as an adjective, with to before its complement and is linked with a substantive being placed immediately after it, of forming a predicative complement to it :

- Even Horace had compunctions due to a visitation of a similar idea.
- Her own disease was due to cosmetics.
- The neglect of the road in the city of Westminster was partly due to the fact that the River Thames was for many centuries the main highway of the citizens.

But the use of due to instead of owing to to introduce an adverbial phrase cannot be regarded as fully accepted, although instances are frequently found :

- I could not come due to another engagement.
- Due to inability to market their grain, prairie farmers had been faced for sometimes with a serious shortage of sums to meet their immediate needs.

75. Sans

The preposition may be encountered as an echo of :

Sans teeth

Sans eyes

Sans everything (Shakespeare : As You Like It, II, vii, 166), i.e. : sans spirit, sans skill, sans everything.

Such an expression may seem easily artificial, obviously so when a literary echo vanishes and sans is used merely as an 'elegant variation' on without :

- Though of France in its present position, sans Algeria, alone in Europe, with de Gaulle playing the ... pawnbroke swarmed in.

76. Since and after :

Since : has its complement a designation of a point of time, and the phrase denotes the period of time from this point up to and including the point of time expressed in the statement, i.e.: the concept of time most frequently connected with the perfect and pluperfect :

- She hasn't been home since her marriage.
- There had been a church on the reedy island of Thorney in the Thames since 740.
- Similar ideas had been floating about since the seventeen-twenties.

After + similar complements denotes a period in the past not extending up to the time expressed in the statement, i.e.: the concept especially connected with the preterite :

- After his marriage ... Prince Philip's many interests were reflected in the speeches he made.
- Throughout the next five hundred years of medieval and Tudor London after the building of London Bridge, riverborne trade to and from Britain expanded enormously.
- In the long twilight after the departure of the Roman legions most of the towns they had built and guarded fell into ruins.

When the tenses mentioned are not included in the sentence the time concepts in question are indicated solely by the preposition selected :

- Buckingham Palace, London home of the reigning sovereign since Victoria's accession.
- The decline in London-minted coins shows the falling off in trade after the first quarter of the fourth century.

When the difference between the concepts connected

with the perfect and the preterite does not seem particularly great the two prepositions may approximate one another closely :

- Her great tragedy happened just three ago ... that would be since your sister's time.
- This is the third time after their marriage.

77. Till, until and to :

When to is used in the prepositional phrase denoting the end of a period :

- Incest ... nearly everybody dealt with it, from Walpole to Byron.
- The capital has had many stirring demonstrations, including those of the Suffragettes up to the First World War.
- Productivity ... an increase of 3.2 per cent, on average, up to 1970.

it may approach till and until, when these together with complement denote the end of an action :

- Typing till midnight may be the price she paid for it (lingering over a cup of tea)
- All the morning from ten till one the quill of Wedderburn shrieked defiance at Hill's.
- I would revise my day's work and do my letters until twelve-thirty.
- 'Big business' played a large part in shapping the social and economic policies of the regime - at any rate until 1935.

The difference between an association of 'period of time and 'action' is obvious here.

To is usual in combination with from :

- Summer is said to last from May to October.
- William Harvey worked in his hospital as chief physician from 1609 to 1640.

But the usage varies on this point :

- Shop : Most shops are open on weekdays

and Saturdays from 9 am to 5.30 pm

Banks : Open Saturday 9 am till 11.30.

And when the emphasis is on the action (i.e. : the content of the predicate) till and until are also used here :

- From those days until the seventeenth century and the coming of Kensington Palace, Kensington was largely rural.

A few further examples to show the mutual approximation of these prepositions :

- There I found Walter Tillotson's biography, pretty full to 1860 and then a blank.
- Another coach was made in 1757 and was in use until 1896.
- The first lachrymose period seems to have reached without interruption to the days of Shakespeare.
- Until the days of Jenner, most people were disfigured by smallpox.
- She lived to hard upon ninety.
- After the First World War and until his death I saw him frequently.
- Will the world ever succeed in changing that selfish and bellicose mentality which up to now has been interwoven in so much of its history.
- We revere Venus in museums, but up till now 'venereal' is strictly for the clinics ...

Here the second predicate of each pair of examples shows once again the greater content. The difference between till and until is very slight.

Till : is found more frequently in the lighter, more fluent style :

- We hadn't heard it till now.
- We needn't start till half past seven.
- I was to hold Henry up till the last moment.
- From now on until his death in 1723, he lived quietly in retirement.

- The welding of the two languages was not complete until the generation before 1400.
- An American Ultimatum giving foreign ship-owners until September 1 to alter contracts.

If the prepositional phrase introduces the sentence, until is more frequent :

- Until 1932 every book and pamphlet had to be entered at the Hall.
- Until Peel's reform in 1829, over two hundred crimes carried to death penalty.
- Until early in the nineteenth century much of the fish landed here was caught in the Thames.

In this position till is, however, by no means infrequent :

- Till the last moment in the struggle of over eight-hours the thing hung doubtful.

78. To :

With many verbs denoting the concept such as 'transfer' there is a close approximation between to + complement and indirect object as dative equivalent.

In the word order verb + direct object + designation of recipient to is necessarily attached to the last member. This word order is found in particular :

1. When the concept transference is evident :
 - The king is shown giving a document to the Lord Mayor.
 - He gave his hand to Anne to help her down to the platform.
 - A few minutes before he was shot, he handed the paper to the Marshal.
2. When the designation for recipient is more important than the direct object :
 - Tomorrow it will give the third reading to the British North American Bill, which ...
 - So nice of you to have come to do honour to England artistic past.

- It was thought 'foolish' of Pope to give friendship to ordinary peers.
 - They never stopped looking for a chance to turn and rend us and you gave it to them.
 - So told it to me after a couple of ports.
 - I am all gratitude to the gentleman who was kind enough to lend it to me.
3. When the resignation for the receiving party is not personal pronoun or the name of a person, and the verb has a metaphorical value :
- Mr John's comfortable bachelor quarters... could lend some sporting prints to the landing.
 - Large areas of N.V.I. London owe their characteristic style and spacious layout to the mind and work of one man, John Nash.
 - (de Sade) His name gave a substantive, adjective, and adverb to a very civilized language.

In the word order verb + designation of recipient + direct object is commonly used, which is then a less important member than the direct object; the order is particularly common with a personal pronoun as the indirect object :

- Great Britain offers the visitor a countryside which ranges from the densely wooded..
- Rolls-Royce engines give the B.E.A Vanguard a cruising speed of 400 mph.
- (Political parties) Each was offering the electorate great slabs of strawberry tart.
- Your younger colleagues have assembled here to do you honour.
- (The classics) We owe them an enormous debt
- He handed her machine.

The use of to + complement instead of an indirect object in this position is literary English:

- At the end of his harangue Sir Hebert handed to Mr Tillotson a silk purse containing fifty-eight pounds.
- The House should open itself to press, tel-

evision, and radio, giving to each an appropriate and hospitable welcome.

Passive expressions corresponding to the above with an indirect object may have this member as a subject :

- (Motor-cars) All of them were forbidden to go at more than five miles an hour.

