

THE PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE

A **phrase** is a group of words without a subject and a verb, used as one part of speech. A **verb phrase** is two or more words used as a verb: *might have gone, should have given, could have seen*. A **noun phrase** is two or more words used as a noun: *the Berlin Wall, Grant Park*.

The **prepositional phrase** consists of the preposition, its object, and modifiers of the object. The object of a preposition is always a noun, a pronoun, or a group of words used as a noun. The adjective phrase always comes immediately after the noun or pronoun it modifies.

ex. My check *for the dress* is in the mail ("*for the dress*" modifies check).

The adverb phrase tells *how, when, or where* about a verb, adjective or adverb.

ex. The boy fell *on the stairs* ("*on the stairs*" tells *where* he fell).

Identifying Prepositional Phrases. Underline the prepositional phrases. Circle the word or words that each phrase modifies.

Example: The girl in the yellow dress is my cousin.

1. Benjamin Franklin was born in 1706.
2. My jacket is the one with brass buttons.
3. Bill Carter took five subjects during his sophomore year.
4. The old man stood patiently at the door.
5. I stumbled over Tom's feet.
6. Behind the counter stood the worried clerk.
7. Miss Morgan is the coach of our debate team.
8. Our team has never played against yours.
9. The tall man across the room is tonight's speaker.
10. The ball was thrown over the roof.
11. Mrs. Garner poured some iced tea into my glass.
12. Dan drove slowly past the corner.
13. The name of the book is Alone.
14. Our house is located beyond the city limits.
15. Throughout the night the doctor stayed nearby.
16. Miss Mason fell off the ladder and sprained her ankle.
17. Under the table the dog waited.
18. We are proud because we stayed within our budget.
19. I'll tell you a story about pioneer days.
20. We visited the park between rain showers.

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