

Stage 2 Writing Tips for Parents



Sentences-Prepositions



Syllabus Links

EN2-9B: A student uses effective and accurate sentence structure, grammatical features, punctuation conventions and vocabulary relevant to the type of text when responding to and composing texts.

Content:

- understand and apply knowledge of language forms and features
- understand how to elaborate on ideas in texts through the use of prepositional phrases

Advice for Parents

There are approximately 150 prepositions in English. The prepositions **of**, **to** and **in** are among the ten most frequent words in English. The name “preposition” (pre + position) means “place before”. Prepositions usually come before another word.

Remember: Another way to improve in writing is by providing your child with appropriate books to read. Authors such as Jackie French, Emily Rodda and Tristan Banks use prepositions and other grammatical features in their stories which will greatly benefit their writing.

Activities at Home

Here are some activities that you may want to try at home to help your child improve.

Grand design: prepositions of place

Have your child describe their ideal bedroom or living room to you. Tell them to imagine they have just won the lottery and can buy their dream house. They have to write a detailed description of their ideal home, using prepositions of place, to give to an interior designer.

There is a 50-inch TV screen on the ceiling in the bedroom

Once finished, they can sketch it.

Getting Around Town

Work with your child to create a map of a fictional town. The map should include typical buildings like a school, library, police station, grocery store and homes. Discuss where each of the buildings should be located on the map using prepositions of location. Once the map is finished, have your child write down the locations of buildings.

For example, The Police Station is on the left of the Library.

Look Around

Take turns saying where items in the household are without saying the object itself.

For example, you could say, “This object is over by the door.” Your child guesses which item you are describing. “Is it the clock?” If they get the answer right, they switch roles. This is also a good way to review vocabulary of household objects.

Preposition Simon Says

Have your child choose one object that they can use while playing. You might choose a chair. Play the game as you normally would, but with each instruction use a preposition to describe where the player is in relation to the object you are using.

*For example, you might give instructions like the following:
Simon says stand on your chair.
Simon says put your hand under your chair.
Simon says hold your chair in front of you.*