

Prepositional phrases

Part 1: Phrases and Definitions

A. Match the phrases with their correct definitions.

1. At last
2. On foot
3. By mistake
4. In advance
5. Out of reach
6. For instance
7. In danger
8. Without fail
9. By chance
10. On purpose
11. For a change
12. On time
13. To my surprise
14. At once
15. In common

Definitions:

- a. Always / definitely
- b. Too high to touch (literally or metaphorically)
- c. Not meaning to
- d. Without planning
- e. Intending to do something
- f. I was surprised
- g. At the time that was arranged
- h. Immediately
- i. Here is an example
- j. Walking (NOT by foot)
- k. Something that's shared or the same
- l. Finally
- m. In a dangerous situation
- n. To do something different
- o. Beforehand

B. Use the correct phrase from the list above to complete the sentences.

1. She was _____ for the meeting. It started at nine and she arrived at nine.
2. I usually go to work _____.
3. I dropped the glass _____. I'm really sorry.
4. I opened the door, and _____, it was Lucy! I'd thought she was in Paris.
5. I saw Julie at the station _____.
6. She tried to grab the kite as it flew away but it was already _____.
7. John reads a lot. _____, yesterday he read two books.
8. When the car started rolling we realised that we were _____. Luckily we managed to stop.
9. People from different countries have a lot _____. We all want to have good lives.
10. She visits her mother every week _____.
11. She left without paying _____! It wasn't a mistake.
12. Let's have Italian food _____. We always eat British food.
13. We need to book the tickets for the cinema _____, or we won't get a good seat.
14. You must do it _____! Don't wait even one minute.
15. After a long journey, _____ we arrived at our hotel.

Part 2: Practice Using Phrases

A. Rewrite the following sentences using the correct phrase from the list.

1. She always visits her mother every week.

Rewrite: She visits her mother _____.

2. I met an old friend without planning while I was at the park.

Rewrite: I met an old friend _____ while I was at the park.

3. I need to book my flight before the deadline.

Rewrite: I need to book my flight _____.

4. The cat and the dog have many similarities.

Rewrite: The cat and the dog have many things _____.

5. She did her homework as soon as she got home.

Rewrite: She did her homework _____ as soon as she got home.

Part 3: Create Your Own Sentences

A. Choose five phrases from the list and write your own sentences.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

-

Prepositional phrases

Answer sheet

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A. Match the phrases with their correct definitions.

1. At last - **l. Finally**
2. On foot - **j. Walking (NOT by foot)**
3. By mistake - **c. Not meaning to**
4. In advance - **o. Beforehand**
5. Out of reach - **b. Too high to touch (literally or metaphorically)**
6. For instance - **i. Here is an example**
7. In danger - **m. In a dangerous situation**
8. Without fail - **a. Always / definitely**
9. By chance - **d. Without planning**
10. On purpose - **e. Intending to do something**
11. For a change - **n. To do something different**
12. On time - **g. At the time that was arranged**
13. To my surprise - **f. I was surprised**
14. At once - **h. Immediately**
15. In common - **k. Something that's shared or the same**

B. Use the correct phrase from the list above to complete the sentences.

She was on time for the meeting. It started at nine and she arrived at nine.

I usually go to work on foot.

I dropped the glass by mistake. I'm really sorry.

I opened the door, and to my surprise, it was Lucy! I'd thought she was in Paris.

I saw Julie at the station by chance.

She tried to grab the kite as it flew away but it was already out of reach.

John reads a lot. For instance, yesterday he read two books.

When the car started rolling we realised that we were in danger. Luckily we managed to stop.

We need to book the tickets for the cinema in advance, or we won't get a good seat.

People from different countries have a lot in common. We all want to have good lives.

She visits her mother every week without fail.

She left without paying on purpose! It wasn't a mistake.

Let's have Italian food for a change. We always eat British food.

You must do it at once! Don't wait even one minute.

After a long journey, at last we arrived at our hotel.

Part 2: Practice Using Phrases

A. Rewrite the following sentences using the correct phrase from the list.

1. She always visits her mother every week.

Rewrite: She visits her mother without fail.

2. I met an old friend without planning while I was at the park.

Rewrite: I met an old friend by chance while I was at the park.

3. I need to book my flight before the deadline.

Rewrite: I need to book my flight in advance.

4. The cat and the dog have many similarities.

Rewrite: The cat and the dog have many things in common.

5. She did her homework as soon as she got home.

Rewrite: She did her homework at once as soon as she got home.

Part 3: Create Your Own Sentences

A. Choose five phrases from the list and write your own sentences.

(Note: These answers will vary. Here are some example answers.)

1. Without fail: I exercise every morning without fail.

2. By chance: I found a lovely cafe by chance while exploring the city.

3. In advance: We need to prepare the presentation in advance.

4. On purpose: He knocked over the vase on purpose because he was angry.

5. For a change: Let's go to the beach for a change instead of the park.