

Language Handbook **1** The Parts of Speech

**WORKSHEET 8**

**Identifying and Using Prepositions, Adverbs, Conjunctions, and Interjections**

**Exercise A** Each of the following sentences contains two prepositions. Draw a line under each preposition.

**EXAMPLE 1.** The books of poetry are on the top shelf.

1. Do your work in study hall or do it at home.
2. After the dance we went to Gerry’s house.
3. Lorraine Hansberry’s plays about racial and social issues were praised by critics.
4. Behind the fence I found my bicycle, with a flat tire.
5. Since September she has been the principal of our school.
6. As I walked from the building, I met the principal on the steps.
7. For social studies I read a book about Sacajawea.
8. Margaret lives in an apartment building on Sheridan Avenue.
9. Beyond the valley the mountains were black against the sky.
10. During vacation Derrick kept busy working around the house.

**Exercise B** On the line provided, classify the italicized word in each sentence as a preposition or as an adverb. Use the abbreviations *PREP* for preposition and *ADV* for adverb.

**EXAMPLES** PREP 1. Leroy jumped *across* the creek.  
ADV 2. Can you make it *across*?

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Time passes *on* and waits for no one.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Shawn put his trophy *on* the coffee table.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. “Have you seen Mr. Bluehouse *since*?” she asked.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. “I haven’t seen him *since* the party,” I replied.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. *Behind* me stood Coach Davis.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. There is a good restaurant *up* the road about three miles.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Marshall went *back* for help.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. The rescue team quickly headed *under* the bridge.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. We were just sitting *down* when the phone rang.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Please put the cat *out* before you go.

*Continued* 

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**Exercise C** On the lines provided, write short sentences using the italicized words as directed.

**EXAMPLE 1.** *behind* as a preposition The bowls were behind the plates.

1. *up* as a preposition \_\_\_\_\_
2. *up* as an adverb \_\_\_\_\_
3. *down* as a preposition \_\_\_\_\_
4. *down* as an adverb \_\_\_\_\_
5. *over* as an adverb \_\_\_\_\_

**Exercise D** Underline the conjunction or conjunctions in each sentence.

**EXAMPLES** 1. I recognized you but not your brother.  
2. Neither Sam nor Luisa has arrived yet.

1. Every day I have to feed both my dog and my cat.
2. The crowd roared when Antuan hit the home run.
3. Always try to do the job quietly and correctly.
4. The clown looked sad but made me laugh.
5. Let me know if you want to borrow that Rudolfo Anaya novel.
6. Since they gave me tickets, I plan to go.
7. I can ride my bicycle on the road or through the woods.
8. "Slow but sure" is my motto.
9. The defendant could either pay a fine or go to jail.
10. I enjoy the writings of both James Baldwin and Ralph Ellison.

**Exercise E** Underline the interjection in each sentence.

**EXAMPLE 1.** Oh, never mind.

1. Whew, I'm glad that test is over.
2. I wonder if this plate is hot—yikes!
3. I've seen that movie, oh, four or five times.
4. Look, I don't think I can make it to the party.
5. After reading *Romeo and Juliet*, Carla said, "Wow, what a great play!"