

TO THE TEACHER

Prepositional Phrases

Prepositional phrases are pretty straightforward - preposition + NOUN BOX
Unfortunately knowing which preposition to use is not.

I'm sure other teachers have come up with ways of teaching prepositions, and I hope they share their ideas with me. Lesson 19 works with a limited number of prepositions. In my class

we play a sort of Simon Says with prepositions of place (Put the _____ behind the chair.)

We also use the **in/on/at triangle** and learn how to say our basic information.
I live in the Village in New York. I live on 15th Street... There's a link above.

For X-Word purposes it's probably as important to know what the jobs of prepositional phrases are.

in the Where? position	<i>They went <to / Boston></i>
in the When? position	<i>Their plane left < at / 7:58 ></i>
in the Why? position	<i>The went to Boston <for / a meeting.></i>
after a noun to give more information about it	<i>A meeting <about / climate change>...</i>

To practice let them look at any text and find examples of each.

Eliminating prepositional phrases

Another thing you can do with prepositional phrases is to learn how to ignore them in order to get to the essence of the sentence and not look up every word.

This sentence may look overwhelming at first

“Comparatively, the highest interest rate for savings accounts currently on offer from banks is 2.36 percent.”

but if you skip the prepositional phrases you can find the subject, verb and object more easily. Plus we know that the main subject is usually right in front of the first preposition.

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