

How to Use the Basic English Prepositions

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This is the cover page for a lesson learning how to differentiate accurately among the English prepositions ; *of, to, for, by, with, and from.*

A short lesson has been prepared for students who may be at a lower intermediate level of English. The slides have been put online at <http://www.open-ed.net/oer/unit21.ppt>

The Reusable Learning Object unit21 is online, with supporting materials. It is available as Quicktime mpg and as mov movie formats
<http://www.open-ed.net/oer/unit21.mpg> 67 MB 11 min
<http://www.open-ed.net/oer/unit21.mov>
(both also there as .zip compressed versions)

The Teaching Guide with transcript for a teacher is at <http://www.open-ed.net/oer/unit21-teacher.pdf>
and the four-page Student Notes are at <http://www.open-ed.net/oer/unit21-student.pdf>
These Student-Notes can stand-alone for offline study

other notes

Mastery of the prepositions in a language demonstrates considerable understanding of the culture. In non-English languages, these prepositions may be used culturally with different meaning. For example, *avec (with)* in French can mean *for*, as in *Avec France = For France*. In Japanese *kara (from)* can mean *at*, as in *san-ji kara = at three o'clock.*, while in German *zu (to)* can mean *at*, as in *Ich bin zu Haus = I am at home*. Thus *from* in Japanese is somewhat equivalent to *to* in German.

There is also the usage of *for* in English referring to the immediate past, as in *This is my first drink for five days.*