

Prepositions Exercise 10 Answer Key

In each space below, write the appropriate preposition.

1. ***On*** September 7, 1892, the first heavyweight championship fight occurred ***in*** which the contestants wore padded gloves, with James J. Corbett knocking out John L. Sullivan in the twenty-first round.
Until that date, boxers had always fought with bare fists.
2. ***In*** 1892, ***during*** the long election campaign in Georgia, white Democrats murdered fifteen blacks and stuffed the ballot boxes so that in one city, Augusta, the total vote was twice as large as the number ***of*** registered voters.
3. ***In*** 1895, it had been thirty years ***since*** the last American war had ended, and many Americans were anxious for another, including future President Theodore Roosevelt, who wanted to fight England over a border disagreement in South America. However, the United States remained at peace ***for*** a few more years ***until*** 1898, when the Spanish-American War began.
4. ***In*** the same year, ***during*** a two-month stay in Denver, Colorado, a faith healer named Francis Schlatter treated two or three thousand people daily. As they passed by him in single file, he silently took each person's right hand and prayed softly ***for*** a few seconds.
During the time he visited Denver, he was worshiped by many people; in other places, he was put ***into*** jail or mental institutions.
5. ***On*** April 19, 1910, Hailley's Comet flashed ***on*** the horizon, making its first visit ***in*** 1759. Many people stayed home with their families, fearing doomsday at the moment when the earth passed through the comet's tail. The next appearance of the comet was ***at*** 9:30 p.m. Greenwich Mean time, ***on*** February 9, 1986.

6. Awakened suddenly **at** 2:30 a.m. by the news that Mexico's President Huerta had arrested American sailors at Tampico, President Wilson issued an order to attack Veracruz. A landing party did so, killing hundreds of Mexicans. Later **in** the morning, Wilson sent for his chief usher, shook an angry fist **at** him, and ordered that he was never to be awakened again **in** the middle of the night. No man, he said, can make a clear decision when startled out of a calm sleep.
7. On February 14, 1929, fourteen men who belonged to Bugs Moran's gang were shot to death **in** a warehouse **on** Clark Street **in** Chicago on orders from Al Capone. This later became known as the St. Valentine's Day Massacre.
8. On October 24 of the same year, **in** the stock exchange **on** the corner of Wall and Board Streets **in** New York city, stock prices fell dramatically as people sold in panic. This was the unofficial beginning of the Great Depression.
9. On July 22, 1934, John Dillinger, called "Public Enemy Number One" for robbing banks **in** a number of states, was shot and killed by Melvin Purvis of the FBI as Dillinger was leaving the Biograph Theatre **at** 2433 North Lincoln Avenue **in** Chicago.
10. Years ago, most people traveled great distances **by** trains; now almost everyone travels **on** planes.
11. We went downtown **in** a taxi. We got **out** of the taxi at the Central Library.
12. The living room is full **of** people. Some are standing, but most of them are sitting **on** the sofa or **on** chairs.
13. I usually get **on** the bus at Main Street and **off** it on Broadway.
14. Please take the books **off** the table and put them **on** the shelf.

15. "Moving pictures" were first shown in the United States on April 23, 1896, at Kooster and Bial's Music Hall in New York City. No one was excited by the subject matter: a man walking his dog from one place to another, a train arriving at a station, and a balloon floating in the air. for a while, no one cared.
16. Legal battles of Thomas Edison, the inventor of motion pictures, and the moviemakers nearly destroyed interest in the new entertainment medium, and watching a man and his dog was boring audiences. Movies were moving towards extinction; they badly needed a creative filmmaker to save them.
17. Edwin S. Porter filled the bill. He had been a technician before he came to work for Edison in 1899. He began as a cameraman but after two years was director of a production on Edison's film company. It was then that he began the search for a new way of presenting stories on film. The result was *The Great Train Robbery*.
18. Although only a ten-minute film, the Great Train robbery established filmmaking techniques that would be used for many years afterward. Porter created the classic Western, with believable heroes and villains. He moved the camera around, cutting back and forth between characters as the action progressed. The story ended dramatically, with robber George Barnes turning to the audience and shooting straight at them.
19. The film first opened in late 1903 at three locations in New York City, but in a few months it was sweeping the country. Porter thus single-handedly transformed the movie industry from a weak medium to a lively new one.
20. As one can guess from the title, the film is about a train robbery. The action begins at a telegraph station, where a telegraph operator is overcome, tied up, gagged, and left unconscious on the floor by the robbers. They then get on a train, murder the fireman,

blow open a safe, rob the passengers and shoot one who tries to escape. The robbers then rush **off** the train, jump **on** their horses, and ride through the mountains with their bags of gold. They go **to** a log cabin, where they are finally shot to death by the sheriff and his posse. Curiously enough, although the film had no sound, some people **in** the audience put their fingers **to** their ears when the robbers and law officers shot their guns. In fact, the action was so realistic that audiences wondered if a man who had fallen **off** his horse survived afterward.

