



UNIT
14

Prepositions, Conjunctions, and Interjections

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14.1

Prepositions

- A **preposition** is a word that relates a noun or a pronoun to some other word in a sentence.

The dictionary **on** the desk was open.

An almanac was **under** the dictionary.

Meet me **at** three o'clock tomorrow.

COMMONLY USED PREPOSITIONS

aboard	as	despite	near	since
about	at	down	of	through
above	before	during	off	to
across	behind	except	on	toward
after	below	for	onto	under
against	beneath	from	opposite	until
along	beside	in	out	up
amid	between	inside	outside	upon
among	beyond	into	over	with
around	by	like	past	without

A preposition can consist of more than one word.

I borrowed the almanac **along with** some other reference books.

PREPOSITIONS OF MORE THAN ONE WORD

according to	along with	because of	in spite of	on top of
across from	aside from	in front of	instead of	out of

Read each sentence below. Any word that fits in the blank is a preposition.

Use the almanac that is _____ the table.

I took the atlas _____ your room.

Exercise 1 Identifying Prepositions

Write each preposition from the following sentences.

1. Many famous libraries around the world are tourist attractions.
2. The New York Public Library on Fifth Avenue serves the New York metropolitan community.
3. Two marble lions in front of the library greet visitors.
4. The library houses a large number of books on a vast range of topics.
5. The library also holds several exhibitions during the year.
6. Its branches hold millions of volumes.
7. The New York Public Library is one of the largest library systems in the world.
8. The first public library in America was built in the year 1833.
9. Many important library developments occurred during the nineteenth century.
10. Melvil Dewey established a system for the classification of books.

Exercise 2 Identifying Prepositions of More Than One Word

Write the preposition or prepositions from each sentence. Circle each preposition of more than one word.

1. The classification number of a library book is found upon the spine of the book, usually below the title.
2. Along with the Dewey Decimal Classification system, Melvil Dewey also established the American Library Association and the *Library Journal*.
3. The Dewey system organizes books into ten main categories.
4. The research library in front of the administration building uses a different system of classifying books.
5. The Library of Congress classification system categorizes books into twenty-one major areas of knowledge.
6. This system was developed in the early twentieth century because of the large number of books in this library.
7. Aside from being one of the largest research libraries in the world, the Library of Congress has the largest collection of books printed before 1501.
8. Among the books in its collection is a perfect copy of the Gutenberg Bible.
9. According to the guide, the library provides reference assistance along with research for the United States Congress.
10. On the back of a book's title page, you will find cataloging data.



14.2

Prepositional Phrases

- A prepositional phrase is a group of words that begins with a preposition and ends with a noun or pronoun, which is called the object of the preposition.

Dr. Chin has an almanac **from the nineteenth century**.

The almanac has a special meaning **for him**.

A preposition can have a compound object.

Almanacs contain lists **of facts and figures**.

Grace showed one **to her sisters and her classmates**.

A sentence can have more than one prepositional phrase.

We left our notes **under the almanac on the shelf**.

A prepositional phrase can appear anywhere in a sentence—at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end.

At the library students examined the almanac.

Students **at the library** examined the almanac.

Students examined the almanac **at the library**.

Sometimes you can use a prepositional phrase to combine sentences.

Gary wrote a newspaper article.

He wrote about old almanacs.

Gary wrote a newspaper article **about old almanacs**.

In the second sentence above, the prepositional phrase *about old almanacs* tells more about the newspaper article. You can combine the sentences by adding the phrase to the first sentence.

Exercise 3 Identifying Prepositions and Their Objects

Write each prepositional phrase. Underline each object of the preposition. Some sentences have more than one prepositional phrase.

