



Prepositions

Prepositions show relationships between separate things, including location, direction, cause, and possession.

For example:

She passed the ball over the defense.

He was underneath the basket.

She dribbled into the lane.

The foul occurred before the shot.

| Frequently used prepositions | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|------------|
| about | behind | down | off | till |
| above | below | during | on | to |
| across | beneath | except | onto | toward |
| after | beside | for | opposite | under |
| against | besides | from | out | underneath |
| along | between | in | outside | until |
| amid | beyond | inside | over | up |
| among | but | into | past | upon |
| around | by | like | since | with |
| at | concerning | near | through | within |
| before | despite | of | throughout | without |
| Compound prepositions | | | | |
| according to | because of | in place of | next to | |
| ahead of | by means of | in regard to | on account of | |
| apart from | in addition to | in spite of | out of | |
| aside from | in back of | instead of | owing to | |
| as of | in front of | in view of | prior to | |

Identify the prepositions in each sentence. (Check your answers at the end!)

1. Does the basketball season generally come before the football season?
2. The standard length of a basketball court is 94 feet, and the width is 50 feet.
3. A basket attached to a backboard hangs over each end of the court.
4. Her free throw hit the backboard above the basket.
5. Is the centre considered the most important player on the team?
6. A player can advance the ball only with dribbling or with passing.
7. The forward dribbled the ball over the court and then passed it to a teammate.
8. The coach gives instructions to the players during a game.
9. An official may stand along the sideline.
10. Scorekeepers and timekeepers sit at a table behind the sideline.

Answers

(Prepositions are typed in red.)

1. Does the basketball season generally come **before** the football season?
2. The standard length **of** a basketball court is 94 feet, and the width is 50 feet.
3. A basket attached **to** a backboard hangs **over** each end **of** the court.
4. Her free throw hit the backboard **above** the basket.
5. Is the centre considered the most important player **on** the team?
6. A player can advance the ball only **with** dribbling or **with** passing.
7. The forward dribbled the ball **over** the court and then passed it **to** a teammate.
8. The coach gives instructions **to** the players during a game.
9. An official may stand **along** the sideline.
10. Scorekeepers and timekeepers sit **at** a table **behind** the sideline.