

ENGLISH

69/2018

MATTERS

AT

» BY «

..FOR..

FROM

IN

MASTER OF PREPOSITIONS

THE

OF

TO

WITH

DODATEK

ENGLISH MATTERS

Language Guide poradnik językowy

Dear Readers,

Small, innocuous-looking words like prepositions may seem insignificant on the page, but these noun-governing words can make the world of difference to meaning. It's important then, to use them properly, so that the proper relation between words is given. Luckily **for** you, information **about** them is given **in** this guide.

innocuous *ɪˈnɒkjʊəs* | nieszkodliwy
preposition | przyimek
to seem | wydawać się

Poradnik językowy jest bezpłatnym dodatkiem do English Matters nr 69/2018.

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Translations and Explanations

Unfortunately, prepositions don't always translate into Polish in the same way; they often depend on context or convention, for example, in English we say, "on the table" and "on Friday" using the preposition "on" in both cases. However, the translations use different Polish prepositions; they are, "na stole" and "w piątek". Similarly, in Polish we say "w kraju" but "na wyspie" whereas in English, both of these are "in". It doesn't end there though, if you check the translation of "in" you'll find more results than *w* and *na*; you could also find *we*, *ze*, *z*, *za*, *po*, *do*, *w ciągu*. For this reason, this *English Matters* guide gives explanations in English with examples and context, rather than just simple translations. There are many rules and patterns, but as with most aspects of language, the best way to achieve success is through practise. Good luck!

Prepositions of Time

Prepositions of time are usually dictated by rules in English. There are a few exceptions, but generally once the rules have been learnt, it's possible to use these prepositions without too many difficulties.

at to give very specific times, such as when reading a clock or talking about a holiday period

in to describe a time within a longer time frame, such as the morning, months, seasons, years, centuries, eras. We can also use "in" to say something will start after that amount of time.

on to talk about a specific day or date such as Monday, Christmas day, this day, December the 25th, 19/07/85 (note: **not** yesterday, today or tomorrow)



unfortunately | niestety
whereas | podczas gdy
though | jednak/że
to achieve sth | osiągnąć coś

good luck | powodzenia
a few | kilka
within sth | w ciągu czegoś
amount | ilość

Word	Use	Example	Exception (not used for)	Also used for
at	Specific times	Ten a.m., half past five, <u>Easter</u> , noon, midnight, Christmas	morning, afternoon, evening	night, the weekend, the start (of), the end (of)
in	Longer time frames	December, <u>the middle of</u> , a week, the week, a minute, two hours, summer, the '60s, 2017, the 18 th century	days, night, the weekend,	a while, a moment,
on	Specific days and dates	Monday, my birthday, the first day of Christmas, 19/07/2018, <u>April Fools' Day</u>	today, tomorrow, yesterday, Holidays without the word "day" e.g. Halloween	"on time", <u>on schedule</u> ,

When two time markers from the table above are used, such as "Monday afternoon," always use the preposition connected to the first word (on Monday afternoon).

As well as the exceptions, there are a few examples to be aware of. The first is the difference between "on time" and "in time."

on time at the correct, or previously declared, time. For example, the train wasn't late; it arrived on time. I hope to finish my assignment on time (before the deadline)

Easter | Wielkanoc

the middle of sth | środek czegoś

April Fools' Day | prima aprilis

on schedule | zgodnie z planem, harmonogramem

connected to sth | połączony z czymś, odnoszący się do czegoś

to be aware of sth | być czegoś świadomym

assignment | zadanie

in time with enough time to spare, with time left over. For example, I hope to go to my mum's house in time for dinner tonight! If not, I'll have to get a takeaway. I'd like to go to the football World Cup next year, but I'm not sure I'll be able to save enough money in time.

In a week vs. in the week

As we can use “in” as a preposition of time in two ways, we can sometimes get two different meanings from two very similar phrases. “In the week” dictates that something will happen within a longer time period, just like “in summer.” However, “in a week” uses the preposition to mean “after this time.” Consider these examples:

I'm going on holiday in a week. = after seven days, I will begin my holiday

I'm going on holiday in the week. = sometime within the next seven days, I will start my holiday

Finally, note that prepositions of time should not be used with “today, tomorrow or yesterday” nor should they be combined with phrases which include another time marker such as “last.” For example, “I went there last year”, not “I went there in last year.” It's incorrect to say, “She will start in next week”, the correct sentence is “She will start next week” or “She will start in a week.”



to spare sth | zaoszczędzić coś

takeaway | danie na wynos

to include sth | obejmować coś

Prepositions of Time Exercises

Choose between *in/on/at/no preposition* to fill the gaps:

1. I went shopping Monday.
2. My appointment is sometime November.
3. Did you go to Crete last summer?
4. He finds it hard to wake up the morning.
5. I hope the bus is time today. I don't want to be late.
6. My daughter was born 07.12.15
7. It's always cold winter.
8. When he was a child, he always got scared night.
9. What are you doing the weekend?
10. Please send us a message tomorrow.
11. Our dad was born the '60s.
12. Did you watch the game yesterday evening?
13. a. "Let's go shopping later today."
- b. "I can't, let's go the weekend instead"
- a. "Ok, shall we go the morning?"
- b. "No, I'm going out Friday night and I might not get up time to meet you so early. Let's meet midday"
- a. "Sounds good. I prefer shopping the afternoon anyway."
- b. "Great, I'll send you a message if I can't make it time"
- a. "Ok! See you"

appointment | spotkanie
instead | w zamian, zamiast

Answers: 0. in, 1. on, 2. in, 3. no preposition, 4. in, 5. on, 6. on, 7. in, 8. at, 9. at, 10. no preposition, 11. in, 12. no preposition, 13. no preposition, at, in, on, in, at, in, on.

Prepositions of Place

As well as indicating when something is, prepositions can also describe where it is.

Prepositions of place are used **before** an object to indicate its position. The main difference between *in*, *on*, and *at* is: *at* talks about a specific place, *on* refers to one other thing/location, *in* defines a place in relation to everything surrounding it.

at used to give a specific point/place in space, for example “the page number is at the bottom of the page.” It is also used for public places, addresses and events, such as “We’ll see you at home” “They met at the cinema” “He lives at 221B Baker Street” “I saw them at last year’s festival” “See you at work.” Also used for “at the end/beginning”

on used to talk about big spaces such as surfaces, roads, rivers, mountains etc. when one thing is placed upon another. For example “The book is on the table” “The boat is sailing on the lake” “There’s a stain on Paul’s shirt” “Put your hand on my shoulder” “The answer is on page nine.” Also used for direction, as in “on the left/right”

in used for larger spaces where the object is contained within the borders. It differs from “on” as it describes being inside the large space. “The milk is in the fridge” “The Thames is in London” “There’s a lot of sugar in this cereal” “my dad is in the garden”

We can use **at** and **in** when talking about buildings, the difference is that **at** describes the general area or the outside of the building,

to indicate sth | wskazywać coś

at the bottom of sth | u dołu/na dole czegoś

surface | powierzchnia

stain | plama

contained | zawarty, umiejscowiony

cereal | płatki

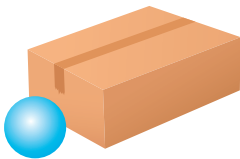
outside | na zewnątrz



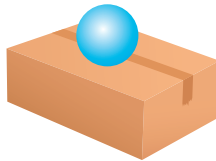
whereas **in** specifically means inside the building. For example, if someone said “Meet me at the shop,” they will wait outside (probably at the door) but if they said “Meet me in the shop,” they will enter the shop alone and wait within.

Further prepositions of place give more specific locations in relation to other things, they’re often used when describing the location of a thing or building.

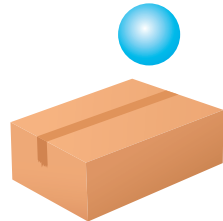
further | dalszy, *tu*: przedstawiony dalej



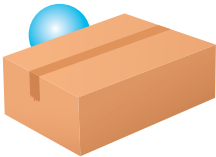
at



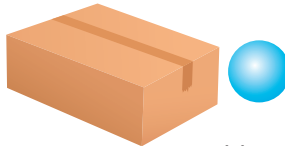
on



over/above



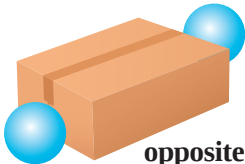
behind



next to



under



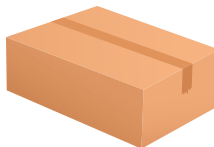
opposite



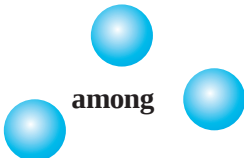
between



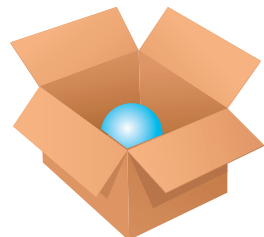
in front of



below



among



in

Exercises

Fill in the gaps in the exercises

1. The children left their homework home.
2. She dreams of sailing a lake.
3. Look up, the aeroplane is you.
4. Oh no! I just spilled ketchup my shirt.
5. They live in a terraced house; number 12 and 16.
6. Apparently there is a time capsule top of Mount Everest.
7. Look at that flock of birds, there's a partridge the pigeons.
8. London Underground is hundreds of meters the surface.
9. There's a photocopier my office, the third floor.
10. It's cold outside, so I'll wait for you the shop where it's warm.
11. There's not much space this table.
12. It's no surprise that there's a dentist the sweet shop! They even share an entrance.
13. The dog thought he was standing another dog, but in fact he was standing a mirror! His reflection distracted him from the cat crouching him, about to scratch his tail!

