

Prepositions Exercise 1

Please choose the correct preposition (*in/of/on*) for the sentences in this exercise.

Here is a reminder of some uses of these prepositions:

- in* – completely or partly enclosed by something
- of* – belonging to something or someone; contained in something
- on* – the basis for something

1. All the students will work ___ a collaborative environment.
2. They need to concentrate ___ their studies.
3. They will be placed ___ a range of community settings.
4. We examined the scientific basis ___ dental practice.
5. This degree appeals to students who are interested ___ working in the new fields and occupations created by digitisation
6. The essay will be ___ a topic you have studied recently.
7. These are the cultural processes ___ globalisation.
8. Here is a simple analysis ___ algorithms.
9. The researchers are reliant ___ external funding.
10. This course provides the opportunity to focus ___ your major area of interest.
11. You will study this ___ a social context.
12. You will study the important causes ___ environmental change.
13. The course is ___ the boundary of advanced engineering and science.
14. This program offers a broad education in areas relevant to the study ___ human health.
15. Evolutionary Biology involves the study ___ information contained in living plants and animals.

Answers to Prepositions Exercise 1

1. All the students will work **in** a collaborative environment.

Details: The students will be surrounded by a collaborative atmosphere.

2. They need to concentrate **on** their studies.

Details: The studies are the basis for their concentration.

3. They will be placed **in** a range of community settings.

Details: They will be partly enclosed by the community settings.

4. We examined the scientific basis **of** dental practice.

Details: The basis belongs to dental practice.

5. This degree appeals to students who are interested **in** working in the new fields and occupations created by digitisation

Details: The students are surrounded by their interest.

6. The essay will be **on** a topic you have studied recently.

Details: The topic will be the basis for the essay.

7. These are the cultural processes **of** globalisation.

Details: The processes belong to globalisation.

8. Here is a simple analysis **of** algorithms.

Details: The algorithms belong to the analysis.

9. The researchers are reliant **on** external funding.

Details: External funding is the basis for the researchers' work.

10. This course provides the opportunity to focus **on** your major area of interest.

Details: The major area of interest will be the basis for a student's work in this course.

11. You will study this **in** a social context.

Details: A social context will surround this study,

12. You will study the important causes **of** environmental change.

Details: You will study the causes that belong to environmental change.

13. The course is **on** the boundary of advanced engineering and science.

Details: The boundary of these two subjects is the basis for the course.

14. This program offers a broad education in areas relevant to the study **of** human health.

Details: Human health is an area that belongs to the study.

15. Evolutionary Biology involves the study **of** information contained in living plants and animals.

Details: The information belongs to the study.

Prepositions Exercise 2

Please choose the correct preposition (*about/for/to*) for the sentences in this exercise.

Here is a reminder of some uses of these prepositions:

about – around something or enclosing something

for – with a purpose or giving a reason

to – in a direction

1. In addition to the formal contact time required ___ each course students will need to allocate non-contact time.
2. The course encourages students to think critically ___ development.
3. The relative proportion of contact and non-contact time may vary from course ___ course.
4. The course aims to help people make sound choices ___ health.
5. Graduates are well equipped ___ careers in environmental policy.
6. Marine Biology is all ___ the largest and most diverse ecosystem on the planet – the sea.
7. This academic program offers opportunities for studies that can lead ___ careers in the increasingly important field of international business.
8. Students will learn ___ such key concepts as the scientific method.
9. The degree is designed to build a student's capacity ___ lifelong learning beyond graduation.
10. You will study issues related ___ individual adjustment and maladjustment.

Answers to Prepositions Exercise 2

1. In addition to the formal contact time required **for** each course students will need to allocate non-contact time.

Details: *for* tells us the purpose of the time required

2. The course encourages students to think critically **about** development.

Details: Students must consider everything connected to development in this subject.

3. The relative proportion of contact and non-contact time may vary from course **to** course.

Details: from one course in the direction of another course

4. The course aims to help people make sound choices **about** health.

Details: *about health* means *in the area which includes health*.