If the direct object becomes the subject of the passive expression the designation for the recipient is far more frequently expressed by to + complement than by an indirect object :

- Some body up in the gallery even clapped, which of course is strictly forbidden to all visitors.
- Mask was given to the mad King George as a medicine for insanity.
- The new leader will need all the united and enthusiastic support which was denied to Sir Alec.
- It was given me by the Grand Porte for services rendered
- The pretext afforded him for making an other likeness ... of his young wife.

The above mentioned conditions determining the choice between indirect object and to + complement are of such a kind that there is no clear-cut distinction; in many cases either expression would be possible :

- It would be doing a kindness to him.
- She would give all the money to Philip.
- This kind of underground tour does not offer the worker speedy transport.
- The Prime Ministers have not come all they way to London to lend Sir Alec's dying administration a touch of imperial glory.

79. To and at :

- Her father of course, was the lion of the party, but seeing we were all meek and willing to be eaten, he roaded to us rather than at us.

With many verbs there is a distinction between expressions using these prepositions, to-phrases indicating that what is denoted by the complement is the goal of the action expressed by the verb, while at-phrases also have an association of intent to influence the complement. This can be seen with go, rush, nod, shout, etc. :

- When he got to the gate he made me stop the car and said he wanted to walk.
- The books are locked up and we cannot get at them.
- She pointed to the luggage.
- (two people in diving-outfits at the bottom of the sea) He pointed at her and pointed upward (in order to communicate with).
- These women will talk to you politely.
- He had no intention ... of ... talking at her, but the words had struck home.

80. To and into :

Used of change, these may approximate one another; expression with into here denote the transition, to-expressions the result :

- The rain changed into snow.
- The drizzle changed to a rain and the guide shook his head and said it would be snowing higher up.
- He turned my remarks into ridicule.
- He has grown into a fine young man.
- The Tate collection has grown from the sixtyseven paintings and three sculptures to a collection of nearly four thousand British paintings.

81. To and of :

Substantives (in the indefinite form acting as predicative complement or being in apposition) denoting the holder of an office may be followed by to or of + the designation of a person or an institution :

- Here Samuel Butler worked on his HUDISBRADS while he was steward to the Earl

of Carbury.

- He was Lord Steward of the Household.
- Sir George Downings, a Secretary to the Treasury in the late seventeenth century.
- He was Secretary of the Treasury.
- Wren, then Surveyor-General of the family.

Here of expresses membership of, and to service to, the complement.

82. To and with :

In a number of cases a connection between two phenomena could be expressed by phrases containing with or to, all according to whether the situation is regarded as applying equally to both, or is seen from the point of view of one of them:

- The King's Mails linked London with the leading cities and towns of the provinces
- Bridge Street a fine visual link of the Park to the river.
- The first true tube railway ... open in 1870 below the Thames, joining Great Tower Hill with Vine Street.
- The island was joined to the mainland.
- I have broken off all the relation with him.
- My relation to Georgie, my mode of processing her.
- The name should correspond with the personality and appearance of the individual who bore it.
- The broad lines on the map correspond to roads.

When compare is used for comparison proper with is used before the complement :

- The damage done in the first war, compared with the second was slight.
- Compare the efficiency of the nationalized industries with the private concerns.
- Export within EFTA rose by 51 per cent in the same period, compared with 31 per

cent increase in exports to the rest of the world.

- Wren stands out most clearly when we compare him with his Italian contemporaries.
- All this was small romance compared with the stories of the leading stars.

But when the value is 'to declare that something resembles' the verb is combined with to :

- It was to a Methodist that the proud Duchess of Argyll had compared poor Bozzy.
- They generally compared him to savage animals.

The first usage (compare : 'estimate difference and similarities'), however, not infrequently makes use of to, even where figures are concerned :

- Freudian man, Marxian man, organization man ... what were they compared to the S-man.
- British parliamentary salaries have risen ... to £ 1.750 in 1957. Compared to almost any trade or profession it is modest record.
- Mr. Lamb gives a disproportionate amount of space to 'Love's Comedy' (eight pages) as compared to 'The Pretenders' (one and a half).

Used intransitively compared is followed by with :

- Few writers can compare with Scott as creators of romance.

but here to is beginning to appear :

- Nothing in civilian experience can compare to the rate of increase in the cost of arms.

83. Toward (s) :

In the USA toward is the normal form; in England towards is the form in standard speech, while the form without -s is literary or regional :

- An economic reason ... was working
toward the downfall of the unhappy Queen.
- I moved toward the claret bottle.

84. nder and in :

In a number of cases in denotes environment (or corresponding figurative values); under adds to this an element of 'attached by' :

- Moisture is precipitated in the lee of the mountain.
- The guide crouched under the lee of the nearest rock.
- Don't take a walk in this Weather.
- I have been under the weather for a day or two.
- A certain clergyman, in an attack upon modern painters in 1836, described Turner's Juliet and her nurse as
- Under attack of pain she cried out

In combination with words such as circumstances, conditions, this distinction might be expected to be clearly marked :

- This sudden heightened awareness, in circumstances so moving, added a humanism to his art which has remained.
- Her intrigue came to a head in 1772, under circumstances of great peril.
- What will be the development of the population in this new conditions ?
- Under favourite conditions this plant may attain a great height.

But under is commonly found with these substantives, even when there does not appear to be any association of 'influence of surroundings' :

- Alan visited a warship after the victory and from him we may extract a verbal picture of the conditions under which that council of war was ... held.

85. Unto and to :

Unto was formerly used instead of to, even including phrases of locality :

- With a heavy heart ... go I unto the Tower (Shakespeare : Richard III 3.1.150).

It may now occur, as markedly archaic, in place of to in figurative use, often with a distinctive echo of a quotation :

- Here were born unto him a son and a daughter.
- He was nigh unto death.
- It is a hard world for those devoted to the idea that nation should speak unto nation.

86. Upon and on :

These two prepositions are so close that an exchange does not alter the factual content of the phrase. The following are the leading factors that appear to determine the choice :
Rhythmical consideration may play a part :

- I left my hand upon the table.
- George II died upon the stool.
- That accounted for the alarm upon the faces of several peasant.
- Much depends on President Nasser.
- We also play on nearby school grounds.
- This was a man who loved islands. He was born on one.

Thus upon is often found at the end of a phrase:

- She was most effective to look upon.
- There is nothing in the way of anecdote to browse upon.
- The leaders of the parties were called upon to take immediate steps

Stylistic considerations : upon is less colloquial than on :

- A great stillness seemed to have fallen upon the world.
- Anglo-German friendship has been growing in the past few years, and the time was ripe for the seal to be set upon reconciliation.
- The substance upon which, and with which the directing mind must work.

- I haven't got any money than just what we can manage on.
- Just retired from teaching English at a London school, and living on the Isle of Wight, Mr. Ulson is
- The only boy employed on the farm.

In certain cases one or the other of these prepositions has been established :

- Once upon a time here was an ancient village ...
- He had come upon the rioters when they were looting the office.
- He promised the rebels a bearing, upon which many of them dispersed (where upon combines the associations 'time' and 'consequence'; of : whereupon, hereupon, thereupon).
- I'll speak with you on telephone.
- Be on time, is necessary for the meeting.

