

Object of the Preposition

The **object of the preposition** is the noun or pronoun that follows the preposition. A **prepositional phrase** is made up of a preposition, the object of a preposition, and any words between them.

The words between a preposition and its object are words that tell about the object. In the following examples, the prepositional phrase is underlined once and the object of the preposition is underlined twice.

Examples:

Millions of people live in large cities.

Cities contain one-third of the world's people.

The city spreads across many miles.

Guided Practice

- A. Identify the prepositional phrases in these sentences. Some sentences may contain more than one prepositional phrase.

Example: Trains travel to big cities.
to big cities

1. The oldest part of most cities is the center.
2. Newer parts grow around the city center.
3. Most city buses run along the streets.
4. In many cities subways run under the ground.
5. Airports are near major cities, but not in them.

Independent Practice

- B. Write these sentences. Underline each prepositional phrase once and the object of the preposition twice. Some sentences may contain more than one prepositional phrase or object of the preposition.

Example: *Walking through a big city is fun.*

6. You can see people from many places.
7. New York City has a zoo in a large park.
8. San Francisco has cable cars that run up the hills.
9. Los Angeles has beaches that stretch for miles.
10. The arch in St. Louis rises into the sky.
11. You can visit the White House in Washington, D.C.
12. Washington, D.C., is the capital of the United States.
13. The Lincoln Memorial is close to the Potomac River.
14. President Lincoln sits on a huge chair.
15. There is a large building around his statue.

Writing Connection

Real-Life Writing: Conversation With a partner, take turns discussing where you would prefer to live. Would you prefer a city, a small town, or the country? What would you enjoy about living there? Take notes while your partner speaks. Write a few sentences telling why your partner would choose one place over another. Use prepositions in your writing.

Remember

that a prepositional phrase contains a preposition, its object, and any words between them. The object of the preposition is the noun or pronoun that follows the preposition.



Using Prepositional Phrases

Use **prepositional phrases** to expand sentences.

You can use a prepositional phrase to make a sentence clearer and to add more details.

Notice how the prepositional phrases in the examples tell more about what happened.

Examples:

Francis saw the buildings.	Francis saw the buildings in Mexico City.
Smoke was rising.	Smoke was rising from the volcano.
The volcano was close.	The volcano was close to the city.

Guided Practice

- A. Read the sentences. Add a prepositional phrase to each one, using the word in parentheses as a guide. Then write the new sentence. Your prepositional phrases can tell when, where, or how.

Example: Jason rode the bus. (where)
Jason rode the bus into the city.

1. He got off. (where)
2. Then he walked. (where)
3. He had to meet Ellen. (when)
4. Then she arrived. (how)
5. They walked together. (where)

Independent Practice

- B. Rewrite each sentence. Add more details with prepositional phrases. Underline each preposition.

Example: New York is not the biggest city.
New York is not the biggest city in the world.

6. There are many jobs.
7. Cities need many workers.
8. Garbage workers take trash.
9. Cooks make food.
10. Firefighters fight fires.
11. Police keep the streets safe.
12. Teachers help students.
13. Truck drivers bring goods.
14. Workers build subways.
15. Bus drivers drive buses.
16. There are different kinds of buildings.
17. Some buildings have apartments.
18. There are houses.
19. Skyscrapers rise high.
20. Many cities have bridges.

Writing Connection

Art Think about a busy street in the largest city you have ever seen. What is in the shop windows? What are people doing? Where are they going? How much traffic is in the streets? Work in a small group to create a drawing of a city street. Make pictures of buildings, people, and activities. Then write a caption for each picture that uses prepositional phrases to describe the street scene.

Remember

that you can add details to a sentence with a **prepositional phrase**.



Extra Practice

- A. Write the prepositions in these sentences. Some sentences may have more than one preposition. *pages 308–309*

Example: There are many jobs in large cities. *in*

1. Some city neighborhoods have people from one country.
2. You can hear people talking in other languages.
3. Different kinds of restaurants are popular in these neighborhoods.
4. Wonderful smells are often in the air.
5. Living in a city can be full of surprises.