1. Calendars are often included in almanacs.
2. Many almanacs predict the weather through a certain year and give information on population.
3. Some newspapers and organizations publish almanacs with special information.
4. *Poor Richard's Almanac* is a well-known almanac from the American colonial period.
5. Benjamin Franklin published the book in 1733.
6. It is filled with facts and lists of various sorts.
7. Many other kinds of reference books are found in the library.
8. The library is open from nine o'clock in the morning to nine o'clock at night.
9. Encyclopedias are located in the reference section of most school and public libraries.
10. International cookbooks contain information about foods from various countries.
11. The pages of a dictionary list many different kinds of words.
12. Almanacs are useful for the study of many kinds of information.
13. An atlas can help you learn about the location of all the countries in the world.
14. In most libraries the reference material cannot be taken out of the building.
15. Many libraries today have collections of phonograph records, CDs, and videotapes.
16. Many large cities have branch libraries in various neighborhoods.
17. School libraries and public libraries are funded by taxes and contributions.
18. Because of the rising cost of material and equipment, library budgets have been under pressure.
19. One-third of the public libraries in the United States are branch libraries.
20. A library should have a good collection of reference materials, current magazines, and technical reports.



14.3

Pronouns After Prepositions

When a pronoun is the object of a preposition, remember to use an object pronoun and not a subject pronoun.

Yoshi handed the dictionary to Akilah.

Yoshi handed the dictionary to **her**.

In the example above, the object pronoun *her* replaces *Akilah* as the object of the preposition *to*.

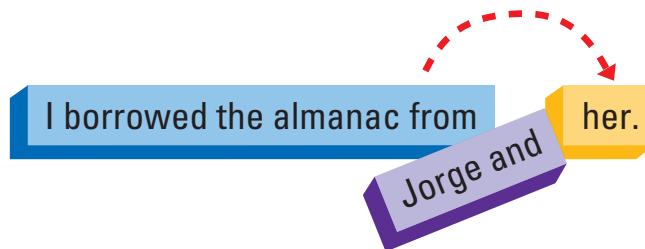
Sometimes a preposition will have a compound object consisting of a noun and pronoun. Remember to use an object pronoun in a compound object.

I borrowed the almanac from Jorge and Lisa.

I borrowed the almanac from Jorge and **her**.

An object pronoun is used in the sentence above. *Jorge and her* is the compound object of the preposition *from*.

If you are unsure about whether to use a subject pronoun or an object pronoun, try saying the sentence aloud with only the pronoun following the preposition.



The pronouns *who* and *whom* are often confused. *Who* is a subject pronoun, and *whom* is an object pronoun. Note how the pronouns are used in the following sentences.

Who told you about it?

To **whom** did you lend the almanac?

Exercise 4 Choosing Pronouns After Prepositions

For each sentence, write the correct pronoun.

1. Jorge and Lisa told you about (who, whom)?
2. Vanessa spoke to Lisa and (he, him) at the game.
3. What did Vanessa show to (them, they)?
4. Mr. Valdes bumped into Vanessa and (she, her) in the corridor.
5. Lisa had still not given her homework assignment to (him, he).
6. He walked with Lisa and (her, she) to the door.
7. Who knows what he said to (they, them)?
8. After class they had lunch with Jorge and (he, him).
9. Lisa is going to the library with (he, him).
10. She picked a topic that would interest both of (they, them).

Exercise 5 Using Pronouns After Prepositions

In each item, a proper noun is underlined. Replace the proper noun with the correct object pronoun.

1. Mr. Valdes handed an almanac to Alice.
2. Alice learned about Ukraine from Mr. Valdes.
3. Ukraine had been one of the Soviet republics.
4. Alice wanted information for Uncle Oscar.
5. Uncle Oscar often speaks of Greta, his sister.
6. Greta lives with Victor, her husband.
7. Alice mailed a package to Greta.
8. Faraway places are exciting to Alice.
9. Alice wants to learn much more about Greta.
10. She plans a visit to Greta and Victor next year.

Exercise 6 Writing Sentences with Prepositions and Object Pronouns

Write a sentence for each item. Use the pronouns listed as objects of a preposition. Underline the preposition and its object pronoun.

SAMPLE them

ANSWER We wrote a letter to them.

