



Growing Grammar III – Syllabus

Course Description: This class focuses on growing sentence development through understanding phrases and clauses. Students will learn the last two parts of speech—the preposition and the interjection—while learning about simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences.

Course Outline:

Week One: Using Phrases

- A. Prepositions & Prepositional Phrases
- B. Collocations
- C. Phrasal Verbs

Week Two: Understanding Prepositional Phrases

- A. Prepositional Phrases as Adjectives
- B. Prepositional Phrases as Adverbs

Week Three: More Phrases

- A. Gerund Phrases
- B. Infinitive Phrases

Week Four: More Phrases II

- A. Appositive Phrases
- B. Participial Phrases

Week Five: Using the Clause – Complex Sentences

Week Six: Using the Clause – Compound-Complex Sentences

Week Seven: The Last Part of Speech

- A. Interjections & Direct Address
- B. Parts of Speech Review

Week Eight: Final Review



Growing Grammar III – Grading Outline

All grammar classes will be graded based on the number of answers in each assignment. Assignments will not be graded on creativity or writing skills, as most of the assignments are technical. Assignments will be graded similar to a test or quiz. For example, if a student must underline ten nouns in an assignment and misses two, the student would receive an 80% on that assignment.

As there are numerous assignments in each lesson, the total number of required answers per lesson will be added up. Any incorrect answers will be subtracted from the score, and the grade will be given accordingly. For example, if there are 50 answers in a lesson, and a student misses 4, the grade is as follows:

$$50 - 4 = 46 \text{ points}$$

$$46/50 = 92\%$$

| Course Components | Percentage of Final Grade |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Weekly Assignments | 70% |
| Final Test | 30% |

EXAMPLE

assignment grades: 70, 80, 90, 75, 87, 92, 94, 86 = 84%

average test grade: 94 %

$$.84 \times 70 = 58.8$$

$$.94 \times 30 = 28.2$$

FINAL GRADE: 87%



Growing Grammar III

Lesson One: Using Phrases

SAMPLE LESSON

In the final lesson of *Growing Grammar II*, we learned that **a phrase is a group of words that does not contain a subject and a verb**. There are many types of phrases, but commonly, phrases begin with **prepositions**. These types of phrases are referred to as *prepositional phrases*.

PREPOSITIONS –

Prepositions do not stand very well on their own like nouns and verbs. They are not descriptive like adjectives or adverbs. They do not rename things like pronouns or join things like conjunctions. But they are still an essential part of our language. **Prepositions show us how different words in a sentence are related to each other**. Currently, the English language has about 94 one-word prepositions and another 50 or so more compound prepositions.

Common One-Word Prepositions

| | | | | |
|---------|---------|-----------|----------|------------|
| aboard | at | down | off | toward |
| about | before | during | on | towards |
| above | behind | following | onto | under |
| across | below | for | opposite | underneath |
| after | beneath | from | outside | unlike |
| against | beside | in | over | until |
| along | besides | inside | past | up |
| amid | between | into | since | upon |
| among | beyond | like | than | with |
| around | by | near | through | within |
| as | despite | of | to | without |

Some prepositions are compound (more than one word). Find below a table of common compound prepositions:

Common Compound Prepositions

| | | | |
|--------------|------------|-------------|---------------|
| according to | because of | from under | instead of |
| along with | by way of | in front of | on top of |
| apart from | except for | in place of | out of |
| as far as | from above | in spite of | regardless of |

Assignment 1A: Underline the prepositions in these sentences. Look out especially for compound prepositions! (Note: several sentences contain more than one preposition.)

1. After building the raised beds, we spent the afternoon filling them with dirt.
2. Grandma is looking for the documents that were stashed in the cabinet.
3. When we played hide-and-seek, Olivia hid in the closet with a flashlight.
4. Because of the weather, the fireworks at the park were canceled.
5. I sneaked behind the counter and ate the chocolates out of the box.
6. Chloe tripped on the steps and came crying to her mother.
7. We enjoyed watching the bats flying above us in the summer sky.
8. Despite walking for several hours, the group found themselves near the maze entrance.
9. The boys watched breathlessly from their hiding spot as several deer ran in front of them.
10. Dad headed toward the strange noise but didn't see anything except for a few geese flying out of the pond.

PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES –

Prepositions begin what we call prepositional phrases. A prepositional phrase is a group of words that begins with a preposition and contains the preposition's object and any modifiers/describers.

The *object of a preposition* is the noun or pronoun that completes a prepositional phrase. A preposition must always have an object. (A prepositional phrase may have a compound object.) In the phrases below, we have put the preposition in bold and underlined its object. The other words are modifiers.

- **Off** the crumpled bed
- **In** the closet
- **Before** the exciting show
- **After** a heavy meal

- **Across** camp
- **Between** Canada and Pennsylvania

The easiest way to find a prepositional phrase is to spot a preposition from the lists above, then look for the object. You should mark every word from the preposition to the object. That makes a complete prepositional phrase.

Assignment 1B: Underline the entire prepositional phrases in the following sentences. **Bold** the preposition. (Note: several sentences contain more than one prepositional phrase.)

1. The elephant is the largest land animal in the world.
2. Last April, we visited my parents in Florida and went to Disney World.
3. You cannot board the plane without your ticket.
4. I ate the bread with the jam on the back porch.
5. That car behind us is driving unwisely.
6. The awards were given after the match.
7. Cousin Jimmy wore a bandage on his ankle, a result of a running injury.
8. Giving a speech in public is nerve-racking for me.
9. Our favorite Mexican restaurant is near the Short Pump Mall.
10. Did you look for the boxes under the bed?

Assignment 1C: Write five sentences using one-word prepositions. Each sentence must use a different one-word preposition.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Assignment 1D: Write five sentences using compound prepositions. Each sentence must use a different compound preposition.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

- 4.
- 5.

COLLOCATIONS –

When we combine prepositions with nouns and adjectives, we call them **collocations**. *A collocation is just a fixed phrase of two words that must go together. Collocations have only one meaning.* Here are some example collocations:

Nouns and Prepositions

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------|------------------|
| approval of | fondness for | need for |
| awareness of | grasp of | participation in |
| belief in | hatred of | reason for |
| concern for | hope for | respect for |
| confusion about | interest in | success in |
| desire for | love of | understanding of |

Adjectives and Prepositions

| | | |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| afraid of | fond of | proud of |
| angry at | happy about | similar to |
| aware of | interested in | sorry for |
| capable of | jealous of | sure of |
| careless about | made of | tired of |
| familiar with | married to | worried about |

Assignment 1E: Write five sentences using collocations. Each sentence must use a different collocation.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

PHRASAL VERBS –

When we combine prepositions with verbs, we call them phrasal verbs. These verbs have a different meaning when they are used with a preposition. In addition, a phrasal verb can often have more than one meaning. For example, the phrasal verb *to look up* can mean "to find information in a resource such as a dictionary" or "to tip one's head so that one is looking towards the sky."

Verbs and Prepositions

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------|-------------|
| apologize for | give up | prepare for |
| ask about | grow up | study for |
| ask for | look for | talk about |
| belong to | look forward to | think about |
| bring up | look up | trust in |
| care for | make up | work for |
| find out | pay for | worry about |

Assignment 1F: Write five sentences using phrasal verbs. Each sentence must use a different phrasal verb.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.