

BULATS Speaking phrases prepositions pairwork

Student A

Choose one of the prepositions below and give your partner example sentences with the preposition missing until they guess what word it is. They are only allowed **one guess per example sentence**. If you run out of examples, make up your own or give other clues like the meaning of the missing word.

About

Can I ask a question **about** the task?
Can you tell me **about** where you are living?
I don't know much **about** this, but...
Is there anything you dislike **about** your work?
I'd like to ask you some questions **about** yourself, if that's okay.
I'd like to speak **about**...
I'm going to talk **about**...
I've never thought **about** that before.
What are the best things **about** your job?
What do you like **about** the area where you live?
What else did I have to speak **about**? Oh yes,...

As

I work **as** a sales rep

At

Are you working **at** the moment?
What is your typical day **at** work like?

Back

I'll check with my boss and get **back** to you in the next couple of days.

By

By the time I am forty, I want to...
I'd like to start **by** asking you some questions to find out about you, if that is okay.
I'll get back to you **by** the end of next week.
What do you mean **by** 'booth'?

For

Do you have any plans or ambitions **for** the future?
Do you travel **for** your work?
I work **for** a trading company called Huppersept.
Now I'd like you to choose a topic and speak about it **for** one minute.
Thanks **for** coming here to see me today
What are your plans **for** your next holiday?

From

Are you **from** round here?

Do you live far **from** here?

I live in Chiba, which is a fairly large city about one hour **from** Tokyo.

In

Are you interested **in** sport?

Do you live **in** a house or a flat?

Good afternoon. Come **in** please and take a seat over here.

How do you picture your career **in** the year 2030?

How important is English **in** your job?

How long do you think you will continue living **in** your present accommodation?

I am based **in** the centre of Tokyo.

I want to continue working **in** the same area, but maybe for a bigger company.

I was born **in** Osaka.

I was brought up **in** Kyushu.

I work **in** the finance department of Mitsui

If you could live **in** any country, where would you choose?

In my honest opinion,...

Is Tokyo the only place you have lived **in**?

My office is **in** Otemachi.

My company specialises **in** products for the elderly.

What do you think you will be doing **in** ten years' time?

What job do you hope to be doing **in** ten years' time?

What kind of accommodation do you live **in**?

What position would you like **in** the future?

What things would you recommend a foreign tourist to do **in** your country?

Swap worksheets and do the same, but this time starting with the most difficult examples (because your partner has already seen that worksheet).

Look at both worksheets and ask about anything you don't understand, you think could have a different word in, etc.

Ask each other questions from the worksheets.

Ask each other questions which could get responses like those on the worksheets (e.g. "Where do you work?" for "My office is in...")

Student B

Choose one of the prepositions below and give your partner example sentences with the preposition missing until they guess what word it is. They are only allowed **one guess per example sentence**. If you run out of examples, make up your own or give other clues like the meaning of the missing word.

Like

So, I'd like to start by asking you about your present job. What is a typical working day **like**?

What is your hometown **like**?

What is your local area **like**?

Of

I do quite a lot **of** overtime.

I really can't think **of** anything at the moment.

I work in the HR department **of** Mitsui.

I've just thought **of** one more question.

My main duties consist **of**...

That is the end **of** my presentation.

What is the most interesting part **of** your work?

What kind **of** work do you do?

Off

What are you going to do on your next days **off**?

On

I live **on** the seventh floor of an apartment building.

Let's move **on** now and talk about your leisure time and interests.

Moving **on** to the third point,...

What do you usually do **on** your days off?

... and that is all I can think of to say **on** the topic.

Up

I grew **up** in the North of Japan.

I'd like to set **up** my own company.

With

I live **with** my parents.

I agree **with** you.

To

Another thing I wanted **to** ask was...
Do you prefer **to** travel to cities or the countryside?
Have you been **to** any English speaking countries?
I don't have enough time **to** do exercise.
I go **to** a gym twice a week.
I need **to** pass BULATS to get a promotion.
It took me about an hour **to** come here this morning.
I'm afraid nothing is coming **to** mind.
I've never been **to** Africa.
My ambition is **to**...
Pleased **to** meet you.
To answer the second question,...
What do you do **to** keep fit?
What would you like me **to** call you?
Would you like **to** have your boss's job?

No preposition

Are you going to do anything interesting (**no preposition**) this weekend?
Can you give (**no preposition**) me an example?
Have you visited (**no preposition**) many foreign countries?
I'm Alex and I'm your examiner (**no preposition**) today.
I'm seeing some other companies (**no preposition**) this afternoon and I'll make a choice then.
Please call (**no preposition**) me John.
When do you think you will next travel (**no preposition**) overseas?
Would you like you live (**no preposition**) abroad?

Swap worksheets and do the same, but this time starting with the most difficult examples (because your partner has already seen that worksheet).

Look at both worksheets and ask about anything you don't understand, you think could have a different word in, etc.

Ask each other questions from the worksheets.

Ask each other questions which could get responses like those on the worksheets (e.g. "Where do you work?" for "My office is in...")