- | | |
|----------------|---------|
| 1. me | 4. them |
| 2. her | 5. him |
| 3. her and him | |



14.4

Prepositional Phrases as Adjectives and Adverbs

Prepositional phrases function as adjectives and adverbs in sentences.

- A prepositional phrase functioning as an **adjective** describes a noun or a pronoun.

These phrases can describe subjects, direct and indirect objects, predicate nouns, or objects in other prepositional phrases. An adjective phrase usually comes directly after the noun or pronoun it describes.

Africa is a continent **with many natural resources**.

One **of the articles** describes Africa vividly.

The wildlife **of Africa** is varied and abundant.

- A prepositional phrase functioning as an **adverb** describes a verb, an adjective, or another adverb.

Adverb Phrases	
Function	Examples
Describes a Verb	Wildlife abounds in Africa . Dry savannas extend over many acres .
Describes an Adjective	Birds are exotic in color .
Describes an Adverb	The Nile River flows west of Cairo .

Exercise 7 Identifying Adjective and Adverb Phrases

Write each prepositional phrase and whether it is used as an *adjective* or an *adverb*.

1. The Congo Basin lies on the equator.
2. The grass grows quickly near the rain forests.
3. The Red Sea borders Africa on the northeast.
4. What is the climate of Cairo?
5. There is little vegetation in the Sahara.
6. I read a brief article about new African nations.
7. The people of Somalia are suffering a great deal of hardship.
8. Burkina Faso is a small country that lies between Mali and Ghana.
9. The waters of the Atlantic Ocean wash the shores of the Ivory Coast.
10. Southern African nations have recently emerged from years of conflict.
11. Much of this kind of information can be found in an atlas.
12. Bill gave an atlas to Cheryl for her birthday.
13. Cheryl left it beside the globe.
14. An atlas tells about geography.
15. Facts and figures are shown on maps and in tables.
16. An index is an important part of an atlas.
17. It is the guide to the riches of an atlas.
18. Information in an atlas is useful for research.
19. Several governments publish national atlases about their countries.
20. Early atlases had maps that were hand-drawn by cartographers.

Exercise 8 Writing Adjective and Adverb Phrases

On your paper, expand each sentence below by adding at least one adjective or adverb phrase to the sentence. Draw a line from each phrase to the word it describes.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. An atlas gives information. | 6. The climate is humid. |
| 2. The birds are colorful. | 7. The desert seems endless. |
| 3. The zebras gather. | 8. The plants bloom. |
| 4. The monkeys are calling. | 9. A traveler needs water. |
| 5. The lion dozes. | 10. The sunset glows. |



14.5

Telling Prepositions and Adverbs Apart

Sometimes it is difficult to tell whether a word is a preposition or an adverb. Both types of words can answer the questions *where?* and *when?* In addition, some words can be used as either prepositions or adverbs.

WORDS THAT CAN BE USED AS PREPOSITIONS OR ADVERBS

about	below	out
above	down	outside
around	in	over
before	inside	through
behind	near	up

If you're having trouble deciding whether a word is used as a preposition or as an adverb, look at the other words in the sentence. If the word is followed closely by a noun, the word is probably a preposition, and the noun is the object of the preposition.

We ate our lunch **outside** the **library**.

In the sentence above, the word *outside* is followed closely by the noun *library*. *Outside* is a preposition, and *library* is the object of the preposition.

If the word is not followed closely by a noun, then the word is probably an adverb.

We ate our lunch **outside**.

In this sentence, the word *outside* answers the question *where?* but is not followed by a noun. In this sentence, *outside* is an adverb.



We ate our lunch **outside**.



We ate our lunch **outside** the **library**.

Exercise 9 Distinguishing Between Adverbs and Prepositions

Write whether each underlined word is used as a *preposition* or as an *adverb*.