A certain distinction in content between upon and on can, however, be stated; an association of something subjective, an emotional attitude, may be linked with the upon-phrases, while corresponding on-phrase have an objective association :

- You have encroached upon my land here.
- The sea has encroached on the land at many points.

This value of upon is common in the type: singular substantive + upon + singular substantive to express strikingly large numbers :

- Hour upon hour can be spent disentangling their quarrels.
 - Wave upon wave of French, Italians, Greeks, Cypriots, and others have come here since the first Huguenot refugees arrived in 1685.
 - Behind many docks stretched mile upon mile of cramped, squalid dwellings.
- Compare :
- The book is beautifully written page on page.

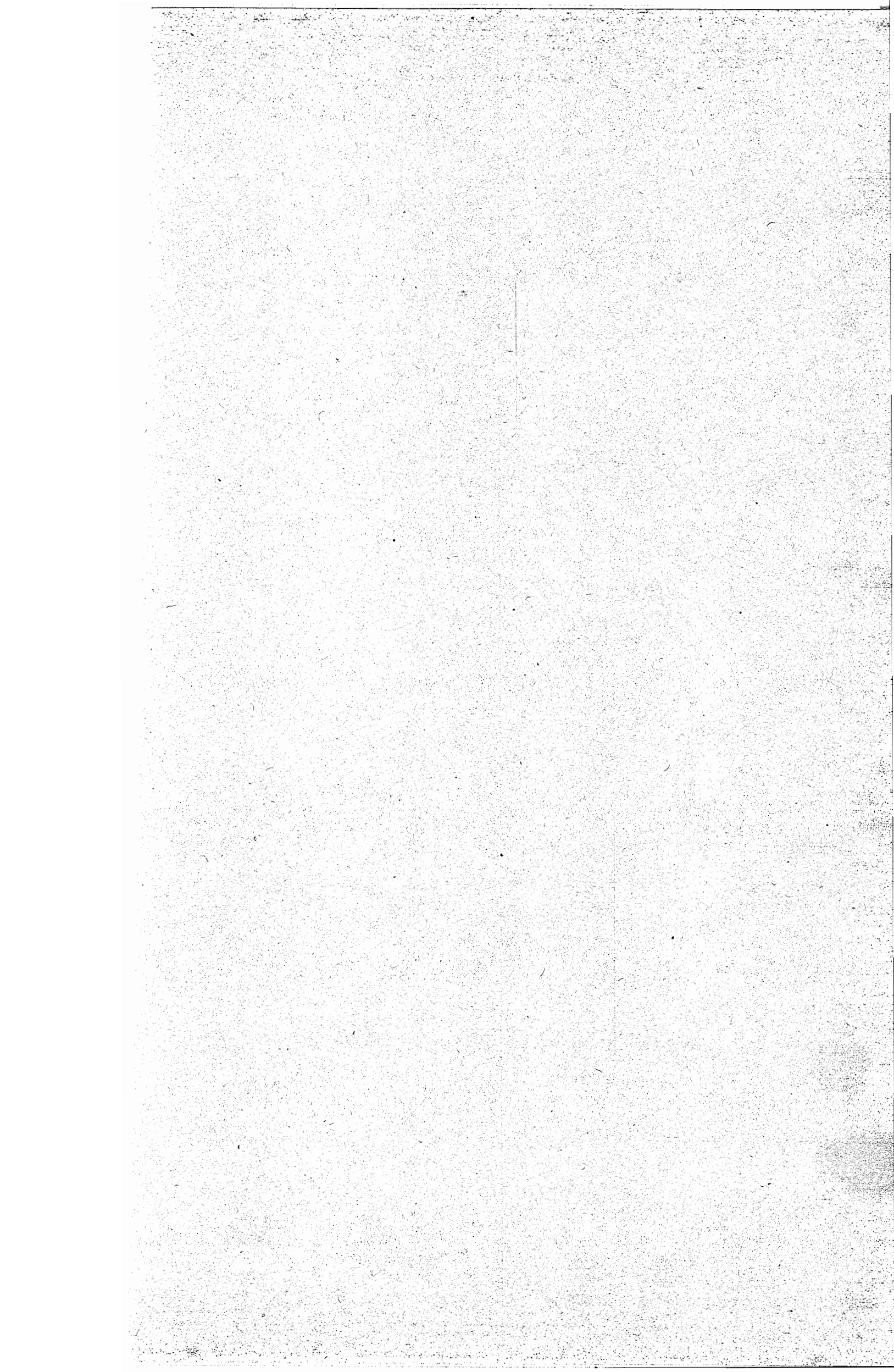
87. With and in :

Used of appearance of persons, with = 'equipped with' and in = 'dressed in' may approximate one another to some extent, in, however, dominating the larger part of the area than one would expect from the preposition's central value :

- A gentleman with a dyed moustache.
- The young lady with the parasol.
- The gentleman with muff ... is said to Lord Peterson.
- A lady in a hooped skirt.
- The man in the bowler hat.
- A man in a wig.
- A girl in spectacles.
- He suffered from short sight, but wouldn't wear glasses with strangers (and I was still enough of a stranger never to have seen him in them).
- A young woman with a large black Rubens hat.
- Innumerable old ladies on the lawn in floppy hats.
- A fellow with a little dispatch-case, slouching : a thin man with a red beard ... 'A new World' cried the man in the beard.

On the other hand, with is the vaguer of the two and can be used with co-ordinate complements of both types :

- Clic ... with her busking, her robes, with her airs of importance.



CHAPTER VI
THE POSITION OF PREPOSITIONS

Under this chapter we would observe the position of prepositions according to two points of view. The first one is the position of preposition in relation to their complements and the second one is the syntactic position of the prepositional phrases.

1. The position of prepositions in relation to their complements :

As their name suggests prepositions always come before their complements :

He walked about the street.

She values safety above excitement.

The wide land lying before the travellers.

We stayed just behind the advancing army.

This parcel isn't for you, it is for your sister.

We had been working from morning till night.

We go swimming in the sea on Sundays.

There was a man walked down the road with his dog.

Water flows through this pipe.

But this is not always so. In some cases the prepositions may come after the phrases or nouns they govern, because the phrases or complements have to take the first position in the sentence, or in some cases they are absent through ellipses. If this happens these prepositions are termed 'postposed prepositions' 1). These happen in constructions such as 2) :

- 1). Relative clauses :

Relative clauses with the relative who (m) or which as the complement of a preposition often have the preposition at the end :

Mary whom he was in love with is my former girl friend.

The insurance which we have learnt by bitter

1. Randolph Quirk cs, Op-cit, 300.

2. Randolph Quirk cs, Op-cit 300, and Knud Schibsbye, Op-cit, 297-9.

experience not to have any faith in.

The house which I was telling you about is empty.

This account which I cannot go above is my least offer.

He believes in public ownership, which idea I'm opposed to.

As and that used as relatives cannot be preceded by a preposition; a preposition with one of these words as its complement is always placed at the end of the clause :

Such things as we are sure of.

The only thing that they disapprove of.

