

FUMC ESL 11-29-2012 Advanced Lesson

On Monday we studied five prepositions: about, above, across, after and against. Many of you asked for more information showing how these words are used. My scanner is not working, so I could not email the pages from the book I used. But you can purchase the book if you are interested. The book is THE INS AND OUTS OF PREPOSITIONS by Jean Yates, Ph.D. It costs \$11 on Amazon. You can get a used copy for \$7.

Here is a little more information about these prepositions. Read the sentences, then write a sentence on the line that uses the preposition in the same way (with the same meaning). Read your sentences to the teacher to make sure they are correct.

1-In this sentence, about means **approximately**: *We will have about one hour between flights.*

2-In this sentence, about means **in all parts of**: *Toys were scattered about the house as if a tornado had blown through.*

3-About can mean **in all directions**: *We wandered about without a map and managed to find the restaurant we were looking for.*

4-About can mean **almost**. *The roast beef is about done. Go ahead and call everyone to eat.*

5-About can mean **ready to**. In this case it is used with the infinitive form of the verb. *My daughter's play was about to begin, so I turned off my cell phone.*

6-Across means **on the other side**, but all across means **in every area of**. *There is a massive drought across the whole southwest.* _____

7-After means **later than**. *After filling out the forms, we stood in line.*

8-After can mean **in pursuit of**. *The mean boys ran after the scared little girl.*

9-After can mean **in spite of**. *After studying for days, I decided I could never pass the test and I dropped the course.*

10-After can mean **continuously**. *Life got harder year after year in my war-torn homeland.*

11-After all means in spite of what happened or nevertheless. *We had several players injured in the game, but won after all.*

12-Against can mean **touching**. *The child nestled against the dog to keep warm.* It can mean **touching forcibly**. *The rain beat against the windows so hard we feared they would break.*

13-Against can mean **in defense of**. *Their heavy uniforms protected the soldiers against the snow.*

14-If you race against the clock, you are **in a hurry to get something done before a particular time**. *In a race against the clock they rushed the heart attack victim to the hospital for treatment.*

15-Against someone's will means **without a person's consent**. *You can't force me to come with you against my will! Against their will, the men were forced to kneel in the dirt.*

Discuss these questions based on the idioms we learned Monday.

1. Who do you take after? Who do your kids take after? In what ways are you alike or different from your father or mother? Do you want your kids to take after you, or would you prefer they have different personalities?
2. How would you discourage someone from pursuing you who liked you a lot more than you liked them? Have you ever faced this problem? For example, someone who wanted to be your girlfriend/boyfriend when you weren't interested in them/
3. Have you ever been made to do something against your will?
4. Describe a time when you did an about face after learning some new information.
5. There seem to be so many angry young men bent on violence in the world these days. What do you think we must do to bring about change in them?