1. Who left this book of quotations behind?
2. Gene found the book behind the lockers.
3. We searched through the biographical dictionary.
4. I had read the same article before.
5. I will report on the article before Friday.
6. Please look inside the almanac.
7. Jeff will bring the encyclopedia inside.
8. Kim pointed to the important notes below.
9. My note cards lie below the top shelf.
10. Did you read the article about Gandhi?
11. It was about his early life.
12. Outside class I shall have a chance to read the article carefully.
13. I can think my impressions over while taking a walk outside.
14. I enjoy a walk in the park.
15. Kim carried the atlas around.
16. She walked hastily around the library.
17. Lee carried his article up the stairs but came down without it.
18. Bob's dictionary was found near his desk.
19. Kim reads down the pages of the almanac.
20. Her conversation goes over my head.
21. A map of the United States hangs near the front door.
22. A portrait of the president hangs above.
23. Mr. Cleese brought in an overdue video about India.
24. Did I leave my card in that book?
25. The librarians searched around for my card.

Exercise 10 Using Words as Prepositions or Adverbs

Write each word below in a sentence. If you use the word as a preposition, underline the prepositional phrase.

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| 1. above | 6. out |
| 2. in | 7. through |
| 3. around | 8. before |
| 4. near | 9. over |
| 5. up | 10. down |



14.6 Conjunctions

■ A **conjunction** is a word that joins words or groups of words in a sentence.

The most common conjunctions are *and*, *but*, and *or*. They are called **coordinating conjunctions**. *And* and *or* are used to form compound subjects. *And*, *but*, and *or* are used to form compound predicates and compound sentences.

Using Conjunctions to Form Compounds	
Compound Subject	Mexico and Canada are both on a map of North America.
Compound Predicate	Students can check the map or use the globe.
Compound Sentence	I would lend you my atlas, but Felicia already borrowed it.

A comma should be placed before the conjunction in a compound sentence. Do not, however, place a comma between the two parts of a compound subject or a compound predicate.

Although the conjunctions are used in a similar fashion, they are not interchangeable. Each has a different meaning.

Coordinating Conjunctions		
Conjunction	Meaning	Example
And	Introduces an additional idea	The map and the globe are in the classroom.
But	Introduces a contrasting idea	The map is old, but the globe is new.
Or	Introduces a choice or second possibility	Students check the map or use the globe.

Pairs of conjunctions such as *either, or*; *neither, nor*; and *both, and* are called **correlative conjunctions**. They join the same kinds of words as do the conjunctions *and*, *but*, and *or*.

Either Lucy **or** I will use the atlas.

Exercise 11 Identifying Conjunctions and Compounds

Write each conjunction. Then write whether it forms a *compound subject*, *compound predicate*, or *compound sentence*.

- Ramón and Sal are using the class atlas.
- They are studying rivers and comparing figures.
- The Mississippi River flows southward and increases in width along the way.
- The Amazon is long, but it is not the longest river.
- Who has studied or visited mountains in Europe?
- The Chaco and the Serengeti are vast plains.
- Sal has been to Argentina, or he is planning to go there.
- Either the Himalayas or the Urals are the world's highest mountains.
- Bolivia contains some of the highest mountains in South America but also has some very hot, humid lowlands.
- Denver is called the mile-high city, but Leadville is at an even higher altitude.

Exercise 12 Using Conjunctions

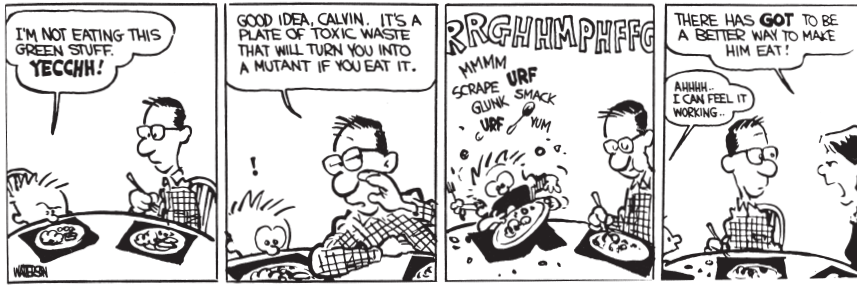
Write the conjunctions that best fit in the sentences.