2). Relative contact-clauses :

In relative contact-clauses where an interpolated relative would be the complement of a preposition the preposition is placed at the end and is without any complement :

A man I told you of has come back.

The sort of fellow a young girl falls in love with.

I've marked on the orders the time they should hand them in.

3). WH Questions :

WH Questions are very often introduced by WH words, and the prepositions governing them are placed at the end :

Which house did you leave it at ?

What did you want paper for ?

Where do you come from ?

What can I cut the bread with ?

What are you thinking about ?

Who was she dancing with ?

Which chair was I sitting on.

What are they looking at ?

Who is she talking with now ?

Who is this telegram for ?

What time do you come in ?

4). WH Clauses :

WH Clauses also are often introduced by WH words and the prepositions governing them

are placed at the end :

What I'm convinced of is that the world's population will grow to an unforeseen extent.

I asked him what the rose-bettles were for and why he had them tied with pieces of cotton.

I don't know who she is with now.

No general policy seems to exist about whom you can peer at.

Both for the WH Questions and WH Clauses the preposition may precede the WH Word in the formal type of language :

By what train shall I go ?

To whom should I send this ?

Of how many more is this true ?

About what is she talking ?

To what are you listening ?

For what are you cutting the paper ?

I sought to discover in what lay her peculiar gift.

He didn't know to whom he should turn for help.

The Government should have to decide in which ways each of the major industries ought to expand.

Further, the preposition precedes the WH words when the preposition is of reduced content and forms a stock phrase with the complementary substantive :

In what respect was he suspicious ?

The shower of 'Collected Poems' we are going through at present underline to what an extent this kind of volume has become a recognized mile stone in a writer's life.

I must proceed now to show in which way to operate.

In abbreviated sentences and clauses consisting only a preposition normally precedes :

'You should see the gardens' she said



aloud.

But to whom ?

'The criterion of reality in its intrinsic irrelevance' To what ?

Salvation, Deliverance but from what?

Only colloquially does the preposition come at the end of this type :

'I was recommended to you' - 'Who by?'

'Apologize?' she said. 'What for ?'

Thus always in the expression what (ever) for- 'why' :

I shall be hanged. Yes, I don't know what for.

5). Exclamations :

What a means he's got into !

What a gallant spirit he played the game in !

What a foolish boy she is in love with !

What a wonderful day we have gotten into !

6). Passive :

When verbal compounds ending in a preposition are turned into the passive, the complement of the preposition becomes the subject in finite constructions, whereas it is absent in finite constructions :

These were, of course, highly thought of.

It was something absorbing that had to be pored over.

How strange it is to be talked to in such a way.

A bird of great strength of character, and not to be trifled with.

Other arrangements agreed upon are designed to preserve the unity of Buganda.

To hear a perfectly commonplace woman raved about in an absolutely absurd manner.

He does not like being laught at.

7). Infinitive clauses :

He's impossible to work with.

Every citizens should make the world a better

place to live in.

The money was his to do as he liked with

8). Ing clauses :

This was one of my favourite area for hunting in.

He's worth listening to.

9). Emphasis :

The object of a preposition that forms part of the predicate may be moved to the beginning of the sentence for the sake of emphasis :

This I want to bear about.

That I'm not sure of.

The whole prepositional phrase may also be moved to the beginning of the sentence, this is not quite so emphasis :

Of the rest of the greats she was scarcely aware.

Fred was wrong ... of that there could be no doubt.

Compare the two corresponding possibilities in the case of emphasis by means of split sentences:

In his talents he relies on.

It is of you he is afraid.

2. The syntactic position of prepositional phrases.

The syntactic position of the prepositional phrases can be seen from two angles. The first one is the position of prepositional phrases function as adjectivals and the second one is the position of prepositional phrases function as adverbials.

1). The syntactic position of prepositional phrases function as adjectivals :

The commonest position of prepositional phrases function as adjectivals is after the noun head they modify. In other words, they are called postmodifier prepositional phrases 3).

3. Randolph Quirk cs., Op-cit, 304; 883-95.

These prepositional phrases may modify 4) :

(1) The noun head :

The meeting of all the members on July in Paris.

The prepositional phrases : of all the members, on July, and in Paris; modify the head noun : the meeting. The succession of these prepositional phrases ranges from those which have specific and close modifying characteristic to the head noun to those of the more general and distant ones.

(2) The noun in the preceding phrases :

The honey from the bees in the northern part of the country.

The prepositional phrases: from the bees modifies the preceding noun phrase : the honey, in the northern part modifies the preceding noun : bees of the prepositional phrase from the bees; while of the country does the same to the preceding noun of the prepositional phrase in the northern part.

(3) The combination of both above :

The meeting of the members of the club on July 16 of that year.

The prepositional phrase of the members modifies the head noun the meeting; of the club modifies the noun in of the club, on July 16 modifies the noun head the meeting, while of that year modifies the noun in on July 16.

Sometimes in a succession of adjectival prepositional phrases ambiguity may result if the reference back to the preceding noun is not clear, for example :

His request to his superior for money at the end of the month.

At the end of the month may refer to request or to money.

⁴ Marcella Frank, Op-cit, 198-200.

Several adjectival prepositional phrases used consecutively in a noun phrase (perhaps with other adjectival constructions) may
 may interfere with comprehension :

He mentioned the resignation of the book keeper from the company at the beginning of the year because of his inability to get along with the new president.

This kind of 'over-nominalization' can be avoided by putting some of the prepositional phrases into the full subject-predicate form of clauses :

He mentioned that the book keeper had resigned from the company at the beginning of the year because he was unable to get along with the new president.

Generally, in succession of adjectival prepositional phrases, the of-phrase or phrases representing prepositional objects come before other types or phrases :

(1) Of-phrases :

a. Of as partitive genitive :

Some/two dozen/one half of the eggs on the table will be used for the wedding cake.

b. Of as a subjective or objective genitive:

The love of a mother (original subject) for her children.

The devascation of the land (original object) by the Northern army during the civil war.

If this kind of genitive of-phrase has long modification, it may be preceded by one or more shorter prepositional phrases :

The devascation during the civil war of the land that had been cultivated for the two centuries.

This genitive of-phrase may also appear last when it is to be emphasized :

The appearance in such an out-of-the-way place of two charming lady tourists

(2) Phrases representing original prepositional objects :

His wife dependence on him in every way.

His strong rule over the country for many years.

2. The syntactic position of prepositional phrases function as adverbials 5) :

As an adverbial the prepositional phrase is mobile, and for convenience, one distinguishes its major position in the sentence : initial, medial and final or end position :

- 1) Initial position : before the subject.
- 2) Medial position :
 - a) Medial 1. (a) immediately before the operator.
 - (b) Between two auxiliaries.
 - b) Medial 2. (a) Immediately before the verb.
 - (b) Before the complement in intensive BE clauses.
- 3) Final or end position :
 - a) After the intransitive verb.
 - b) After an object or complement.

For the adjunct, end position (after the verb or complement/object if any) is the most frequent, but initial position is also quite commonly assumed especially with phrases of time :

I saw him on Friday. - On Friday, I saw him.

