

# Prepositional Phrases

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_\_ / 10



## Quick Review

A preposition is a word like in, on, under, behind, with, or near. A prepositional phrase starts with the preposition and ends with a noun or pronoun (the object): 'under the big bed'. Watch out: a word like 'up' can be a preposition ('up the hill') OR a phrasal-verb particle ('look up the word'). 'To' before a verb ('to swim') is an infinitive, not a prepositional phrase.

## PRACTICE

Find the prepositional phrase or choose the best preposition.

- Which group of words is a true prepositional phrase?
  - ran very fast
  - feeling really happy
  - under the front porch
  - to swim quickly
- Which prepositional phrase is in this sentence? The kitten jumped onto the soft pillow.
  - onto the soft pillow
  - The kitten jumped
  - jumped onto
  - the soft pillow
- Choose the best preposition: The squirrel hid \_\_\_\_\_ the tall oak tree.
  - between
  - during
  - beside
  - behind
- Choose the best preposition: We will leave for camp \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday morning.
  - in
  - at
  - by
  - on



5. Choose the best preposition: I keep my markers \_\_\_\_\_ a plastic bin.
- A. in
  - B. on
  - C. above
  - D. between
6. Which sentence has TWO prepositional phrases?
- A. The dog barked loudly at the mailman.
  - B. She ran across the field after school.
  - C. We laughed at the silly joke.
  - D. He sang quietly to himself.
7. Underline the prepositional phrase by writing it here: The book on the top shelf is mine.
- Answer: \_\_\_\_\_
8. In which sentence is 'up' a PREPOSITION (part of a prepositional phrase), not a phrasal-verb particle?
- A. Please look up the new word in the dictionary.
  - B. The climber walked up the steep hill.
  - C. Don't give up so easily.
  - D. She picked up her scattered toys.
9. True or False: A prepositional phrase always ends with a verb.
- T / F**
10. Write one sentence about your classroom that contains a prepositional phrase. Underline the phrase.

---

---



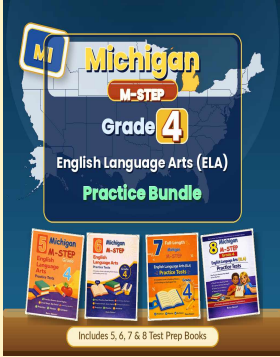
# Answer Keys

<p>1 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input checked="" type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>2 <input checked="" type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>3 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input checked="" type="radio"/> D</p> <p>4 <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input checked="" type="radio"/> D</p> <p>5 <input checked="" type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p>	<p>6 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>7 <input type="text" value="on the top shelf"/></p> <p>8 <input type="radio"/> A <input checked="" type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D</p> <p>9 <input type="radio"/> T <input type="radio"/> F</p> <p>10 <input type="text" value="See below"/></p>
---	--

Explanations	
<b>1. C</b>	A prepositional phrase = preposition + noun/pronoun object. C: 'under' (prep) + 'porch' (noun). A is verb + adverb; B is verb + adverb + adjective; D is an INFINITIVE ('to swim') — the 'to' is a verb marker, not a preposition.
<b>2. A</b>	The phrase starts with the preposition 'onto' and ends with the noun object 'pillow'. B is subject + verb; C is verb + preposition (no object); D is just a noun phrase (no preposition).
<b>3. D</b>	'Behind' fits 'hid'. 'Between' needs TWO things ('between the trees'); 'during' is for time ('during the storm'); 'beside' = next to, which doesn't hide the squirrel.
<b>4. D</b>	Use 'on' with days of the week. 'In' is for months/years; 'at' is for clock times ('at 6:00'); 'by' would mean 'no later than Sunday', a different meaning.
<b>5. A</b>	'In' = inside a container. 'On' would mean resting on top of the bin; 'above' = higher than the bin (not touching); 'between' would need two bins.
<b>6. B</b>	B has 'across the field' AND 'after school' — two phrases. A has only 'at the mailman' ('loudly' is an adverb). C has only 'at the joke'. D has only 'to himself' ('quietly' is an adverb).
<b>7.</b>	<b>Answer:</b> on the top shelf Phrase = preposition 'on' + noun object 'shelf' (with adjectives 'the top' modifying 'shelf'). Accept: 'on the top shelf'. Common wrong answers: 'on the' (missing the noun object); 'the top shelf' (no preposition); 'on top' (missing 'the shelf').
<b>8. B</b>	In B, 'up the steep hill' = preposition + noun = prepositional phrase. A, C, and D are PHRASAL VERBS ('look up' = search, 'give up' = quit, 'pick up' = collect). In phrasal verbs, 'up' is a particle attached to the verb, not a preposition with its own object.
<b>9. False</b>	It ends with a noun or pronoun (the object of the preposition).
<b>10.</b>	<b>Answer:</b> Example: My backpack is under my desk. Sentence must contain a true prepositional phrase (preposition + noun/pronoun object) AND that phrase must be underlined or clearly marked. Mark wrong: phrase that is actually an infinitive (e.g. 'to read'); phrase with no object ('on the'); a phrasal verb labeled as a prepositional phrase (e.g. underlining 'look up').



## Want Even More Practice? Check Out Our Other Michigan M-STEP ELA Test Books!




Includes 5, 6, 7 & 8 Test Prep Books

### Michigan M-STEP Grade 4 ELA Preparation Bundle

26 full-length practice tests across four books (5 + 6 + 7 + 8)

*No repeated questions — maximum practice value!*

▼ DOWNLOAD INSTANTLY ▼



SCAN ME

*Point your phone camera at the code · instant access to all four books*

**26 Tests!**  
**4 Books**  
**One Bundle**

**Important:** All our test books contain **unique, completely different tests** from each other! Each book offers fresh practice questions — no repeats!

<h4>5 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 5 complete practice tests with detailed explanations</li> <li>✓ Perfect foundation for M-STEP ELA prep</li> <li>✓ Builds confidence and test-taking skills</li> <li>✓ High-quality questions aligned with standards</li> </ul> <p><b>Start your practice journey!</b></p>	<h4>6 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 6 complete practice tests with detailed explanations</li> <li>✓ <b>Unique tests</b> — different from the 5 tests book</li> <li>✓ Perfect for more practice after mastering 5 tests</li> <li>✓ Same high-quality questions aligned with standards</li> </ul> <p><b>Take your practice to the next level!</b></p>	<h4>7 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 7 complete practice tests for deeper preparation</li> <li>✓ <b>Unique tests</b> — different from 5 and 6 tests books</li> <li>✓ Builds stamina with full-length practice</li> <li>✓ Aligned to Grade 4 M-STEP ELA standards</li> </ul> <p><b>Maximum preparation power!</b></p>	<h4>8 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 8 complete practice tests — our largest book</li> <li>✓ <b>Unique tests</b> — different from 5, 6 and 7 books</li> <li>✓ Great for final review before test day</li> <li>✓ Builds true test stamina and confidence</li> </ul> <p><b>Be fully prepared!</b></p>
--	--	--	---

Get the bundle at [EffortlessMath.com](https://www.EffortlessMath.com) — scan the QR code above to open the product page.