- Judy wrote a report _____ drew a map of the Himalayas.
- Tibet _____ Nepal lie north of India.
- Is the Upper Nile in north _____ south Egypt?
- Australia _____ New Zealand is easy to reach from North America.
- Is Mount Everest in Asia, _____ is it in Europe?
- I have a map of India, _____ I do not have one of Japan.
- _____ Tokyo _____ Hiroshima are in Japan.
- Her ambition was to climb the highest mountain on each continent, _____ she planned to start with Mt. McKinley in Alaska.
- Mt. Everest is the highest at 29,028 feet, _____ two other Himalayan peaks are more than 28,000 feet high.
- _____ Mt. Fuji in Japan _____ Mt. Etna in Italy is nearly as high.



14.7

Interjections



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■ An **interjection** is a word or group of words that expresses strong feeling.

COMMON INTERJECTIONS

aha	great	oh	pheW
alas	ha	oh, no	well
eek	hey	oops	wow
goodness	hooray	ouch	yes

An interjection that expresses a very strong feeling may stand alone, either before or after a sentence. Such interjections are followed by an exclamation mark.

Oh, no! I wrote *horse* instead of *hoarse*.

When an interjection expresses a milder feeling, it appears as part of the sentence. In that case, it is separated from the rest of the sentence by a comma.

Oh, I thought I knew the definition of that word.

Use interjections sparingly. Overuse ruins the effect.

Exercise 13 Identifying Interjections

Write each interjection. Include any punctuation mark that goes with it.

1. Phew, this dictionary is heavy.
2. Jack will carry it for me. Hooray!
3. Great! I made no mistakes on my spelling test.
4. Oh, no! I forgot the double *b* in *hobble*.
5. Oops, I think I forgot to sign my name.
6. Hey! Studying the English language is fun!
7. Simon has the answer to our problem. Aha!
8. Well, I would like to know more about Old English.
9. Ouch! Spelling rules can be complicated.
10. I am going to the state spelling bee. Yes!
11. Mr. Robinson just showed me the unabridged dictionary. Awesome!
12. Oh, no! Do I need that to prepare for the spelling bee?
13. So this is Middle English. Well!
14. Ha! I recognize a few words.
15. Oh, I didn't hear you, Mr. Lyons.
16. Oops, I lost my English book.
17. Mr. Lyons found it on the floor. Great!
18. Aha! I dropped it in the reference room.
19. Mr. Lyons, you saved the day. Phew!
20. Ouch! It's time to get back to that dictionary.
21. Hey, spellers! Watch out for me.
22. Oh, no! I think I spelled *accommodate* with one *m* and two *d*'s.
23. Hey, do you know how to spell *embarrass*?
24. Well, if *alto* is from an Italian word meaning "high," why does it refer to low female singing voices?
25. I had no idea so many common expressions were originally written by Shakespeare. Wow!

Exercise 14 Writing Sentences with Interjections

Write ten sentences, using a different interjection in each. Take care to punctuate each sentence correctly.



UNIT 14

Grammar Review

PREPOSITIONS, CONJUNCTIONS, AND INTERJECTIONS

Eudora Welty was an American short story author and novelist who wrote about small-town life in the South. In her book *One Writer's Beginnings*, published in 1984, she described the influence of her family and surroundings on her writing. The following passage has been annotated to show some uses of prepositions and conjunctions.