I was born in 1936. - In 1936, I was born.

Initial position (before the subject) is unusual, however, for phrases having a close connection with the verb : phrase of destination following a verb form of motion :

Into the room he strode.

Such unusual orderings, where they occur, are to be treated as instance of 'marked them' and may be recognized as such by the fact that a comma

5. Randolph Quirk cs, Op-cit, 334-5, 426.

cannot be inserted between the prepositional phrase and the subject :

Into the room, he strode.

With disjuncts and conjuncts, the priority is the opposite direction; the more common position is before the subject, though both are acceptable :

In my opinion, the wrong decision was made.
The wrong decision was made, in my opinion.

For adverbial prepositional phrases in general, the medial or parenthetical position is the least usual, it is likely to be used only with short phrases, or where factors such as focus and complexity of the sentence make the other positions undesirable or impossible :

She could, of course, have phoned from the office.

They arrive at a village from which the inhabitants, for fear of the enemy reprisal, had fled in panic.

The most acceptable medial positions are after the subject; after the operator; between the verb and the complement or object; between indirect and direct object; between object and object complement :

His sister at the time was studying medicine.

His sister was at the time studying medicine.

His sister became, in time, a qualified doctor.

She found the work, on the whole, satisfying and enjoyable.

To these we may add the position between conjunction and subject in coordinate or subordinate clauses, since although they precede the subject, adverbials in this position have the character of a parenthesis, and may be treated as medial :

The airliner was preparing to land when, to everyone's horror, a man with a gun rushed to the front of the plane, waving his arms and shouting.

CHAPTER VII
LEARNING AND TEACHING ASPECT OF PREPOSITIONS

1. Problems of learning and teaching prepositions.

As it has been stated in the introduction, prepositions are the most difficult items to be learned in English grammar by the non-native learners of English as a foreign or second language including the Indonesian learners of English. Therefore, in this chapter we would talk about problems of learning and teaching prepositions.

A. R.M. Zughoul¹). He says that one of the main problems of learning and teaching prepositions is numerous meanings of prepositions. He continues:

'One obvious source of difficulty is the number of meaning each preposition carries. As Fries (1940) discovered an average of thirty-six and half meanings recorded and illustrated in the Oxford English Dictionary for each of nine most frequent prepositions (at, by, for, from, in, on, of, to, with). The number of meanings ranges from fifteen (for preposition from) to sixty-three for of as shown in the following table :

prepositions	senses in Oxford English Dictionary
at	39
by	39
for	31
from	15
in	40
of	63
on	29
to	33
with	40

Perhaps as Fries points out, these meanings are not inherent in the prepositions themselves but lie in the context in which they

¹. A.M.R. Zughoul, Teaching English Prepositions (1979), 24.

are used. This only adds to the difficulty, because a change of meaning due to a change of context burdens the students with the necessity of learning still more meanings for the prepositions.

Some meanings are not demonstrable and cannot be learned by association with clearly defined class of words. They might be determined by the words preceding prepositions, but they remain abstract and chaotic. You look at the evidence, listen to it, and believe in it, as Kleidler points out.

He comments : 'Anybody who has taught advanced foreign learners of English is aware that these abstract, chaotic functions of prepositions remain a stumbling block long after mastery of essentials has been achieved (Kreidler 1960, 120).'

B. Kreidler also says 2) :

'Sometimes the difference in meaning is so subtle that it becomes difficult for the student to distinguish among the shades of meaning indicated by different prepositions in different context. An example of this is the difference between concerned about which means to be worried about something and concerned with which means to be engaged in doing something. In other cases changing the preposition may not change the meaning, as, for example in complain about and complain of (Kreidler 1966, 120).'

He also adds 3) :

'Yet another difficulty is caused by the different prepositions required by the different parts of speech of the same root word. We use one preposition with the verb form, another with the adjective, and still another one for the noun form of the word. For example we are fond of something, but we

²•Kreidler (1966, 120) in Zughoul, Op-cit, 25.

³•Kreidler (1966, 121), Op-cit.

have fondness for it. We sympathize with someone, we have sympathy for him and we feel sympathetic to him (Kreidler, 1966, 121)'.

C. Takahashi 4) says that :

'Much of the difficulty in teaching and learning prepositions is due to the fact that 'English speakers, even those who teach, are unable to offer a logical explanation for the occurrence for such prepositions or a conceptual guide of their usages'. As long as definitions and examples of usage are lacking or inadequately represented in school texts, reference books, and dictionaries, learning of prepositions will continue to depend mainly on memorization and familiarization. Although some people suggest that prepositions should be learned by analogy and inference, Takahashi concludes that these ways are accidental at best and that the most acceptable method is simply learning by rote. (Takahashi, 1969, 218).

Zughoul 5) also says that besides the sources of difficulty mentioned above, problems also emerge because of the method of teaching and the interference of the mother tongue. He gives an illustration that in the Middle East, in spite of the attempts to introduce the aural-oral method, the grammar translation method is still largely used. This method tends to make the students constantly translate in their minds the equivalent English prepositions in their mother tongue, which in some cases they find exact correspondence between English and their mother tongue, but in other cases there is no correspondence between them. This leads to the tendency of using wrong prepositions in English.

Related to this is the problem of interference of the native language and he reaches the con-

4. Takahashi (1969, 218), in Zoghoul, Op-cit, 25.

5. Zughoul, Op-cit, 25-6.

clusion that :

- 1) In some cases the English preposition corresponds exactly to its Arabic equivalent.
- 2) Sometimes in expressing an idea in Arabic we do not need to use a preposition (or any other word) to replace the English preposition. Because for instance something takes place on a certain day in English but it simply takes place that day in Arabic.
- 3) Usually students try to memorize one main equivalent for each English preposition. While such one-for-one translation may give the proper English word in a number of cases, there are many instances in which it does not work.
- 4) The English preposition is not always expressed in Arabic by a preposition, its equivalent may be a different part of speech.

In this case his discoveries agree with Lado 6) who says that :

'If the unit or pattern is not the same and will not function as the same in the language without structural retraining, there will be interference with the new language both because new forms have to be learned as facilities and because the field that elicits the new facility is similar to that which elicited the old, thus activating the native language facility and distorting the new one'.

- D. Lucy Handayani 7) says that for the Indonesian learners of English there are two major problems. In the first place in the problem of understanding the numerous meanings of the prepositions, and in the second is the problem of selecting between several prepositions of semantically related meanings. She illustrates, for instance, the preposition on has several meanings in Bahasa Indonesia (BI) :

6. Robert Lado, Language Teaching, a scientific approach (1964), 40.

7. Lucy Handayani, Op-cit, 42-6.

- 1) D atas. She is sitting on a chair.
- 2) Sedang ber ... He is on duty.
- 3) Sedang ter/di ... The house in on fire.
- 4) Segera setelah. On the arrival of him the problem is solved.
- 5) Pada (hari). He will come on Monday.
- 6) Tentang, mengenai. Have you a book on economics ?

Etc.

And of semantically related prepositions, for instance, prepositions on, over and above which have their equivalent in BI di atas :

The book is on the table.

The picture is above the mantelpiece.

The lamp hung over the table.

