

Study Notes on Prepositions



Today, we are providing you all with "**Important Rules on Preposition and their Usage**". It is very important to understand the "**Usage of Prepositions**" in English Grammar. These notes are helpful for all the upcoming BBA exams viz. **DU JAT, IPMAT, JIPMAT, etc** exams.

- It is strictly **between** you & me.
- He is going **to** college now.

A **preposition** describes a relationship between other words in a sentence and is usually followed by a determiner and/or an adjective, followed by a pronoun or noun. They tell us about the event, taking place in time and place, or tell us when or where or under what circumstances something has happened.

Like in the first sentence "**between**" is a preposition telling us the relationship of "you" & "me". While in the second sentence it is "**to**" tell us the place of the event.

Note: we use the preposition at the end of the sentence.

For Example:

To whom are you living? (Put with after living)

About what are you talking? (Put about after talking)

But in this also there are some exceptions like in passive voice we say "**By** whom was it done?"

Some Confusing Prepositions

- **AT, ON & IN** (When they are referring to a place)

At is used when we see something as a point in space.

For Example:

- The car was waiting at the lights.
- There's someone at the door.

On is used to refer to a surface.

For Example:

- The book is kept on the table.
- There were lots of pictures on the walls.

In is used when we see something as all around.

For Example:

- It was cold in the room.
- I have a 10 rupees note in my pocket.

In general, we use it for a bigger place like a country or town and at for a smaller place.

For Example:

- I arrived at London in England.
- I live at Madhusala in Patna.



AT, ON & IN (When they are referring to time)

1. We use **at** with a particular time such as clock time or mealtime.

For Example:

- *at half-past five,*
- *at breakfast (time),*
- *at that time,*
- *at the moment*

We also use **at** with periods of two or three days.

For Example:

- *at Christmas,*
- *at Holi,*
- *at the weekend*

2. We use it **on** a single day.

For Example:

- *on Tuesday,*
- *on 7th August,*
- *on that day,*
- *on Easter Sunday*

3. We use **in** with longer periods.

For Example:

- *in the next few days*
- *in the summer holidays*
- *in spring*
- *in July*
- *in 1992*
- *in the 19th century*

We also use **it** with a part of the day.

For Example:

- *in the afternoon,*
- *in the morning*

Some very Important Points to remember:

- There is some variation like, On Friday Evening, On Tuesday night.
- There is one exception that is we use before night like “I will meet you at night.”
- We do not normally use at, on, or in phrases of time with last, this, next, every, later, yesterday, and tomorrow. Like it is wrong to say, “I received your letter last Friday”. (Remove on)

BETWEEN & AMONG



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Between is used to refer to a small number of items that are separate from each other.

For Example:

- This match is **between** him and me.
- This tri-series is **between** India, Australia & South Africa.

Among refers to a larger group.

For Example:

- I saw him **among** the crowd.
- Toffees were distributed **among** the students.

Note: 1. Between is followed by the objective case of pronoun.

For Example, this match is **between** him and me.

2. Each/Everyone cannot be used after between.

For Example: Between Each Boy (It is wrong)

There are 10 millimetres between each centimetre. (**Remove Each**)

TO & TOWARDS

We used **to** for a destination and **towards** for a direction.

For Example:

We're going **to** Delhi. My grandpa lives there.

We're going **towards** Delhi now.

DURING & OVER

We use **during** with an event (e.g. the festival) or a period which is a definite time (e.g. that week). It means the whole period.

For Example:

- Nobody was working **during** the festival.
- The letter arrived **during** the festival.

But we cannot use during + length of time.

For Example: The festival went on **during** a week. (Replace during with for)

We can also use over for a whole period of time.

For Example:

Over a period of two months, there was a sudden rise in theft in this area.

FOR & SINCE

We use **for** + **length** of time and **since** + **time**.

For Example:



- *for two years*
- *for a week*
- *for two days*
- *for a few minutes*
- *since 1990*
- *since last week*
- *since Monday*
- *since half past two*

For Example:

- I just want to sit down **for** five minutes.
- I will stay at your place **for** a week.
- It has been raining **since** last Monday.
- I haven't seen you **since** September.

We do not normally use "**for**" before a phrase with all or whole.

It rained **for** the whole day. (Remove For)

Till/until

We use till/until to say when something finishes. Till is not the contracted form of until. They are usually interchangeable.

For Example:

The government will not pass any bill **till/until** the next session.

I will be working in Germany **till/until** next April.