Literature Model

from **One Writer's Beginnings**

by Eudora Welty

Mrs. Calloway made her own rules **about** books. You could not take back a book to the Library on the same day you'd taken it out; it made no difference to **her** that you'd read every word in it **and** needed another to start. You could take out two books at a time and two only; this applied as long as you were a child and also for the rest of your **life**, to my mother as severely as to me. So two by two, I read library books as fast as I could go, rushing them home in the basket **of my bicycle**. From the minute I reached our house, I started to read. Every book I seized on, from *Bunny Brown and His Sister Sue* at Camp Rest-a-While to *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*, stood for the devouring wish to read being instantly granted. I knew this was bliss, knew it **at the time**. Taste isn't nearly so important; it comes in its own time. I wanted to read *immediately*. The only fear was that of books coming to an end.

Preposition

Pronoun as object of the preposition

Conjunction connecting compound predicate

Noun as object of the preposition

Prepositional phrase (adjective phrase)

Prepositional phrase (adverb phrase)

Review: Exercise 1 Identifying Prepositions

Write each preposition in the sentences below.

SAMPLE Eudora Welty writes about the beginning of her love for books.

ANSWER about, of, for

1. Mrs. Calloway was an important part of Welty's early reading life.
2. The rules made by Mrs. Calloway seemed ridiculous to a young reader.
3. The library's rules were the same for all.
4. The important thing for Eudora Welty was having books available.
5. Welty read books by any author about any topic.

Review: Exercise 2 Using Prepositions

Write an appropriate preposition to replace each blank. Try to use a different preposition in each sentence.

SAMPLE Libraries _____ very large communities often have several branches.

ANSWER in

1. People _____ library cards can take home any of the books on the shelves.
2. All _____ the branches are available to anyone with a library card in the city.
3. There are library rules _____ children and adults.
4. A librarian is usually available to help you find your way _____ the library.
5. Short story collections are _____ the fiction section.
6. _____ this library is a wonderful section of young-adult fiction.
7. The section is _____ the back wall.
8. You can find it _____ the librarian's desk.
9. The librarian's desk is _____ the reference section.
10. The reference section is _____ the rare-book room and the fiction section.

Review: Exercise 3 Identifying Prepositional Phrases and Their Objects

Write the prepositional phrases from each sentence. Underline the object of each preposition.

SAMPLE Scholars often go to specialized libraries for information.

ANSWER to specialized libraries for information

1. Researchers needing information about fine arts or early printed books may go to the Morgan Library in New York City.
2. Near the Capitol in Washington, D.C., is the Folger Shakespeare Library.
3. Opposite the Folger, across the street, sits the huge Library of Congress.
4. The Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library at Yale University is housed inside a six-story glass enclosure on campus.
5. Because of the excellent collections within these libraries, scholars can study any subject along with you and me.

Review: Exercise 4 Choosing Object Pronouns

Write the correct pronoun for each sentence.

1. Books were Mrs. Calloway's subject, and she made rules about (they, them).
2. To (who, whom) did Mrs. Calloway's rules apply?
3. The rules applied equally to the two of (they, them), Eudora and her mother.
4. Eudora read so many books that she seemed to race through (they, them).
5. According to (she, her), she started to read as soon as she returned from the library.
6. Although Eudora may not have liked Mrs. Calloway, despite (she, her), the girl certainly enjoyed reading.
7. Although Eudora does not mention her father in this passage, her love of books may have been influenced by (he, him).
8. I, too, have always loved having books around (I, me).
9. My family and I always keep stacks of unread books near (we, us).
10. Without (they, them) we feel lost.

Grammar Review

Review: Exercise 5 Telling Prepositions from Adverbs

The following sentences are about Eudora Welty's life. Identify each underlined word as a *preposition* or an *adverb*. If the word is a preposition, write its object or objects.

1. *One Writer's Beginnings* is Eudora Welty's book about her own life.
2. The book discusses how the effects of her early years in the South come through in her stories.
3. Eudora Welty is an important Southern writer known for both her short stories and her novels.
4. In a library drawer, Welty's father kept musical instruments of all kinds.
5. Welty often looked inside to see the wonderful instruments.

Review: Exercise 6 Identifying Adjective and Adverb Phrases

Write each sentence. Underline each prepositional phrase and draw an arrow to the word it describes. Write whether the phrase functions as an *adjective* or an *adverb*.