- B. Write the prepositional phrase in these sentences. *pages 310–311*

Example: Across the United States, cities have grown.
Across the United States

6. The first large cities were in the Northeast.
7. Next, big cities grew across the Midwest.
8. During the 1900s, western cities grew quickly.
9. The biggest city in the West was Los Angeles.
10. Other cities were growing at a fast pace.
11. Cities throughout the Southwest became larger.
12. People moved to Phoenix, Houston, and Dallas.
13. Many people were attracted by the warm, sunny climate.
14. Las Vegas is one of the fastest-growing cities.
15. People can find jobs in these cities.

- C. Write the sentences. Underline each prepositional phrase once and each object of the preposition twice. Some sentences may have more than one prepositional phrase. *pages 310–311*

Example: *Many cities are located near water.*

16. Denver citizens can look at high mountains.
17. The city is a mile above sea level.
18. The sun shines most days of the year.
19. Sometimes it is buried under heavy snowfall.
20. You can easily go snow skiing from Denver.
21. Chicago is on the shore of Lake Michigan.
22. A chilly wind often blows from the lake.
23. Some cities have mountains near them.
24. Mt. Rainier towers above Seattle.
25. You can see it on clear days.

- D. Read the sentences. Add a prepositional phrase to each one, using the word in parentheses as a guide. Then write the new sentence. *pages 312–313*

Example: Most cities have suburbs. (where)
Most cities have suburbs around them.

26. Many Americans moved. (where)
27. Suburbs became crowded. (how)
28. People liked life. (where)
29. Many people stayed. (where)
30. Some people moved back. (where)

Writing Connection

Social Studies Write a paragraph about a city you would like to visit. Be sure you include sentences with prepositional phrases. Write why you would like to visit the city. Tell about things you might see there. Then, exchange your paragraph with a partner. Write a paragraph of your partner's paragraph.

Remember

that a **preposition** is a word that shows how a noun or a pronoun is related to other words in the sentence. A **prepositional phrase** is made up of a preposition, the object of the preposition, and any words between them.

For more activities with prepositions, visit The Learning Site:

www.harcourtschool.com

STANDARDIZED
TEST PREP

TIP Read each possible answer carefully before you make your final choice.

Chapter Review

Read the group of words in the box. There may be a mistake in sentence structure. If you find a mistake, choose the answer that is written most clearly and correctly. If there is no mistake, choose *Correct as is*.

1 Frank's family is taking a vacation. In San Francisco.

- A Frank's family in San Francisco is taking a vacation.
- B Frank's family is taking a vacation in San Francisco.
- C Frank's family is taking in San Francisco a vacation.
- D Correct as is

2 They ride the cable cars. Up the steep hills.

- F They ride up the steep hills the cable cars.
- G Up the steep hills they ride them. The cable cars.
- H They ride the cable cars up the steep hills.
- J Correct as is

3 At Fisherman's Wharf, they go there to look at the boats.

- A They go to Fisherman's Wharf to look at the boats.
- B They go to look at the boats. At Fisherman's Wharf.
- C At the boats, they go to look at Fisherman's Wharf.
- D Correct as is

4 The masts of the sailboats rise into the blue sky.

- F Into the blue sky, the masts rise of the sailboats.
- G The masts of the sailboats rise. Into the blue sky.
- H On the sailboats the masts rise into the blue sky.
- J Correct as is

Reading Strategies

You can use reading strategies to help you find and use information more easily. The next time you are doing some research, try these strategies:

Skimming is reading a passage very quickly. You can often skim the Table of Contents of a book to see how it is organized. Skimming the first and last chapters can help you learn the book's main idea.

Scanning is looking over a passage to find certain information. When you scan, you do not read every word. You look through the passage for key words that relate to your topic. Scanning will help you know when to look at a source more closely.

Self-Questioning is asking yourself questions about what you've read. You can pause occasionally while you are reading to ask yourself questions. When you self-question, you check your understanding of what you are reading.

Rereading is reading something more than once. When you are reading about a new topic, there may be parts that are unclear. It is important that you reread sections that are unclear to you. Make sure that you understand any new information before you continue reading.

YOUR TURN

RESEARCH A TOPIC Use the reading strategies on this page to write a short report about a topic you want to learn more about. Follow these steps:

1. Skim through an article or a book to learn what it is about and how it is organized.
2. Scan the article to decide if it tells about your topic.
3. As you read, check your understanding of new information by self-questioning.
4. Reread the parts of the article that are unclear.

