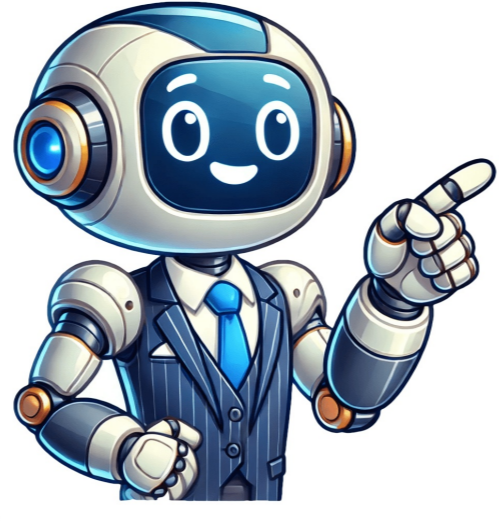


I'm not a robot



End a sentence with a preposition example

You may have been told that using prepositions at the end of sentences is strictly forbidden but this isn't always true. Actually, there are many times it's perfectly fine to use them and they can make your writing sound more natural. Below we'll explore what prepositions are, how to use them correctly, and when it's okay to break the rules. Prepositions are words that show direction, time, or location, and they're essential for clear communication. We use over a hundred of these words in our daily speech and writing, but some of the most common ones include about, above, across, after, against, along, among, around, as at, before, behind, between, by, during, except, for, from, in, like, next, to, off, on, over, past, through, until, up, with. It's true that we use prepositions more often in conversation than in writing, but this doesn't mean you can never use them in your written work. In fact, using prepositions at the end of sentences can create an informal tone and make your writing sound more conversational. Just be sure to avoid using them in formal situations or when presenting your ideas formally. For example, who are you talking about? It's perfectly fine to use a preposition at the end of a sentence like this one. Similarly, some idioms and colloquialisms naturally end with a preposition, so it's okay to leave them as is. However, if you're writing for work or school assignments, it's best to stick to formal language and avoid using prepositions at the end of sentences. When proofreading your work, consider moving these words within the sentence instead. In general, the key to using prepositions correctly is to know your audience. If you're writing for a specific group or industry, use language that's appropriate for them. With practice, you'll become more comfortable using prepositions in different contexts and your writing will sound more natural and engaging. However, there's no strict rule against using them. Traditional grammar purists consider it a faux pas but won't harm your writing if used correctly. The key is to ensure clarity without sounding awkward. For instance: "The game was called off" vs "The issue was dealt with." Prepositions often end sentences because of wordiness, as seen in phrases like "The whites and colored laundry need to be separated out!" becoming "The whites and colored laundry need to be separated." Sanna is confused about where she's going to become Sanna is confused about where she's going. Great writers and influencers break these arbitrary rules with ease. Even some of the most beautiful writing in English literature employs sentence-ending prepositions. Winning isn't everything, but wanting to win is - a phrase that echoes through history from Vince Lombardi to Franklin D. Roosevelt. Famous quotes like "In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: it goes on" by Robert Frost and "Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up" by Thomas A. Edison exemplify this rule bending. Even literary giants like Mark Twain, Edith Wharton, J.D. Salinger, Charles Dickens, James Joyce, and J.R.R. Tolkien have employed sentence-ending prepositions in their works. In casual language, using "over" at the end of a sentence is common, as seen in phrases like "For you, a thousand times over." However, in formal settings, it's best to avoid this use if possible. Even in informal situations, look for unnecessary uses and correct them for clarity. Ending sentences with prepositions has been a debated topic among grammarians, much like starting sentences with conjunctions. Prepositions are words that link terms within nearby words, often indicating location but encompassing many types beyond spatial relationships. Common prepositions include above, about, below, for, from, in, inside, into, of, on, to, until, and with. Despite the warnings from traditional grammar sticklers, sentence-ending prepositions can be used effectively if done so correctly. In English, rules are meant to be broken, especially when it comes to using prepositions at the end of sentences. This guide will explore when it's perfectly fine to end a sentence with one of these words, particularly in informal writing or conversation. Prepositions like "about," "with," and "to" can often be used at the beginning of a sentence for clarity. For example, "What's the movie about?" or "I was talking to the person." However, using them at the end might make the sentence sound less formal. Common verbs that combine with prepositions are generally acceptable in informal contexts. Phrases like "chip in," "cool down," and "take off" can be used without issues. Yet, omitting necessary context words, such as "what" or "who," can lead to unclear meaning, even if the sentence still conveys a general idea. In formal writing, it's best to avoid ending sentences with prepositions to ensure professionalism, clarity, and authority. Despite this, some flexibility might be allowed in informal communications, especially when context is provided. This guide aims to clarify the complexities surrounding prepositions and their use at the end of sentences. By understanding these nuances, writers can refine their skills and produce more effective, polished content. It's all about knowing when to use ending a sentence with a preposition and when to avoid it. Let's break it