to spill sth | rozlać coś

terraced house | szeregowiec

apparently | najwidoczniej

flock of sth | stado czegoś

partridge 'pɑ:trɪdʒ | kuropatwa

pigeon 'pɪdʒɪn | gołąb

reflection | odbicie

to distract sb | rozproszyć kogoś

to crouch | skradać się

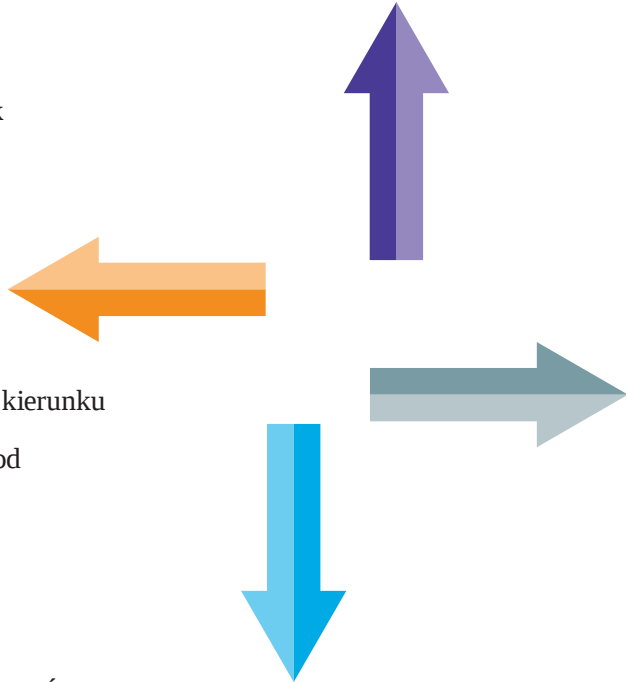
to scratch sth | po/drapać coś

Answers: 1. at, 2. on, 3. above, 4. on, 5. between, 6. on, 7. among, 8. below, 9. in, on, 10. in, 11. on, 12. next to, 13. opposite, in front of, behind.

Prepositions of Movement

Giving and taking directions is one of the most common situations when English is used as a second language. When doing so, prepositions of movement are essential. Using them with prepositions of place and the phrases “turn left/right” or “take the first left/right” will lead to success!

- around – naokoło
- through – przez
- past – (przejsć) obok
- up – do góry
- down – w dół
- over – przez, nad
- under – pod
- toward/towards – w kierunku
- away from – z dala od
- into – do środka
- out of – wyjść z
- onto – na
- off – zejść/spaść z czegoś
- across – przez



Put the Prepositions into the Following Story:

Part 1. in, off, out, up, on, at, on, for, in,

..... the morning, Amanda got up 8:00. She knew she wasn't going to be time work, so she got of bed a bad mood. She stood , took her dressing gown the hook and put her slippers

Part 2. at, across, for, until, into, out, off, on, after, in, in,

She walked of the bedroom, the landing and the bathroom looking herself the mirror, she looked her toothbrush, she remembered it was the cupboard. She took her pyjamas and turned the water for a shower.

Part 3. through, after, down, down, into, out, on, on, on, on, at, in, in, in

..... putting some clothes, putting hair gel her hair, and putting makeup , she walked the stairs, the hall and the kitchen. She took milk of the fridge and turned the kettle Then she put some muesli a bowl, poured milk top, and sat the table the dining room to eat.

Part 4. off, in, in, into, into, on, on, out, out, after, after,

..... breakfast, Amanda went back the kitchen, put her bowl the sink and made a cup of tea. She filled a few forms she needed for work, then put all her things her bag. She turned her phone to check the time, and saw that she was very late

dressing gown | szlafrok

hook | haczyk

slipper | kapeć (wsuwany)

..... grumbling to herself, she quickly grabbed her things and put her shoes
 She took her coat of the wardrobe, turned the
 light and walked the door.

