I. Grammar

A preposition is a word that shows how a noun or a pronoun is related to another word in the sentence.

A. Prepositions and Adverbs

This chart should be put under Prepositions in the section titled "Grammar."

The word “preposition” comes from the Latin word praepositus which means placed in front. Originally the case endings alone were enough to show the meaning of nouns in a sentence. But the accusative and ablative cases came to be used in so many ways that certain adverbs began to be used to make the relationship of the words clearer. These adverbs came to be called prepositions because they were placed in front of the nouns and formed prepositional phrases.

The bird sat on the house.
The bird was above the house.
The bird flew under the house.
The bird stepped off the perch.
The bird stood between the trees.

The prepositions on, above, under, off, and between show how the bird is related to the nouns house, perch, trees. Each preposition has an object that makes up a prepositional phrase: on the house, above the house, etc. A preposition which has no object in English is an adverb. Thus, in the sentence, “The sky is above,” above has no object, so in that instance it is an adverb.
Write this list of commonly used English prepositions in your notebook on the page titled Prepositions in the Grammar section of your notebook. Memorize them all.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>aboard</th>
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<td>over</td>
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</table>

B. Accusative of Place to Which and Ablative of Place from Which

The first chart should be copied and placed on the page titled Accusative Case in the “Cases/Declensions” section of your notebook and the second one on the page titled Ablative Case.

**Accusative of Place to Which**
Generally, prepositions are followed by a noun or pronoun in the **accusative** case when the phrase shows motion. The **Accusative of Place to Which** uses the prepositions **ad** (to), **in** (into, against), **per** (through), and **sub** (when it means 'up to'), to show motion. When using the names of cities, towns or small islands, you may omit the **ad**.

**Ablative of Place from Which**
The prepositions **a** or **ab** (away from), **de** (down from), **e** or **ex** (from, out of) to show position from which motion begins. While all three prepositions can mean from, **ab** means away from the outside; **de** means down from the inside; **ex** means out from the inside. All can mean from when it is not important to distinguish. Again, you may omit the preposition with names of cities, etc.

**PLACE WHERE:**
*Puera in silvam ambulant. The boys are walking into the forest.*
*Aquam (ad) Romam portamus. We carry water to Rome.*

**PLACE FROM WHICH:**
*Ambulat ex ludo. He is walking from school.*
*Ambulat a ludo. He is walking away from school.*
*Ambulat de ludo. He is walking down from school.*

**NOTA BENE:** Prepositions **in** (in, on) and **sub** (under, beneath) are followed by a noun or pronoun in the **ablative** case to show location or position.

**A** (or **ab**) denotes away from a place; **e** or **ex**, out from it; and **dē**, down from it.
This may be represented graphically as follows:
II. Vocabulary

Write the prepositions on white cards with red ink for accusative, and write ablative prepositions on white cards with green ink (22).

ād + accusative to, toward, near, beside, at
ān′tē + accusative before, in front of
cir′cūm + accusative around, about (location)
con′tra + accusative against
in + accusative into, against
in′ter + accusative between, among
ob + accusative because of, on account of
per + accusative through, along, by (location)
pōst + accusative after, behind
prō′pē + accusative near, nearby
prop′ter + accusative because of, on account of
sub + accusative, after verbs of motion, up to, up to the foot of, close to, under
sū′per + accusative, above
trāns + accusative across, over
ā, āb* + ablative from, away from, by
cūm + ablative with
dē + ablative concerning, about, from, down from
ē, ēx* + ablative from, out of
in + ablative in, on
prō + ablative in front of, on behalf of, for
sī′nē + ablative without
sūb + ablative at the foot of, under, beneath

HINT: Before vowels or ‘h’, ab or ex must be used in order to speak more smoothly. Before consonants usually just the a or e are used. This is like the rule in English regarding a or an.

III. Word Study: Prefixes

Many of the prepositions in Latin are used as prefixes joined to root words. Some of the adverbs which later became prepositions were used before verbs, and eventually became part of the verb itself. They are called prefixes from the Latin words, prae + fixus, attached in front. When you read a Latin sentence sometimes the prefix is attached to the verb, and is repeated in the other part of the sentence as a preposition with an object.