down: if the phrase sounds natural, then it's okay. For instance, "What are you talking about?" or "This is the house that Jack built." Now, there are scenarios where avoiding the preposition makes more sense, like in formal writing or unnecessary phrases. But when using prepositional phrases, infinitive phrases, and relative clauses, ending a sentence with a preposition often sounds more natural. Just be aware of the exceptions, such as excessive filler words or overly formal writing. In informal settings, it's perfectly fine to end sentences with prepositions like "with," "for," "of," and "to." However, in traditional grammar, this was considered incorrect, but now most guides agree that it's okay. So, if the alternative sounds awkward or confusing, go ahead and use the preposition - especially in casual writing or conversation. The art of modifying sentences in formal writing involves understanding the nuances of language to convey meaning effectively. While there is no one-size-fits-all approach, certain changes can greatly impact how a sentence sounds. For example, - In casual conversation, it's common to use contractions, such as "his" instead of "his," "to" to create a more relaxed tone. - In formal writing, however, using full words or adding possessive indicators like "with whom I'm going to work" can make the language sound more polished and professional. Similarly, when discussing topics outside one's expertise, using phrases like "on which I'm focusing" instead of "about which I know nothing" can convey a sense of authority and confidence. In terms of sentence structure, prepositions can often be placed at the beginning or end of a sentence, depending on how they fit into the overall rhythm and flow of the language. While traditional rules may dictate placing prepositional phrases in certain positions, modern English allows for more flexibility, making the language sound more natural and expressive. Ultimately, the key to effective writing is finding a balance between formality and clarity, using techniques that enhance the meaning and impact of one's words without sacrificing style or creativity. Lengths of time, it seems, don't always dictate grammatical rules. Some expressions simply sound more natural despite lacking linguistic precision. For instance, compare these pairs: What are you doing that for? For what are you doing that? Somebody remind me what chapter we're in. Somebody remind me in what chapter we are. Which pair sounds more natural to the American ear? Our idioms and colloquialisms often influence word order. The same can be said of English in Commonwealth countries, where regional accents also shape language use. You might've heard Winston Churchill's humorous retort when asked about a quote that "fixed" prepositional usage: "This is the sort of arrant nonsense up with which I will not put!" Ending a sentence with a preposition is acceptable if it serves fluent communication. We shouldn't make this style too casual or habitual, but rather apply it to create language that sounds natural rather than coarse, pretentious, or stilted. Pop Quiz Using what you now understand about ending a sentence with a preposition, determine if each following statement is acceptable. If so, leave it as it is. If not, revise it. 1. What are you leaning on? 2. From where are all these fruit flies coming? 3. The news tells me more about. 4. Ernesto will climb up to the roof. 5. Exactly what is she getting us into? When do you avoid ending a sentence with a preposition? In formal writing, such as academic papers and business documents, it's best to steer clear of this practice. This is because using a preposition at the end of a sentence can make it sound less formal and even a bit odd to readers. However, there are situations where ending a sentence with a preposition is perfectly fine. For instance, when communicating informally, such as in casual conversation, it's common to use this structure. This makes your speech flow better and is generally accepted in everyday communication. Additionally, when using a preposition as part of a phrasal verb, you can indeed end the sentence with that preposition. Phrasal verbs like "hang out" or "calm down" are examples of this, where the preposition comes at the end of the sentence without affecting its meaning. Ultimately, whether to use a preposition at the end of a sentence is largely a matter of context and style. While it's true that some might view it as less formal, it's not necessarily incorrect in most cases. Ending Sentences without using Prepositions: A Guide to Conventions and Debates When it comes to sentence structure, one common debate revolves around ending sentences with prepositions. In informal contexts, it's perfectly acceptable to do so; however, in formal settings, some grammarians argue that it's not sensible. There are alternative ways to rephrase sentences without using prepositions at the end, such as: "For what are you applying?" instead of "What are you applying for?", or "From where do you come?" instead of "Where are you from?". These revised sentences may seem more formal but can convey the same meaning. The origins of this rule are unclear, with some arguing it dates back to the 17th century. Robert Lowth, an Anglican bishop, wrote a popular grammar book in 1762 that advocated against ending sentences with prepositions. However, not everyone agreed with his position, and over time, the