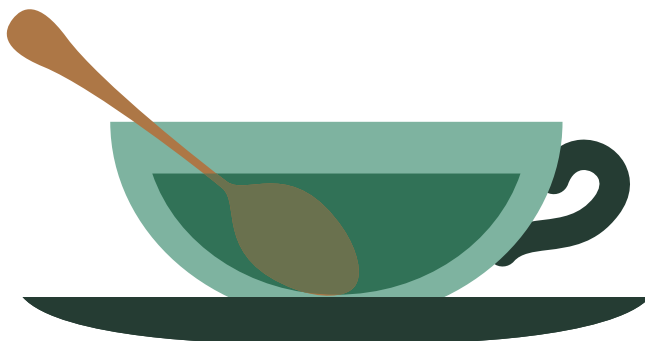
Part 5. while, from, up, up, on, at,

Outside, she met her neighbour as he was picking his newspaper
 the floor. "Good morning Amanda" he said, "you're
 [awake] early today, I thought you didn't go to work Saturdays?"
 Amanda looked her phone again and got a shock. She smiled
 she said to her neighbour, "I thought it was Friday today!"

to grumble to oneself | mamrotać do siebie

to grab sth | chwycić coś

Correct order:
 1. In, at, on, for, out, in, up, off, on
 2. out, across, into, after, at, in, for, until, in, off, on,
 3. after, on, in, on, down, through, into, out, on, in, on, down, at, in
 4. after, into, in, in, into, on, after, on, out, off, out
 5. up, from, up, on, at, while



Other Prepositions

Prepositions do more than just link nouns to locations and times. Here's a list of other common prepositions and explanations of their meaning and usage:

by to tell of the originator of something "That's the new song by Adele" "I never shop there, I heard their products are made by children"

with meaning together or accompanied by "I'm going to the cinema with my friend" "Today's special (dish) is trout with cream sauce"

for to explain the reason something exists or was created, or the usage of something "This is the key for the front door" "I've made dinner for you"

because to answer "why" questions and give explanations "I like Adele because her voice is so powerful" "They went shopping because they didn't have any milk"

except when ruling something out or defining excluded parties "We went on every ride except the roller coaster" "The office is open every day except Sunday"

from to define the start, or give the origin of something "She's the lady from Head Office" "This wine is from Georgia" "We'll be there from 8am until evening"

to to give a direction or meaning "We're going to Spain in the summer" "They're on a training course to learn how to use the new equipment"

off to describe cessation of (finishing) or leaving something "Can you turn the light off when you leave please?" "get off my lawn" "I jumped off the box, onto the floor"

of to define the contains of something, or object of certain verbs "a box of chocolates" "I dream of going to space"

until used to define the end point of a duration of time "I'll keep practising until I have mastered the subject" "Sorry, but I'll be out of the office until Thursday"

trout | pstrąg

excluded | wykluczony, pominięty

except sth | z wyjątkiem czegoś

lawn | trawnik

contains | zawartość

to master sth | bardzo dobrze coś opanować

since with present perfect to define a starting point, and occasionally used in other tenses in the same way as because “I’ve worked here since 2015” “I didn’t know the result since I’d been in a meeting the whole time”

like one of the many uses of like is to say something is similar to another “He’s like a baby; he gets upset so easily” “People say I’m like my mother”

throughout meaning during the entire time or in the entire place “It rained throughout the competition” “I slept throughout the journey” “It’s safe throughout the island”

instead to say that one thing is in place of another, such as a swap “We used honey instead of sugar” “I’m taking the class instead of your normal teacher today”

about to tell what the subject of something is “This guide gives information about prepositions” “I asked what the meeting was about but nobody would tell me”

as used in place of because, or to describe what something is similar to or like “They came dressed as penguins” “I’m not going as it’s too expensive” “She’d be good as the CEO”



to get upset | zdenerwować się

CEO = Chief Executive Officer | dyrektor naczelny, zarządzający

Exercises

1. They came here they wanted to start a new life.
2. What are you waiting ?
3. I'll be there June August.
4. this team leader, we're bound to succeed.
5. Can we have chicken of fish please? I don't like fish.
6. Don't forget to turn the power before you change the wires.
7. The book was written J.K. Rowling.
8. There were subtitles the film so I understood everything.
9. What's that book ? Can you give me a brief synopsis?
10. You'll be fine, it's just riding a bike. You're great at riding a bike.
11. This food is made sugar and food colouring, we shouldn't eat it.
12. I've lived in here 2012 and I'll live here I have to move
13. Please get the sofa, it is for display purposes only.
14. I like all vegetables beans.
15. they'd like to visit a month.
16. Please don't do that the forest, we need trees.
17. He was happy writing that subject because it was interesting.
18. The people are unhappy the government are making bad decisions.
19. I don't want to go, can I stay home ?
20. Please come me to the concert.
21. I've been waiting an answer a month.
22. You'll need this work help pay the bills.

to be bound to | musieć

wire | drut

for display purposes | dla celów
wystawowych

bean | fasola

bill | rachunek

Answers: 1. because, 2. for, 3. from until, 4. with, 5. instead, 6. off, 7. by, 8. through-
out, 9. about, 10. like, 11. of, 12. since until, 13. off, 14. except, 15. for, 16. to,
17. about, 18. because, 19. instead, 20. with, 21. for for, 22. to

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