

The background of the slide is white and features several realistic water droplets of various sizes. The droplets are rendered with soft shadows and highlights, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. They are scattered across the page, with a cluster of larger droplets in the bottom right corner and smaller ones in the top left and bottom center.

PREPOSITIONS



OUTLINE

- DEFINITION
- GENERAL RULES AND GUIDELINES
- EXPECTED PREPOSITION USAGE
- RESEARCH PROPOSITION USAGE.

DEFINITION

→ A WORD OR SET OF WORDS THAT INDICATES LOCATION (*IN, NEAR, BESIDE, ON TOP OF*) OR SOME OTHER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A NOUN OR PRONOUN AND OTHER PARTS OF THE SENTENCE (*ABOUT, AFTER, BESIDES, INSTEAD OF, IN ACCORDANCE WITH*). A PREPOSITION ISN'T A PREPOSITION UNLESS IT GOES WITH A RELATED NOUN OR PRONOUN, CALLED THE OBJECT OF THE PREPOSITION.

→ A PREPOSITION IS A WORD THAT EXPLAINS THE TIME, SPACE OR LOGICAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE OTHER PARTS OF THE SENTENCE. IN OTHER WORDS, IT LINKS ALL THE OTHER WORDS TOGETHER, SO THE READER CAN UNDERSTAND HOW THE SENTENCE PIECES FIT.

PREPOSITION RULES

→ **DON'T END A SENTENCE WITH A PREPOSITION.**

THIS IS MORE OF A STYLE CHOICE THAN A HARDENED RULE.

WHEN THE SENTENCE MEANING CHANGES, A PREPOSITION MUST BE USED.

WHERE DID YOU GET THIS AT?

INCORRECT, YOU DON'T NEED AT.

HOW MANY OF YOU MAY I DEPEND ON?

TURN THE TV ON.

CORRECT AS STATED.

PREPOSITION RULES

→ **STARTING A SENTENCE WITH A PREPOSITION.**

THIS IS DONE ALL THE TIME, NO ISSUES.

USUALLY, A COMMA IS USED AFTER A STARTING PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE.

ON MY WAY TO MY GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE, I FOUND. . .

AFTER ANOTHER HOUR OF WORK, I'M FREE AT LAST.

PREPOSITION RULES

→ PREPOSITIONS ACTING AS ADVERBS

THIS IS A GRAY GRAMMAR AREA.

IF YOU WANT TO ARGUE WITH A GRAMMATIST, BRING UP THIS TOPIC.

AT TIMES PREPOSITIONS ACT AS ADVERBS.

GRAMMATISTS STILL CALL THEM PREPOSITIONS IN THIS FORM.

OTHERS DO NOT.

EXAMPLE:

SPEAK UP. UP IS ACTING AS AN ADVERB.

STAY DOWN. DOWN IS ACTING AS AN ADVERB.

PREPOSITION RULES

→ BE CAREFUL OF THE PREPOSITION LIKE

BE LEERY OF NOUN VERB COMBINATIONS

AVOID USING LIKE: YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ANGRY

SUBSTITUTE AS, AS IF, AS THOUGH, THE WAY IF NECESSARY

INFINITIVES AND GERUNDS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS RULE

LIKE NOUN COMBINATIONS GENERALLY WORK

YOU LOOK LIKE A JOURNALIST.

WHEN IN DOUBT SUBSTITUTE SIMILAR OR SIMILARLY TO FOR LIKE

PREPOSITION RULES

→ **AVOID USING OF IN PLACE OF A HELPING VERB**

I SHOULD OF DONE IT (WRONG)

I SHOULD HAVE DONE IT (CORRECT)

MOST PEOPLE DO NOT MAKE THIS MISTAKE.

PREPOSITION RULES

→ DIFFERENT FROM OR DIFFERENT THAN

YOU'RE DIFFERENT THAN I AM.

YOU'RE DIFFERENT FROM ME.

THAN IS MORE POLARIZING THEN FROM.

FROM COMES ACROSS AS BEING MORE NEUTRAL.

BRITISH ENGLISH USES DIFFERENT TO

THIS IS MORE OF A STYLE CHOICE.

PREPOSITION RULES

→ INTO VERSUS IN

INTO SHOULD BE USED WITH MOTION/MOVEMENT.

IN SHOULD BE USED AS A STATIONARY LOCATION

I WALKED INTO A STORM.

