What is a Preposition?

Name:

A **preposition** is a part of speech, just like a noun or a verb. It connects a a noun or pronoun to another word in the sentence, showing us the relationship between them.

Prepositions usually answer the questions _ @/^ or _ @}. They often tell the location of a person or an object in time or space. This information is given as a group of words, rather than a single word. We call that group of words a prepositional phrase.

The prepositional phrase in the sentence below, **over the rainbow**, begins with the preposition **over**. The prepositional phrase connects the bird and the rainbow, telling us **where** the bird flew in relationship to the rainbow. The bird flew **over**, or above, the rainbow. It may help you to remember that the word pre**position** contains the word **position**.

Example: The bird flew **over the rainbow.**

The prepositional phrase in the sentence below, **during class**, begins with the preposition **during.** The prepositional phrase connects the girls to the class, telling us **when** the girls were talking.

Example: The noisy girls were talking **during class**.

Read each of the sentences below. Underline the prepositional phrase and circle the preposition.

- 1. The brave knight carried the beautiful princess through the castle door.
- 2. Our terrified pet monkey disappeared under the bed.
- 3. The tiny crab and his larger friend scurried across the hot sand.
- 4. Andrew sat near his sister.
- 5. Inside the dishwasher, the fragile glasses rattled noisily.
- 6. There were so many people that Jessica had to park her car behind the building.
- 7. My mom's umbrella fell between the door and the bookshelf.
- 8. Rachel watched television until midnight.

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Example: The bird flew **over the rainbow.**

The prepositional phrase in the sentence below, **during class**, begins with the preposition **during.** The prepositional phrase connects the girls to the class, telling us **when** the girls were talking.

Example: The noisy girls were talking **during class**.

Read each of the sentences below. Underline the prepositional phrase "and circle the preposition.

- 1. The brave knight carried the beautiful princess (through) the castle door.
- 2. Our terrified pet monkey disappeared under the bed.
- 3. The tiny crab and his larger friend scurried across) the hot sand.
- 4. Andrew sat near his sister.
- 5. (Inside)the dishwasher, the fragile glasses rattled noisily.
- 6. There were so many people that Jessica had to park her car behind the building.
- 7. My mom's umbrella fell (between) the door and the bookshelf.
- 8. Rachel watched television until midnight.