SAMPLE Eudora Welty writes about her love of books.

ANSWER Eudora Welty writes about her love of books.
adverb phrase adjective phrase

1. Mrs. Calloway was an important part of Welty's early reading life.
2. Mrs. Calloway's rules were tiresome for an ardent reader.
3. Welty said everyone except her mother was afraid of Mrs. Calloway.
4. Mrs. Calloway asked everyone for silence.
5. The library's rules applied to adults and children.
6. Eudora rode her bike to the library.
7. Because of her love of books, she obeyed Mrs. Calloway's rules.
8. Eudora read books by any author.
9. A critic said parts of *One Writer's Beginnings* are a gift from Welty to her readers.
10. The Weltys had five encyclopedias in the bookcase in the living room.

Review: Exercise 7 Using Conjunctions to Combine Sentences

Combine each pair of sentences below by using the conjunction in parentheses to form a compound sentence, compound subject, or compound object. Write whether your sentence is a *compound sentence* or a sentence with a *compound subject* or a *compound predicate*.

SAMPLE Public libraries provide useful services. Budget problems are forcing some public libraries to cut back the services they provide. (but)

ANSWER Public libraries provide useful services, but budget problems are forcing some public libraries to cut back the services they provide. compound sentence

1. What do you think of your local library? How do you use your library? (and)
2. Consider the function of the library. Also think about the ways in which it serves the community. (and)
3. Our library is in a municipal building. The same building houses the town government. (and)
4. Some libraries provide a place for community meetings. Other libraries are just for reading and research. (or)
5. Small towns have limited funds for a library. Small towns may join with other nearby communities to form a regional library. (but)
6. Large cities have more than one library. Each of those libraries may house a specialized collection, such as business or health and medicine. (and)
7. No library can contain all the books its users need. Interlibrary loans allow readers to borrow books from other libraries. (but)
8. At the library, people can exchange community information and post notices. People can pick up tax forms and other printed material. (either, or)
9. A library exhibit can highlight special events and seasonal activities. The exhibit can suggest reading related to the topic. (or)
10. Libraries often have special collections of books for children. Libraries may provide story hours, films, and workshops for children. (and)

Review: Exercise 8 Writing Sentences

Write fifteen sentences, following the directions given below.

SAMPLE Write a sentence that begins with an interjection and contains a compound predicate.

ANSWER Oh, I fell and skinned my knee!

1. Write a sentence with a compound subject.
2. Write a compound sentence joined by the conjunction *and*.
3. Write a sentence that begins with an interjection followed by a comma.
4. Write a sentence with a compound predicate.
5. Write a sentence that uses the correlative conjunction *either, or*.
6. Write a sentence that is preceded by an interjection followed by an exclamation mark.
7. Write a compound sentence joined by the conjunction *but*.
8. Write a sentence that includes a prepositional phrase with a compound object.
9. Write a sentence that uses the conjunctions *both* and *and*.
10. Write a compound sentence that is joined by the conjunction *or* and contains an interjection.
11. Write a sentence that begins with a prepositional phrase in which the object is a pronoun.
12. Write a sentence that ends with a prepositional phrase in which the object is made up of two pronouns.
13. Write a sentence in which one part of the compound object of a preposition is a pronoun.
14. Write a compound sentence that contains a preposition of more than one word.
15. Write a sentence that contains two prepositional phrases, one used as an adjective and one as an adverb.

Review: Exercise 9

Proofreading



The following passage is about Janet Fish, whose painting *Toby and Claire Reading* appears on this page. Rewrite the passage, correcting the errors in spelling, capitalization, grammar, and usage. Add any missing punctuation. There are ten errors.