Puellas a puerial avocat. She calls the girls away from the boys.

Normally prefixes have the same meanings as their corresponding prepositions, but sometimes they have additional meanings.
**PREFIXES**

- **a-**, **ab-**, **abs-**: away, off
- **e-**, **ex-**: out, throughout
- **ad-**: to, towards, near
- **in-**, **im-**: in, on, against, not
- **de-**: down, upon
- **sub-**, **sup-**: under, up from under, secretly, somewhat

When these prefixes are added to some of the verbs you have learned, you can see the meanings change just a little:

- **a-**, **ab-**, **abs-**: asporto, *I carry away, I carry off*
- abssum, *I am away, I am absent*
- avoco, *I call away* (abl.)
- ad-: aspecto, *I look towards* (acc.)
- adsum, *I am here* (acc.)
- **de-**: deporto, *I carry down, I carry away* (abl.)
- despecto, *I look down upon* (abl.)
- **e-**, **ex-**: exporto, *I carry out* (abl.)
- expugno, *I conquer, I take by assault* (abl.)
- exspecto, *I look out for, I await* (abl.)
- evoco, *I call out* (abl.)
- **in-**: importo, *I carry in, I bring in* (acc.)
- invoco, *I call upon, I invoke* (abl.)
- **sub-**: supporto, *I carry up, I support* (acc.)
- subsum, *I am under, I am concealed* (abl.)

Sometimes the prefixes may change or leave off a letter before combining with the verb to make it easier to pronounce.

**IV. Exercises**

**A. Pronounce and translate.**

1. cum feminis
2. a villis
3. a pueris
4. e familīā
5. in Gallīā
6. sine amīcis
7. pro silvis Italiae
8. ab insulā
9. de ludīs poetarum
10. ad aquam

**B. Remember to use the correct case following each preposition.**

1. with the messenger
2. through the forests of Italy
3. before the game
4. across the provinces
5. among friends
6. concerning the letter
7. through the fields
8. toward the horses
9. against Rome
10. because of the teacher
C. **Sentences.** Note the case and number before you translate.

1. Propheta populo amicitiam dat.
2. Deus iustitiam et vitam amat.
3. Est magister ludi etiam villae.
4. Petrus est servus Dei.
5. Salutatis Petrum et est vester (your) amicus.
6. Angeli sunt nuntii Domini et gloriad Deo dant.
7. Discipuli familiis Italiae amicitiam dant.
8. Rogant feminas et filias libros et libros ad villam portant.
9. Neque magistri neque feminae libros ad villam portant, sed servi.
10. Christus animos virorum sanat et est cumviris.

D. **Mark every word as you have been taught.**

When you mark an English sentence for translation, put parentheses around any prepositional phrases before you mark the rest of the sentence.

1. We are calling the men from the provinces.
2. They do attack the men in Italy.
3. God blesses the nations.
4. The men set the servants free and they walk away from the fields.
5. I try to honor the prophets.
6. The common crowd is singing and also praising God.
7. James does greet the apostles.
8. The family of Peter lives in Gaul away from towns.
9. The women and girls and handmaidens are preparing to sing.
10. We cry on behalf of the world, but we praise God.

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**V. Reading Lesson**

**Nuntius 1 e Romā**


“Quis (Who) es?” Davus rogat.


“Porto nuntium (*message*) ad Romulum Fidelium.”

“Filii Romuli Fideli sumus. In villā est,” vocat Davus.


**Responde Latine. Answer in a complete sentence.**

1. Quem (*Whom*) pueri spectant?
2. Ubi nuntius habitat?
3. Quem (*What*) nuntius Fidelio dat?

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1 We are using the “e”, or in some cases “ex”, before Roma to help with translation, but it is not necessary to use it. Names of cities in the locative case do not require a preposition, but may use a prep. + abl.

2 Tiberius, the emperor of Rome, reigned from AD 14 until AD 37.
Nuntius (e) Romā
Salutans Matrem

Capitolium