In the other words, it can be said that the Indonesian learners of English face the same problem with their Arabic counterparts that is the problem of interference of the mother tongue.

In conclusion of this section we may find that there are two kinds of problems in learning and teaching prepositions that are the problem inside the prepositions themselves and the problem outside the prepositions. The problem inside the prepositions themselves includes the fact the prepositions carry numerous meanings and it is difficult to memorize all and we much depend on context to understand them. And the problem of selecting between alternative prepositions of semantically related meanings. While the problem outside the prepositions includes the problem of teaching method such as the using of the grammar-translation method and the lack of guide in addition to the interference of the mother tongue.

2. Approaches and technique of teaching prepositions.

In the previous part we have talked about problems of learning and teaching prepositions. In this section we will further discuss about approaches and techniques of teaching prepositions.

A. Kreidler's 'association' approach 1).

¹ Kreidler, in Zoughoul (1977), 26.

Kreidler suggest that 1) meaning is not a reliable guide in the choice of prepositions because it is manifold, vague and confusing, and 2) acquiring skill in the correct use of these words depends more on forming an association between a preposition and the type of word or phrase that precedes or follows it. He sorted out 200 verbs into twenty-four patterns according to the prepositions that follow them. For example :

- somebody about something/advice /ask/
caution/consult/
- with somebody about something/disagree/
argue/confer/consult/communicate/debate/
differ/discourse/dispute.
- with somebody for something/bergain/
complete/intercede/plead/(Kreidler,
1966, 121-2).

The same method is proposed in The Key to English : Prepositions, which states that English prepositions seem to be chosen 'only secondarily according to their inherent meanings, and the learner must memorize a great many idioms.'

B. Hornby's 'unit' method 2).

One of the earlier proponents of learning English prepositions by association was Hornby (1966), who suggests that the students learn the combinations of different prepositions with various nouns, verbs, and participles. He described and presents exhaustive list of patterns in which prepositions occur, and remarks that when a verb is closely linked with a preposition, the verb and preposition must be learned as a unit, as in his patterns 24 :

"You can rely upon that man/his discretion/
his being discrete"

Hornby concludes that choosing that right preposition will be simple when the learner has become familiar with the various combinations of nouns, verbs, and prepositions through hearing and seeing them repeatedly in various contexts.

². Hornby, in Zughoul (1979), 26.

C. Langendoen's role subdivisions 3) :

Langendoen points out in his Essentials of English Grammar that the choice of a preposition depends mainly on the nominal expression following it; he correlates English prepositions with the 'roles' played by the nominals that follow them. The preposition with, for example, very often introduces the instrument, from typically introduces the source. Accordingly, Langendoen assumes that (1) every role in the deep structure of the English sentence is accompanied by a preposition of its own and (2) this preposition might be deleted in certain cases. But there remains the problem of the same role being introduced by a variety of prepositions and the same preposition introducing different roles. To solve this problem, that those roles be subdivided. He points out, for example, that the role location can be subdivided into three classes; location in, location at, and location by. In the same way the role movement may be divided into movement from, movement around and movement through. The choice of particular location or movement depends on the nominal expression following the preposition:

- 1) I live in Coshohocken, Pennsylvania.
- 2) I live on the east side of the town.
- 3) I live at 77 Massachusetts Avenue.

In these three sentences in, on, and at have nothing to do with the verb live, but rather with what the following nominal expression designates. According to Langendoen, we choose location in in the first sentence because one lives in cities, towns or countries, on in the second sentence because one lives on a particular street or section, at in the third sentence because one lives at a particular address (Langendoen, 1970, 87).

Langendoen implies that learning these prepositions depends on understanding the roles with their subdivisions and associating the role with a particular preposition.

3. Langendoen, in Zughoul, Op-cit, 26-7.

D. Close's 'relationship' approach 4) :

Close in his book Prepositions, suggests a different approach. He says that prepositions should first be taught as representing the relationship in space, that they should be seen and felt as precise expressions of position or movement in a certain direction. This should be accomplished through illustrations that the student can observe or make himself or through actions that he can perform or watch. Next he says, they should be studied as expressions of relationships of a more abstract kind. In this way, he concludes, they will be found to have a clear meaning and to fit into some kind of system. Close suggests that for abstract relations, the student should learn which prepositions are usually associated with what verbs, nouns, and adjectives : 'He must therefore take note of how prepositions are used in context and must imitate the same kind of usage himself.' (Close, 1967, 3-15).

E. Pittman's 'demonstrable' uses 5) :

Like Close, Pittman suggests that the teacher start demonstrable uses of prepositions. The teacher should provide classroom situations in which prepositions and prepositional phrases can be used and practiced in visual contexts. As examples Pittman lists the demonstrable uses of at under several categories :

1. At (a point in space) :

He is at the door.

He is at the window.

He is at the table.

He is at the desk.

He is at the entrance.

2. At (the part of the body) :

It is at your feet.

He is at your side.

He is at your heels.

3. At (a point in time) :

4. Close, in Zughoul, op-cit, 27.

5. Pittman, in Zughoul, op-cit, 27-8.

He arrived at 5.30.

He came at once.

4. At (a position) :

They are at the front of the queue.

They are at the rear of the queue.

They are at the extremes of the queue

5. At (a line) :

He is at the wall.

They are at the fence.

They are at the seaside.

6. At (an angle) :

It is at an angle.

It was at an angle of 90.

It is at an angle of 180.

The teacher then moves from the demonstrable to the abstract, providing one semantic variety at a time. The following examples are taken from the uses of in following the principle of one semantic variety at a time :

1. Say it in English.

French

German

Spanish

Japanese

2. They are in a crowd.

a group

a cluster

a gathering

the multitude.

3. I would do it in my spare time.

my leisure time

working hours

the holidays

4. We walked in the fields in the hail

meadows

heat

park

rain

woods

sleet

forest

snow

It is possible says Pittmans, to relate the abstract nondemonstrable uses to one of the simpler demonstrable uses. For example, the

teacher can lead his students from the demonstrable on meaning 'attached to' as in on a string/rope/thread, etc., to on a stalk, etc. from there to on a list, etc and finally on the staff, etc.

Pittman implies that the teacher should emphasize and develop links between the physical and abstract uses. Success here depends on the intelligence of the student and on their mother tongue. Chalkboard sketches such as the following example, where the arrow or movement illustrates abstract destination may be helpful (Pittman, 1966, ix-x).

They sank into disuse.

desuetude

obscurity.

- F. Zughoul 6) also says that most of the above approaches and still many recent language teaching methods, there is a stress on teaching isolated structures, even when these structures have been 'situationalized'. Such approaches are far from providing practice in real communication; prepositions are taught not because the student needs a certain one in order to communicate his thought, but because a group of them happen in a particular taxonomic description. For example, above, and over, on and on top of, near and by, under and below are frequently introduced together. This causes confusion and results in the student's inability to use them correctly in tests of grammatical accuracy. If, however, the communication were made a primary goal of language teaching, one item from each pair would suffice until an advanced stage of learning, at which it would be desirable to introduce refinements. Therefore he suggests that the English teacher (1) begin with situations that are as real and relevant to the student as possible and (2) see which prepositions and adverbs the student needs in order to communicate affectively, that is to make himself understood correctly. Such classroom phrases that the

6. Zughoul, op-cit, 28-9.

teacher should conduct are :

Stand up.

wait outside.