Janet Fish

¹Janet Fish' early interest in art is similar to Eudora Welty's love of books ²Her ambiton from early childhood was to be a sculptor. ³Fish's mother was a sculptor and her grandfather was a painter. ⁴Fish studied sculpture, printmaking and abstract painting in college, but painting was to become her lifes work. ⁵The effects of light on various surfaces are especially interesting to she. ⁶The painting *Toby and Claire Reading* show the importance of light and color for her. ⁷Although Fish's paintings are realistic, her art is strongly influence by she training in abstract painting. ⁸The painting *Toby and Claire Reading* mirror Eudora Welty's early love of books.



Janet Fish, *Toby and Claire Reading*, 1984

Review: Exercise 10

Mixed Review



Rewrite each item, following the directions in parentheses.

SAMPLE The Maya wrote their history _____ stone monuments. (Add a preposition.)

ANSWER on

1. Information was written _____ clay tablets in Mesopotamia and on papyrus in Egypt. (Add a preposition. Write whether the prepositional phrase is used as an *adjective* or an *adverb*.)
2. Papyrus was a writing material made _____ the fibers of water reeds. (Add a preposition. Draw an arrow from the prepositional phrase to the word it describes.)
3. _____ the fragile nature of papyrus, many ancient writings have not survived. (Begin with a preposition of more than one word.)
4. Ptolemy I made the Alexandrian Library the greatest in the ancient world. Ptolemy II made the Alexandrian Library the greatest in the ancient world. (Use a conjunction to form one sentence with a compound subject.)
5. It is amazing that not a trace of such a great library has ever been found. (Add an interjection.)
6. In 1859 British archaeologists found thousands of clay tablets. Scholars have not been able to understand the writing on them. (Use a conjunction to form a compound sentence.)
7. To _____, the cuneiform script on the tablets has been an unbreakable code. (Add an object pronoun to replace the words *the archaeologists*.)
8. Monks in monasteries copied religious works such as the Bible. They preserved the works of ancient scholars. (Use a conjunction to write one sentence with a compound predicate.)
9. Paper made books easier to produce. Movable type made books easier to produce. (Use a pair of correlative conjunctions to write one sentence with a compound subject.)
10. _____ the invention of the printing press, it took many hours of hand-copying to produce a Bible. (Add a preposition.)



Writing Application

TIME

For more about the importance of using language effectively, see **TIME Facing the Blank Page**, page 98.

Prepositions and Conjunctions in Writing

Freeman Hubbard uses prepositions and conjunctions in this passage from *The Great Days of the Circus* to help him convey the excitement of the circus's arrival. Examine the passage, focusing especially on the italicized words.

The street was alive *with noise* as the first four lovely ladies on horseback, trumpets lifted to their lips, came into sight. They were always lithe and lovely, *and* the plumes they wore danced as their horses pranced. Then came the band, *in red uniforms with gold braid*, riding on a gilded band wagon that was sometimes drawn by as many as forty horses. The band never stopped playing: the big bass drum thumped steadily, the trumpets *shrilled and blared*, the cymbals flashed *in the sun*. Behind the band came great floats.

Techniques with Prepositions and Conjunctions

Try to apply some of Hubbard's writing techniques when you write and revise your own work.

- 1 Use prepositional phrases as adjectives and adverbs to add specific details to your writing.

WITHOUT PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

Then came the band.

HUBBARD'S VERSION Then came the band, in red uniforms with gold braid, riding on a gilded band wagon.

- 2 To vary your writing, use conjunctions to form compound subjects, predicates, and sentences.

WITHOUT CONJUNCTIONS The trumpets shrilled. The trumpets blared.

HUBBARD'S VERSION The trumpets shrilled and blared.

Practice

Practice these techniques by revising the following passage on your own paper. Use prepositional phrases to add details and conjunctions to vary your sentences.

Marty and Josh had some free time. They decided to go to the library. It was a favorite place. The reading corner was surrounded by shelves. There were chairs and a couch. Marty chose a best-seller. Josh picked out a magazine. They settled down for a good read. They had an hour before Josh's mother was to pick them up. The room was quiet. The light was soft. No one disturbed them. It was so restful that both boys forgot the time.