21. The rich often compete **with** one another, and William C. Whitney (1841- 1904) was no exception. Whitney became a multimillionaire by investing **in** many profitable businesses. Not wishing to be excluded **from** New York city's high society, he had to own a house that was acceptable **to** the "right" people. Therefore, he bought a brownstone at 871 Fifth Avenue and involved himself **with** furnishing it fashionably. He went on a four-year tour of Europe, scouring it **for** furniture, stained-glass windows, and fireplaces **with** which he and his guests would be comfortable. However, in addition **to** gathering these furnishings, he did a thorough job of wrecking palaces. Not concerned **about** the expense, he exported an entire ballroom **from** Bordeaux, France. The room was sixty-three feet long and forty-five feet wide, and it cost \$50,000 to import **to** 871 Fifth Avenue. The five hundred guests who accepted invitations **to** the coming-out party for the ballroom drank twelve hundred bottles of vintage champagne. The guests were most interested **in** a fountain gushing the finest champagne, which became the trademark of Whitney's parties. Always an excellent host, he expanded his facilities **from** these modest beginnings and kept a staff of servants capable of serving one hundred people on an hour's notice. His friends came to expect surprises **from** him, and **at** one of Whitney's dinners, which cost \$20,000, each guest discovered a precious black pearl in one **of** his or her oysters.

22. Cornelius Vanderbilt, later to become known as "the Commodore" because **of** his success in shipping, was born **on** Staten Island, New York, **on** May 27, 1794. Descended from Dutch farmers living

__in__ the area __in__ 1630, Vanderbilt was a stubborn young man who was dedicated __to__ making money fast. He quit school **at** the age of eleven and was working **for** himself at sixteen. He started **with** the purchase of a small boat using money borrowed **from** his parents and provided ferry service **for** passengers **from** Staten Island **to** Manhattan. He quickly excelled **in** this business and enlarged his fleet to three schooners. However, he sold his sailing vessels **in** 1817 to take advantage **of** the opportunity to learn the steamboat business.

23. **For** several years, he took care **of** another man's steamboat fleet, but knowing what all rich people instinctively know – one never makes a lot **of** money working **for** someone else – Vanderbilt decided to start his own steamboat business **in** 1829. By 1835, he was earning \$60,000 a year, and **by** 1846 the Commodore was a millionaire. What was the reason **for** his success? He had no pity **for** his competitors. He cut his fares and offered better service, all of which resulted **in** driving the competition out of business. Intent **on** creating a monopoly in American transportation, he took advantage **of** his great power and his opponents' weaknesses and created a network of steamboat lines **on** the New York and New England seaboard. **At** one point, he owned one hundred vessels.
24. With the discovery of gold **in** California **in** 1849, Vanderbilt quickly thought **of** a way to multiply his already tremendous wealth. He established the Accessory Transit Company **for** the purpose **of** taking prospectors to Panama, then overland to the Pacific, and then to California. His company provided transit to the gold country **for** two thousand passengers a month, who paid him only \$300 **for** the entire trip, by far the cheapest rate available. No one was capable **of** competing **with** him, and soon Vanderbilt had control **of** this industry as well. The Commodore was making a million dollars a year and, delighted **at** success, boasted in 1853 that his net worth stood at \$11 million.
25. In 1860, Vanderbilt lost his fascination **with** ships, for he had decided **on** entering the railroad business. **In** search **of** a

bargain, he bought controlling interests ***in*** two badly managed railroads and then merged them into one profitable line. He acquired the New York Central ***in*** spite ***of*** efforts to stop him, and he eventually established the first New York- to- Chicago system.

26. At his death ***in*** 1877, the eighty-two-year-old Vanderbilt was the richest man ***in*** the United States. Starting ***with*** nothing, he had made more than \$100 million. ***In*** his will, he contributed some of his fortune ***to*** Central University ***in*** Nashville, Tennessee, which later changed its name to Vanderbilt University. The majority of his estate --some \$90 million-- went ***to*** his son, William Henry Vanderbilt, who increased this nest egg to \$194 million ***by*** the time of his death in 1885.