Sit down.

Come in.

Go to the blackboard.

Turn to lesson six.

Open your book at page thirty.

Sit at the back of the room.

Sit beside Samir.

Sit in front of Samir.

Sit behind Samir.

There will be test on Monday.

Go with Ali to the Director.

Today, we are going to talk about the exam.

Where are you from ?

I'll see you at lunch.

I'll see you before lunch.

I'll see you after lunch.

Where is the cover of your book ?

Write in pencil.

Write in ink.

Put your books away.

Put your books in your desk.

Put your books on your desk.

Put your books under your seats.

Put on your coats.

Take off your coats.

Turn on the lights.

Turn off the lights.

Go (in) to the library and bring the dictionary.

Give it to Ali.

Write it for Ali.

Sharpen it with a blade.

It was taken by Samir.

And he suggests the following principles :

1. Certain descriptively accurate distinction made by linguistics may not have any place in pedagogical grammar. Thus the adverb and preposition, respectively, in Sit down and He ran down the stairs can be taught together with no mention of their labels.

2. The student is likely to make mistakes in the use of prepositions, but since communication is the chief goal of language teaching I would advocate a greater tolerance of errors as long as they do not impede understanding. Instead of correcting all the student's errors, thereby putting him on the defensive and making him reluctant to talk, the teacher should simply use the correct model while commenting, without interrupting communication.
 3. The influence of the native language need not be all negative. The teacher should make use of similarities between the two languages and give direct translation where they are appropriate and not likely to lead to overgeneralizations. In the classroom instructions listed above the teacher can translate the prepositions.
- G. Thomas Buckingham 7) suggests some techniques of teaching prepositions. These techniques are based on some assumptions, that sometimes the students of English as a second or foreign language omit the preposition altogether; at other times they use the wrong preposition. The first kind of error arises because some languages do not use these special words to signal relationships between events or observations. The second kind of error often follows from the habit of translating prepositions from the first language.

Naturally, the different kinds of prepositional problems require different approaches. And here are some ways to help the students who tend to omit the preposition. Our past experience determines how we listen to language. When a student learns English as a new language, he listens to it at first in the same way he listens to his own language. If he has no reason to expect to hear prepositions in the language he is accustomed to, he has little reason to look for them in the

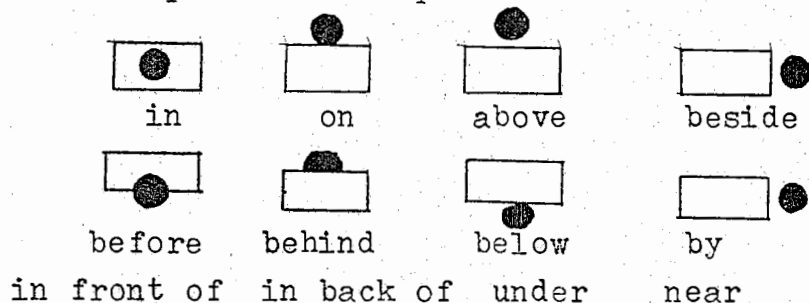
7. Buckingham (1975) 111-113.

new one. His perceptual mechanism therefore goes happily on its way 'not hearing' the many prepositions in ordinary English speech. They are, so to speak, filtered out. In other words, some learners never hear English prepositions because their listening habits do not include hearing them. What the teacher needs to do is show the students what to listen for, here is some ways to do this :

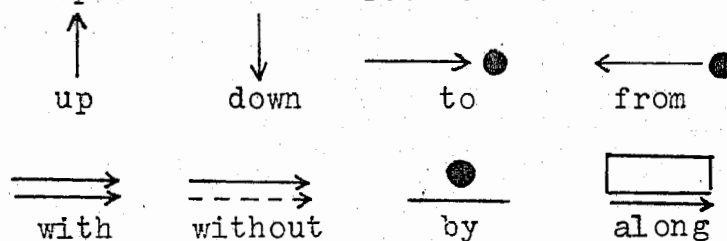
1. Develop in the students a 'set' to hear prepositions.
2. Give the students dictation passages to study that contain a limited number of prepositions.
3. Lead your students to expect prepositions to occur with their noun objects.
4. Play a game.
5. Use the 'close' technique to provide students with an opportunity to enter creatively into the learning process.

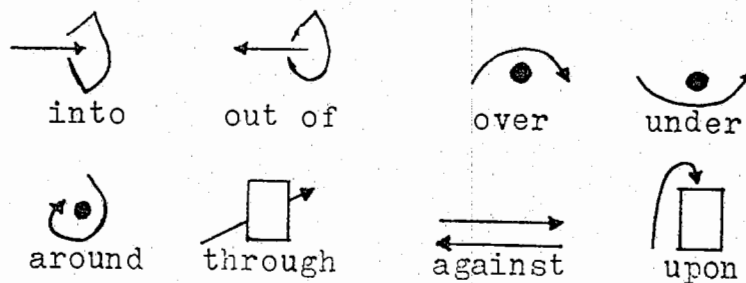
The second problem originates from the fact that students often have only a vague understanding of the meaning of prepositions. These troublesome words seem abstract and elusive. Even definition of prepositions often require the use of other prepositions. So visual devices may help students to remember these relationship more easily. Here are some examples :

Prepositions of position :



Prepositions of directions :





H. Robert Lado 8) incorporates the teaching of prepositions into the teaching of vocabulary. He says that there are three levels in teaching vocabulary that are :

1. The vocabulary to operate the pattern and illustrate the pronunciation of the language.
2. The vocabulary for communication in area of wide currency.
3. The esthetic and technical vocabularies.

The teaching of prepositions is included in the first level that is the vocabulary to operate the patterns and illustrate the pronunciation of the language.

He also says that the teaching of vocabulary should agree with the following principles :

1. Recognizing degrees of difficulties.
 - 1) Easy words which resemble those of the first language in form, meaning, and distribution.
 - 2) Words of normal difficulty which have a form that does not resemble that of the first language.
 - 3) Special problems, which are particularly difficult to master.
2. Hearing the word.
3. Pronouncing the word.
4. Grasping the meaning; this is done by :
 - 1) Self defining context, the context make the situation clear, and this in turn illustrates the meaning of the word.
 - 2) Definitions, definitions in the target language may be used effectively if they are expressed in terms that are better

⁸ Robert Lado, op-cit, 117-129.

known or more easily guessed than the word that is defined.

- 3) Opposites, when one member of a pair of opposites is known, the meaning of the other can be made clear through it.
 - 4) Pictures, Pictures of many kinds have been successfully used to show the meaning of word and utterances. They are particularly effective to cue the meaning-stimulus in the practice exercises. They are primarily used for teaching prepositions.
 - 5) Dramatization.
 - 6) Synonyms, a synonym may be used to approximate the meaning if the synonym is better known than the word being taught.
 - 7) Realia.
 - 8) Series, scales and system.
 - 9) Parts of words.
5. Practice from meaning to expression.
 6. Reading the word.