rule became less strict. Today, many consider using prepositions at the end of sentences perfectly acceptable. Nevertheless, some still believe it's incorrect. Ultimately, there is no one "right" way to use prepositions in English; the best approach depends on your audience and context. Given article text here Looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting tomorrow and discussing our strategies is not correct. It is okay to move a preposition to the beginning or middle of the sentence for clarity or emphasis. For example, "the meeting that we're going to attend" instead of "we're going to attend the meeting". Another argument for ending a sentence with a preposition is related to phrasal verbs. Phrasal verbs are verbs that consist of a main verb and one or more prepositions or particles, such as "look up" and "give in", which both end in a preposition. When using phrasal verbs, it is common to end a sentence with a preposition. For instance, "I'm going to find him out" instead of "I'm going to find out him". In fact, trying to avoid ending a sentence with a preposition when using phrasal verbs can lead to awkward and unnatural-sounding sentences. When it is appropriate to end a sentence with a preposition, one common situation is in phrasal verbs. For example: Look up Give in Put off Take on In these cases, the preposition is an integral part of the verb and cannot be separated from it. Therefore, ending a sentence with a preposition when using a phrasal verb is perfectly acceptable. Another situation where it is appropriate to end a sentence with a preposition is when asking questions. For instance: What are you looking at? Where did you come from? Who are you talking to? In these cases, the preposition is part of the question word and cannot be separated from it. Therefore, ending a sentence with a preposition when asking a question is perfectly acceptable. In informal writing and speaking, it is generally okay to end a sentence with a preposition. This includes situations such as emails, text messages, and casual conversations. However, in formal writing, it is best to avoid ending sentences with prepositions to maintain professionalism. Ending a sentence with a preposition is often considered a grammatical error, but it's not always the case. In many situations, using a preposition at the end of a sentence can actually make it sound more formal or natural. The truth is that there are several scenarios where ending a sentence with a preposition is perfectly acceptable. It may be necessary to use this construction when adding information or context. For instance, "What are you waiting for?" is often used in casual conversation and sounds entirely correct. Although some people believe that using a preposition at the end of a sentence can make it sound less formal, there are many instances where it's actually used effectively. Take the example of asking someone who they're speaking with: while both versions "Who are you speaking with?" and "With whom are you speaking?" convey similar information. Instead of considering ending a sentence with a preposition an error, one should be aware of the context in which it's being used. The writer or speaker should also consider their intended audience and adapt their language accordingly. Can you master the use of prepositions through practice and patience Mastering the Use of Prepositions Takes Practice. Practicing different ways of using prepositions in your writing and speech can help improve your skills. Listening to others and hearing how they sound will also be useful. With time, you'll become more comfortable using prepositions correctly and confidently. Frequently Asked Questions Can You End a Sentence with a Preposition Yes, It's Commonly Done in Modern English Grammar Ending a sentence with a preposition is not grammatically incorrect and is commonly used in modern English. What Is a Preposition A Word That Shows Relationship Between a Noun or Pronoun to Other Words in a Sentence Examples of Prepositions include "In," "On," "At," "To," "With," "From," and "For" A preposition shows the relationship between a noun or pronoun and other words in a sentence. Common examples include "in", "on", "at", "to", "with", "from", and "for". Example of Preposition at the End of a Sentence The preposition "at" is shown by the sentence "What are you looking at?" It shows the relationship between the pronoun "you" and what you're looking at. A Dangling Preposition Appears Without Noun or Pronoun to Refer To Example: Where Are You Going To? Should be written as "Where Are You Going?" The preposition "to" in the sentence is dangling because it doesn't refer to a noun. It should be written without "to". Which Preposition Is Used with End The preposition "with" is commonly used with words like "end", as seen in the example "I will end with a summary of my main points". You Can Use the Word "For" at the End of a Sentence Yes, It's Acceptable in Certain Cases For Example: What Did You Do That For? Is grammatically correct but it's best to avoid using "for" like that. End of the Article When utilising the word "for" under specific circumstances, it can be effectively used in certain contexts. For instance, phrases like "What did you do that for?" are grammatically correct and readily comprehensible. Nonetheless, one should strive to avoid using "for" as a dangling preposition, which can result in awkward phrasing.