

## PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

A preposition phrase is used to show location, time, and other contextual relationships (between people and people, people and objects, and objects and objects).

A preposition plus its object and any modifiers (adjectives, determiners, or adverbs) is a prepositional phrase.

<i>Preposition</i>	<i>Object and Modifiers</i>
on	the surface
with	wonderful ability
upon	entering the room
underneath	the sycamore tree

### FORMAL AND INFORMAL USES OF PREPOSITIONS

Old-school grammarians have often claimed (as a rule) that one should never end a sentence with a preposition. Moreover, they claim: Always give the preposition an object.

Ending sentences with prepositions is slowly gaining favor. After all, some meaning may be expressed well with a preposition on the end than not.

EX:

Being thrifty and astute is a consequence of where I am from.

Vs.

Being thrifty and astute is a consequence of where I am from in the world.

Notice how the second sentence, which completes the prepositional phrase, is more formal. If you want wording which is much more formal, then follow the rule. However, if you are just writing informally, then you may ignore the rule.

### HUMOR

A southern girl gets on an airplane, and she ends up sitting by two northern girls during the flight. With clear and distinct Southern hospitality in mind, she asks, "where you all from?" One northern girl looks disappointedly away and says to the southern girl, "From a place full of people who are smart enough not to end our sentences with prepositions...." The southern girl looks down, smiles, and then says, "Okay, where you all from, witch?"

Considering the grammatical climate... who is the "smarter" one?