After observing all the approaches of teaching prepositions mentioned above the writer agrees with Zughoul, who says that the primary goal of language teaching is communication, so prepositions should not be taught as isolated structures, but they are taught because the student needs them in order to communicate. And it is possible the student makes mistakes in the use of prepositions, but since the primary goal of language teaching is communication, they can be tolerated as long as they do not hinder communication, the teacher should simply use the correct model while commenting, without interrupting communication. And that the using of the mother tongue in language teaching is not all negative. The teacher may use the student's mother tongue to clarify his teaching, for instance in making use of similarities between the two languages and give direct translations when they are appropriate and not likely to lead to overgeneralizations. But the writer disagrees with him in that he refuses all the approaches of teaching prepositions as isolated structure and that the adverb, preposition and

verb + particle are taught without mentioning their labels. Teaching prepositions as isolated structures are not all negative, they may be helpful if they are used to clarify their characteristics in the appropriate way. And the teaching of the adverb, preposition, and verb + particle at once may lead to confusion since although they have the same form, they possess different syntactic status and different relationship with the words they refer. Or in other words they are different parts of speech. So the writer would suggest the following principles of teaching prepositions :

1. The primary goal of language teaching is communication, so the preposition should be taught as a means for communication.
2. Teaching prepositions as isolated structures is not all negative, they may be used to clarify the complex characteristics of prepositions to facilitate communication.
3. It is better to teach prepositions separately from adverbs and verbs + particles to prevent confusion.
4. Mistakes are normal in language learning so they can be tolerable as long as they do not impede communication. The teacher may use the correct model while commenting without interrupting communication.
5. The influence of the mother tongue need not be all negative. The teacher should make use of similarities between the two languages and give direct translations where they are appropriate and not likely to lead to overgeneralizations.
6. Provide many contexts to clarify the numerous meaning of prepositions.
7. Clarify the shades of meaning of semantically related prepositions.
8. Establish mechanism in the student by practicing from meaning to expression.
9. Use the techniques of teaching prepositions such as definitions, pictures, synonyms, opposites, dramatization, 'close' technique games etc.

3. Some additional suggestions.

Peter Strevens¹⁾ says that language learning and teaching is a process, meaning a series of events in which something is changed, and in which a particular condition at the start of the activity is gradually replaced by a sequence of other conditions tending more and more towards the desired final state. This process has the following elements :

- 1) Policy and Aims.
- 2) Administration and Organization.
- 3) Relevant Professional Disciplines.
- 4) Choice of Language Learning/Language Teaching Types.
- 5) Teachers training.
- 6) Approach.
- 7) Pedagogy, Methodology, Instruction, Teaching
- 8) Syllabus Design.
- 9) Materials Construction.
- 10) Constrains on Language Learning/Language Teaching Achievement.
- 11) The Learner.
- 12) Evaluation.

In relation to teaching prepositions the writer thinks that it is not necessary here to talk about all of them in details respectively. In the writer's opinion only two elements are relevant to discuss from the teaching prepositions point of view, i.e.: 4. Choice of Language Learning/Language Teaching Types and 9. Materials construction. The other elements are not directly involved in techniques of teaching prepositions, so they would not be talked here.

Choice of Language Learning/Language Teaching Types has the following factors :

- 1) Pupil Age (young child, adolescent, adult).
- 2) Stage of proficiency (beginner, intermediate, advanced).
- 3) Educational aims (general education, prac-

¹⁾ Peter Strevens, New Orientations in the Teaching of English (1977), 14-21, 27.

- tical command, special and vocational purposes).
- 4) Learning involvement (volunteer, non-volunteer).
 - 5) Language of instruction status (mother tongue target language, other foreign language).
 - 6) Target language status ('foreign' language, 'second' language).

While the Materials instruction should possess the following characteristics :

- 1) Realistic : capable of being used by the teachers and learners; capable of being learned from; cheap enough to be available, actually in hand, not empty entries in an official list which never reaches the learners.
- 2) Relevant to the particular point in the learner's progress; to his aims and age-group.
- 3) Interesting : varied, on topics of interest to the learner, intellectually satisfying.
- 4) Encouraging : having the quality of making the learner feel he is making progress, or at least enjoying his learning.
- 5) Compatible with the approach being followed, with the teacher attitudes.

The suggestions of teaching prepositions the writer wants to propose here are addressed to the students of English Department of IKIPs or of Universities in Indonesia. In particular, those of semesters I and II, who just have finished their study at SMAs or other SLTAs. This group of students according to the factors of Choice of Language Learning/Language Teaching Types mentioned above are categorized as adult learners with the following characteristics (Strevens, op-cit, 18) :

- 1) Their enthusiasm is tempored by their reasons for learning.
- 2) They can make a conscious effort to put up with fatigue and boredom for the sake of an

ultimate goal.

- 3) They may imitate sounds less well.
- 4) They are inhibited from making errors in the presence of their peers.
- 5) They have learned 'how to learn' and can employ techniques such as guessing and analogy more freely than the young child.
- 6) They tend to intellectualize their learning.
- 7) They are often hide-bound by the method according to which they were themselves taught when at the high school.
- 8) They are a repository of myths and old wives 'tales about foreign languages and the learning of them'.
- 9) They have deep-seated but often erroneous beliefs about their own inability or ability to learn the foreign language.
- 10) At their best, they learn fast and accurately but at their worst they can totally fail to make the progress.

This group of students are also grouped as advanced learners, since the type of learning here is largely learner-centered meaning that the teacher's task is to supply the learners with great quantities of reading and listening experience, to monitor his practice in speaking and writing, to plug gaps in his learning, to lead him towards the stage in which the learner, as is often expressed, 'comes to think in the foreign language' - to depend less and less on the mediation of his mother tongue.

The educational aims for this group of students is as part of a general education, meaning that the English language has been an element in a cultural experience on the humanistic side, and it gives to the teaching a particular 'colouring' and that the language learning experiences; woven in with mental and emotional development.

The learner involvement of this group of students is that they are volunteers, who choose to learn English as the target language. So they

have higher expectation for themselves, put up better with fatigue, resist boredom, need less cajoling and fewer of the interest-arousing techniques of the teacher and usually learn at the rate closer to their personal maximum learning - rate than do the non-volunteers.

The language of instruction here is English as well as being studied as the target language. Here they have no easy refuge for their language learning attention to flee to, and there is reason to believe that this circumstances can be manipulated so as to bring about proportionately more effective learning than the mother tongue situation.

The target language status here is English as a 'foreign' language meaning that English is on a par with other language that are taught, or English does not have special status in the Indonesian society, or as an official language in court, a medium of instruction in some sectors of public education, as a lingua franca.

Based on these conditions the writer wants to suggest that teaching prepositions for this group of students, is that it is better to teach:

1. The form of prepositions.
2. The function of prepositions.
3. The meaning of prepositions.
4. The position of prepositions.

as presented in this thesis with some of following techniques :

1. Using pictures.
2. Using demonstration.
3. Using definitions.
4. Using translation.
5. Using comparison and contrast.
6. Using synonyms.
7. Using opposites.



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