

NAME

Lesson 11.5.6 Prepositions

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EXERCISE 1 Identifying Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases

Write one line under the prepositional phrases in the following sentences and two lines under the preposition itself. (Remember that some prepositions are composed of more than one word.)

EXAMPLE According to ancient tradition, the Seven Wonders of the World were extraordinary sites around the eastern Mediterranean.

1. “Everyone has heard of the Seven Wonders,” observes an ancient historian from Alexandria in Egypt, “but few have seen all of them for themselves.”
2. In addition to the Pyramids, the Seven Wonders included another Egyptian site, the famous Lighthouse of Alexandria.
3. The great Lighthouse (called the *Pharos* from the island on which it stood) was the most practical and useful of these great monuments.
4. With its huge beacon, the *Pharos* guided ships to Alexandria for many centuries.
5. Aside from the *Pharos*, the most useful “Wonder” included in the ancient list was the Hanging Gardens of Babylon (in what is now Iraq).

EXERCISE 2 Distinguishing Prepositions and Adverbs

Determine whether each italicized word is a preposition or an adverb, writing *P* for preposition and *A* for adverb on the line in front. Underline any prepositional phrases.

EXAMPLE A After standing for 66 years, the Colossus of Rhodes toppled over in an earthquake.

1. _____ Rhodes is a large Greek island in the Aegean Sea *off* the coast of Turkey.
2. _____ The Colossus was a huge statue of the sun god Helios that was *once* worshipped by the Greeks.
3. _____ In ancient times, thousands of bronze statues were erected in places *around* the Mediterranean region.
4. _____ *In spite of* all these, however, the Colossus of Rhodes was considered extraordinary enough to show up in the list of the Seven Wonders.
5. _____ One ancient tradition pictures the Colossus standing *astride*, sword in hand, guarding the entrance to the harbor of Rhodes.

To decide whether a word is a preposition or an adverb, see if it starts a prepositional phrase. If the word does not, it is an adverb.

Examples:

The statue stood *outside*. (adverb)

The statue stood *outside a temple*.

(prepositional phrase)