

Warm Up

Discuss the appropriate age for youth to get their first:

- cell phone
- credit card
- car
- girlfriend/boyfriend

Through is a preposition with many meanings. Read and discuss these meanings.

1. Through can mean passage within something. EX: The children drank milkshakes through straws. We drove through a lot of construction as we came here. He pushed the letters through the mail slot.
2. If you see through something or someone, you have vision beyond something. EX: We knew they were home because we looked through the window. I can't see through the fog. If you "see through" a person, you see into their inner self. EX: She pretends to be nice to us, but I can see through her.
3. Through can mean finish. EX: I have to get through school before I can marry.
4. To "go through" something means to experience something difficult. EX: He is going through a divorce right now and he feels miserable about it.
5. Throughout means during an entire event. EX: The women chatted throughout the play.
6. If you "see something through", you stay with it until it is finished. EX: Don't worry, we will see the project through.
7. Through can mean by means of. EX: We heard about this apartment through friends who lived next door. He got his promotion through determination and hard work.
8. To "hear it through the grapevine" is to get news unofficially. EX: We heard about their engagement through the grapevine.
9. If you "follow through", you complete something. EX: He has good ideas, but he never follows through with his plans.
10. If you "come through for someone" you deliver as promised. EX: Wanda really came through on her promise to get us theatre tickets.
11. If your plans "fall through", they collapse. The trip fell through because not enough people signed up to go.
12. If you study something very thoroughly, you study it through and through. EX: I studied this chapter through and through. I'm sure I'll make an A on the exam.

Fill in the blanks with one of these prepositions: out, outside, over, past, through, throughout.

1. _____ her generosity, I was able to complete my studies.
2. He played well _____ the game.
3. I'm not as good at soccer as I used to be because I'm _____ of practice.
4. I mailed _____ all the party invitations.
5. The man in front of me keeps looking at me _____ his shoulder.
6. It's shorter if you cut _____ the field.
7. She suffered _____ many years of hardship.
8. There were broken toys all _____ the floor.
9. To get to school, you have to walk _____ the park.
10. After we drove _____ the tunnel, we saw a beautiful view of the sea.
11. We collected _____ \$1,000 for charity.
12. It's already ten _____ nine. We'll be late.
13. The animals must stay _____ the building.
14. We were able to put _____ the fire.

Discussion:

1. It seems that there is always a lot of road construction going on in Austin. Do you think your city has as much road construction as Austin? What are the road conditions in your country? Are there many freeways in your city?
2. Give an example of something you planned that fell through.
3. Tell something you "heard through the grapevine". Do you have a similar expression in your country?

4. "It doesn't matter what you know, but who you know." This is an expression that implies it is more important to know important people than to know information. Do you agree? Do most people get their first job through friends and family, or through being well educated?

5. How do you feel about people that use their cell phones throughout a movie? Would you feel embarrassed to ask them to put it away?

6. Have you gone through any difficult times in your life? Explain.

7. If someone supports you "through thick and thin", they support you through good times and bad. Who is the person in your life who you know would support you through thick and thin?