

Nw Prepositional Phrases

Tuesday (Grammar)

Week Beginning 18th May 2020

Prepositions tell you **where** or **when** something is / was compared to something else

E.g. next to, above, after, during

Spot the prepositions:

They took the dog **out** to walk **before** they walked home.

Prepositional Phrases

- A prepositional phrase includes the object that the preposition in a sentence is referring to and any other words that link it to the preposition.
For example: He hid beneath the duvet.
- A prepositional phrase usually includes a preposition, a noun or pronoun and may include an adjective. IT DOES NOT INCLUDE THE VERB!

Can you pick out the **prepositional phrases** from these sentences?

The general ordered the troops to retreat to the valley.

Jules was delighted to find a present inside the egg.

Mike didn't think he could run up the hill.

Where could it be? It wasn't in the box and it wasn't round the back.

When the siren sounded they all set off into the ancient woods.

Which of These Prepositional Phrases Are Also Adverbial Phrases and Which Are Also Noun Phrases?

Adverbial

Where? When? In what manner? To what extent?

Noun

How many? Which one? What kind?

One fossil from Africa was 400 million years old.

The markings on the animal were rare and unusual.

Several people each year are killed by vending machines.

The car sped towards the wall.

He flicked the coins into the pot.

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One **fossil from Africa** was 400 million years old. **Noun phrase.**

The markings on the animal were rare and unusual. **Noun phrase.**

Several people each year are killed **by vending machines**. **Adverbial phrase.**

The car sped **towards the wall**. **Adverbial phrase.**

He flicked the coins **into the pot**. **Adverbial phrase.**

So What Is the Difference Between a Prepositional Phrase and an Adverbial Phrase?

A **PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE** is the overall term for any phrase that includes an object and a preposition (but not a verb).

One type of prepositional phrase is an **ADVERBIAL PHRASE**.

If a prepositional phrase answers any of these questions: 'Where?' 'When?' 'Why' or 'How', then it is also an adverbial phrase.



This is a **PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE** because it contains a preposition and an object, with no verb. It is also an **ADVERBIAL PHRASE** because it tells us **WHERE** he lost it.

So are all Adverbial Phrases also Prepositional Phrases?

Not quite – look at the Venn diagram below, complete with examples. Can you think of any more examples for each section?

