**Les prépositions**

1. **Most Popular Prepositions:**

A preposition tells us about the position of a person or a thing. The following is a list of the most common prepositions in French:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| à | **To/in/at** | entre | **Between** |
| Après | **After** | Malgré | **Despite** |
| Avec | **With** | Par | **By** |
| Avant | **Before** | Parmi | **Among** |
| Chez | **At the house of** | Pendant | **during** |
| Contre | **Against** | Pour | **For** |
| Dans | **In** | Sans | **Without** |
| De | **Of/from** | Sauf | **Except** |
| Depuis | **Since** | Selon | **According to** |
| Derrière | **Behind** | Sous | **Under** |
| Devant | **In front of** | Sur | **On** |
| En | **In** | Vers | **towards** |
| Loin de | **Far from** | Près de | **Near**  |

Example:

* Je vais **avec** mes amis= I am going **with** my friends
* Tu trouveras les clés **sur** la table= You will find the keys **on** the table
1. **The Preposition ‘ à ‘:**
* The preposition ‘ à ‘ means ‘to/in/at’ e.g. I am going **to** Dublin= Je vais **à** Paris.
* However, if you want to be more specific and say ‘**to/at the** shop’, there are four different words for ‘**to/at the**’ depending on the noun which comes after it

Example:

* Je vais **à la** boulangerie (f) = I am going **to the** bakery
* Je vais **au** marché (m) = I am going **to the** market (à + le= au)
* Je vais **aux** magasins (pl) = I am going **to the** shops (à + les= aux)
* Je vais **à l**’église (vowel)= I am going **to the** church
1. **‘In/to’ a country:**

We know the preposition ‘ à ‘ is used to say ‘in/to’ a town or city from above. However, when you want to say ‘in/to a country’, there are three different words depending on the country which follows.

* EN for feminine countries/ countries that start with a vowel e.g. **en** France, **en** Irlande
* AU for masculine countries e.g. **au** Portugal
* AUX for plural countries e.g. **aux** États- Unis
1. **Dans:**
* You use DANS when talking about something that is physically in something or someplace e.g. ma mère est dans la cuisine
* You can also use DANS for abstract, non-physical things e.g. je suis dans une situation difficile
1. **Prepositions when talking about time:**
* **À** means at e.g. nous mangeons à deux heures (we eat at 2.00)
* **EN** means ‘in’
* It isis used to express the length of time something takes

e.g. nous avons mangé en une heure (we ate in an hour).

* It is also used to tell the month, season or year something occurs

e.g. je vais partir en vacances en été (I’m going on holidays in summer)

* **DANS** means ‘in’ and is used express the amount of time that will pass before an action happens e.g. je vais manger dans dix minutes (I’m going to eat in ten minutes)
* **DEPUIS**

**LES EXERCISES**

1. **Fill in the grid:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **To/in/at** |  | **Between** |
|  | **After** |  | **Despite** |
|  | **With** |  | **By** |
|  | **Before** |  | **Among** |
|  | **At the house of** |  | **during** |
|  | **Against** |  | **For** |
|  | **In** |  | **Without** |
|  | **Of/from** |  | **Except** |
|  | **Since** |  | **According to** |
|  | **Behind** |  | **Under** |
|  | **In front of** |  | **On** |
|  | **In** |  | **towards** |
|  | **Far from** |  | **Near**  |

1. **Fill in the blanks with the correct word for ‘to the’**
2. Je vais **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  boulangerie (f) = I am going **to the** bakery
3. Je vais **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  marché (m) = I am going **to the** market
4. Je vais **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**  magasins (pl) = I am going **to the** shops
5. Je vais **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** église (vowel)= I am going **to the** church
6. Je vais \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ boucherie (f)= I am going **to the** butchers
7. **Fill in the blanks with the correct word for ‘in’ when talking about a country**
8. J’habite \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ France (f)= I live in France
9. Elle habite \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Irlande= she lives in Ireland
10. Tu habites \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Portugal (m)= you live in Portugal
11. Elles habitent \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Espagne= they-girls live in Spain
12. J’habite \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ États-Unis (pl)= I live in the United States of America