5. Graduates are well equipped **for** careers in environmental policy.

Details: the purpose of studying in this course is to gain a career in environmental policy

6. Marine Biology is all **about** the largest and most diverse ecosystem on the planet - the sea.

Details: Marine biology includes the study of the sea.

7. This academic program offers opportunities for studies that can lead **to** careers in the increasingly important field of international business.

Details: These studies lead in the direction of careers in international business.

8. Students will learn **about** such key concepts as the scientific method.

Details: The course will include the scientific method.

9. The degree is designed to build a student's capacity **for** lifelong learning beyond graduation.

Details: The purpose of the degree is to build students' skills

10. You will study issues related **to** individual adjustment and maladjustment.

Details: You will study issues that point you to knowledge of individual adjustment and maladjustment.

Prepositions Exercise 3

Please add prepositions to the gaps in this passage.

You will need: *at, for, from, in, of, on, to,*

Here is a reminder of some uses of these prepositions:

- at* – connected to a location
- for* – with a purpose or giving a reason
- from* – the origin of something
- in* – completely or partly enclosed by something
- of* – belonging to something or someone; contained in something
- on* – the basis for something
- to* – in a direction

In order to write a thesis, one must engage ___ research which focuses ___ a specific topic relevant ___ one's field of study. Current issues ___ the field should be addressed by means of a review ___ the literature ___ their chosen subject. Candidates should show an awareness ___ recent debate ___ the area and not rely ___ secondary sources but make use ___ primary data with particular reference ___ recent findings. Training ___ research methodology is important and students should be guided ___ their choice ___ appropriate software packages and receive instruction ___ their use. They should be introduced ___ qualitative and quantitative research methods and learn how to construct questionnaires ___ volunteers to complete, with questions ___ relevant details. The answers should be given ___ a scale ___ one ___ seven. Researchers should clearly indicate the limitations ___ their study and its usefulness in terms of the wider research ___ the field. All researchers must study ___ a South Australian university ___ the second semester ___ 2015.

Answers to Prepositions Exercise 3

In order to write a thesis, one must engage **in** [reason: one must be surrounded by research; the word 'engage' is a clue that 'in' is the correct preposition] research

which focuses **on** [reason: the basis for the research is a specific topic] a specific topic

relevant **to** [reason: the topic points in the direction of a field of study] one's field of study.

Current issues **in** [reason: the issues are enclosed in a field of study] the field

should be addressed by means of a review **of** [reason: the literature belongs to the review] the literature

on [reason: the chosen subject is the basis for the literature] their chosen subject.

Candidates should show an awareness **of** [reason: awareness contains recent debate] recent debate

in [reason: the recent debate is surrounded by an area of research] the area

and not rely **on** [reason: secondary sources should not be the basis for the candidate's thesis] secondary sources

but make use **of** [reason: candidates should contain primary data in their research] primary data

with particular reference **to** [reason: the research should point in the direction of] recent findings.

Training **in** [reason: research methodology should enclose the training] research methodology is important

and students should be guided **in** [reason: the choice of software should surround students] their choice

of [reason: software packages are contained in the choice] appropriate software packages

and receive instruction **in** [reason: instruction is enclosed by the use of software; the prefix 'in' at the start of 'instruction' is a clue to the preposition] their use.

They should be introduced **to** [reason: they should look in the direction of] qualitative and quantitative research methods

and learn how to construct questionnaires **for** [reason: construct questionnaires *with the purpose of* volunteers filling them in] volunteers to complete,

with questions **on** [reason: relevant details are the basis of the questions] relevant details.

The answers should be given **on** [reason: the scale is the basis for the questions]

a scale **from** [reason: the start of the scale is the number 'one']

one **to** [reason: the end of the scale is seven and *to* points in that direction] seven.

Researchers should clearly indicate the limitations **of** [reason: the limitations belonging to their study] their study and its usefulness

in terms of the wider research **in** [reason: data collection is contained within the research field] the field.

All researchers must study **at** [reason: connected to a university rather than inside the buildings] a South Australian university

in [reason: completely contained in the second semester] the second semester

of [reason: the second semester belonging to] 2015.