

UNIT 12

Prepositions

9 Days

Lesson 1 - Derivation of preposition and the prepositional phrase - 1 Day

Lesson 2 - Identifying prepositional phrases - 1 Day

Lesson 3 - Latin prepositions - 3 Days

Lesson 4 - Latin prepositions as prefixes - 4 Days

Vocab	Terms
	Prepositional phrase
	Object of a preposition
	Ablative Case

Unit 12 - Prepositions

Lesson 1 - Derivation of preposition and the prepositional phrase

Discuss

- Think of English words that have the prefix pre- . What do they have in common?
e.g. *pre-kindergarten = before kindergarten*
- Break down the word preposition.
pre- = before, position = where something is placed
A preposition by definition is something that is placed before another word and so should not end up being the last word in a sentence.
"That is the type of impudence up with which I shall not put." Sir Winston Churchill
- Give a few examples of prepositional phrases, and ask the students to figure out before what kinds of words prepositions are placed.
e.g. *under the moon, with her, before the cold winter*
- Prepositions are put before noun and pronouns. There may be adjectives and articles with the nouns.
- The preposition together with the noun or pronoun is called a prepositional phrase and it gives details about when or where something is with respect to this noun or pronoun.
- Prepositional phrase formula:
preposition + noun
preposition + pronoun
preposition + noun with adjectives
- The function of the noun or pronoun after the preposition is called the object of the preposition. Object forms of pronouns must be used.
e.g. *around them*
- Have the class generate a list of prepositions.

Activity

Have a student use the class prop to illustrate and recite a list of prepositions. The student can hold the frog next to a desk, under it, over it, around it, etc.

Homework

pages 90-91

Terms

prepositional phrase

object of a preposition

Unit 12 - Prepositions

Lesson 2 - Identifying prepositional phrases

I usually choose one or two of the following three activities over one or two days.

Activity

On page 92, have them create preposition songs, as individuals or groups, then have a performance time for songs.

Activity

- Copy a page from a book they are using in another class: their English reading book or science text or a page of a children's story. Give every student a copy.
- They can work in pairs or groups to hunt down all of the prepositional phrases they can find on the page.
- Decide on a method of diagramming prepositional phrases as you did for subjects and direct objects. We draw a circle around the preposition with a line extending under the object of the preposition.
- Or simply pick out all of the phrases together as a class. Were there any with pronouns? Were they in the object form?

Activity

Write the following words on the board:

The farmer chased the chicken...

Have students come up one at a time and add a prepositional phrase. Keep going until you have a ridiculously long sentence. Explain that this is not a run-on.

Homework

page 93

Unit 12 - Prepositions

Lesson 3 - Latin prepositions

Day 1:

Activity

Write the following list of Latin prepositions on the board.
ex, sub, in, pro, circum, ad, de, prope, ab, sine, cum, per, trans, ante, post

Ask for guesses at definitions. Encourage them to think of derivatives to make educated guesses. Act out those prepositions that cannot be guessed or offer derivatives, so that at least they are figuring out and presenting you with the definitions. Make a list of definitions and derivatives of each preposition.

Day 2:

Discuss

- Since the function of the noun after the preposition is a type of object, then in Latin we will have to use an object case ending on the nouns.
 - For direct objects in Latin we use the accusative case.
 - For objects of prepositions two cases are used. Some prepositions are followed by objects in the accusative case, but some prepositions are followed by objects in a new case, the ablative case.
Ablative endings: (I just do singular for now.)
1st declension: - a
2nd declension: - o
 - There is an easy way to remember which prepositions use ablative and which use accusative for their objects. Memorize the following poem. If a Latin preposition occurs in the poem, it uses the ablative; if it is not in the poem, it uses the accusative.
Ablative Preposition Poem
a, ab, ex, e
sine, pro, cum, de,
sometimes in
sometimes sub
always in the ablatub
 - Explain that ab and a are the same word. Ab is used before vowels, a before consonants, and the same for ex and e.
 - Explain the difference between in and sub with the ablative and with the accusative.
e.g. *in aqua* = *in the water*
in aquam = *into the water*
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Homework

pages 94-95

Terms

ablative case

Day 3:

Activity

Write an extremely long Latin sentence full of prepositional phrases like the one done in English in the previous lesson. Make sure the objects of the prepositions are in the right case.

Functions
Object of the preposition noun or pronoun after a preposition ablative or accusative case
1st declension : -a or -am 2nd declension : -o or -um

Homework
pages 96-97

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Lesson 4 - Latin prepositions as prefixes

Day 1:

Discuss

- Ask students to add some Latin adjectives to the objects of the prepositions up on the board.
- Agreement of adjectives. The same rule applies for objects of prepositions. Adjectives will agree with the nouns they describe in case, number, and gender.
- Follow the PowerPoint to introduce Latin prepositions as prefixes and how some of them assimilate when attached to a base word.
- Sometimes the final letter of the Latin preposition will assimilate to the first letter of the word to which it is attaching. It becomes similar to it, so that the word will not sound awkward when it is pronounced.
- The word assimilate itself is made from a form of the word similar and the Latin preposition ad: to make something similar to something else.
The final letter of ad changes to become the same as the first letter in similar, so that it is easier to say. So the word assimilation is, in fact, an example of assimilation.

Activity

Play **Preposition Power** on the website

Homework
pages 98-99
Preposition Power

Days 2-4

Discuss

Review pages 98-99, sharing good derivatives and reviewing assimilation.
Complete page 100 with partners again in the lab or library.
Discuss how their vocabulary (not only in English) will grow by knowing these Latin prepositions.

Activity

Finding False Derivatives:

Students in teams of two or three. Give each team a game sheet. On the sheet are boxes with words, some of which are using Latin prepositions as prefixes and some of which are fake. Spend a day or two in a computer lab or library with dictionaries as they try to discover which ones are true and which are false. A good dictionary will give them the derivation and list the Latin preposition as part of the derivation.

- On their game sheets they should mark each word as True or False.
- On Game Day, find a place where teams can spread out, and give each team a sign saying True and one saying False.
- As you say each word from the sheet, teams hold up the sign they think is correct. Reveal the answer, and have students record a point in their box if they held up the correct sign.
- Teams of three work well so one person is in charge of the True sign, one the False sign, and one marking the points in the boxes.
- Add up points at the end.