I RAN INTO A CAR.

MY KEYS ARE IN A DRAWER INSIDE MY HOME.

MY SOCKS ARE IN A DIFFERENT DRAWER.

PREPOSITION RULES

→ IDIOMS/EXPRESSIONS DEMAND CERTAIN PREPOSITION

WE EXPECT TO USE A CERTAIN PREPOSITION IN SOME CASES

ABLE *TO*

CAPABLE *OF*

PREOCCUPIED *WITH*

CONCERNED *BY*

PROHIBITED *FROM*

PREPOSITION USAGE

→ WHEN IN DOUBT OVER WHICH PREPOSITION TO USE CONSULT THE FOLLOWING REFERENCES

[HTTPS://WWW.STMARYS-
CA.EDU/SITES/DEFAULT/FILES/ATTACHMENTS/FILES/PREPOSITIONCHART.P
DF](https://www.stmarys-ca.edu/sites/default/files/attachments/files/prepositionchart.pdf)

[HTTPS://BOOKS.GOOGLE.COM/NGRAMS/GRAPH?CONTENT= NOUN +
ON+ACCIDENT, NOUN +BY+ACCIDENT&YEAR START=1800&YEAR END=
2000&CORPUS=18&SMOOTHING=3&SHARE=&DIRECT URL=T1%3B%2C
_NOUN %20ON%20ACCIDENT%3B%2CC0%3B.T1%3B%2C NOUN %20
BY%20ACCIDENT%3B%2CC0](https://books.google.com/ngrams/graph?content=NOUN+ON+ACCIDENT,NOUN+BY+ACCIDENT&year_start=1800&year_end=2000&corpus=18&smoothing=3&share=&direct_url=T1%3B%2C_NOUN%20ON%20ACCIDENT%3B%2CC0%3B.T1%3B%2C_NOUN%20BY%20ACCIDENT%3B%2CC0)

PREPOSITION RULES/CHARTS

[HTTPS://WWW.STMARYS-
CA.EDU/SITES/DEFAULT/FILES/ATTACHMENTS/FILES/PREPOSITIONCHART.PDF](https://www.stmarys-ca.edu/sites/default/files/attachments/files/prepositionchart.pdf)

[HTTPS://WWW.GRAMMARBOOK.COM/GRAMMAR/PROBPREP.ASP](https://www.grammarbook.com/grammar/probprep.asp)

[HTTP://GRAMMAR.YOURDICTIONARY.COM/PARTS-OF-SPEECH/PREPOSITIONS/RULES-
FOR-PREPOSITIONS.HTML](http://grammar.yourdictionary.com/parts-of-speech/prepositions/rules-for-prepositions.html)

[HTTPS://BOOKS.GOOGLE.COM/NGRAMS/GRAPH?CONTENT= NOUN +ON+ACCIDENT,
_NOUN +BY+ACCIDENT&YEAR START=1800&YEAR END=2000&CORPUS=18&SMOOTH
ING=3&SHARE=&DIRECT URL=T1%3B%2C NOUN %20ON%20ACCIDENT%3B%2CC0%
3B.T1%3B%2C NOUN %20BY%20ACCIDENT%3B%2CC0](https://books.google.com/ngrams/graph?content=NOUN+ON+ACCIDENT,_NOUN+BY+ACCIDENT&year_start=1800&year_end=2000&corpus=18&smoothing=3&share=&direct_url=T1%3B%2C+NOUN+%20ON%20ACCIDENT%3B%2CC0%3B.T1%3B%2C+NOUN+%20BY%20ACCIDENT%3B%2CC0)

PREPOSITION RULES/CHARTS

[HTTPS://WWW.QUICKANDDIRTYTIPS.COM/EDUCATION/GRAMMAR/PREPOSITIONS](https://www.quickanddirtytips.com/education/grammar/prepositions)

[HTTPS://WWW.QUICKANDDIRTYTIPS.COM/EDUCATION/GRAMMAR/ENDING-A-SENTENCE-WITH-A-PREPOSITION](https://www.quickanddirtytips.com/education/grammar/ending-a-sentence-with-a-preposition)

[HTTPS://WWW.QUICKANDDIRTYTIPS.COM/EDUCATION/GRAMMAR/CAN-YOU-START-SENTENCE-PREPOSITION](https://www.quickanddirtytips.com/education/grammar/can-you-start-sentence-preposition)