

'Like' as Verb and Preposition

Hello and welcome back, in today's lesson we will be exploring the word 'like'. Many students have difficulty with this word, as it seems to have many uses in English, some as a verb and some as a preposition.



Verb

What is a verb again?

A verb is a word used to describe an action, state, or occurrence, such as

Hear



Become



Fly



'Like' as a verb:

I like beer.



Here, we are talking about what someone likes **in general**, always

I would like a beer.



Here, the person is asking for a beer **now**.

In English we use **would like** to ask for something and **not** would want.

She would like to go to Australia now.



NOT *She would want to go to Australia now.*

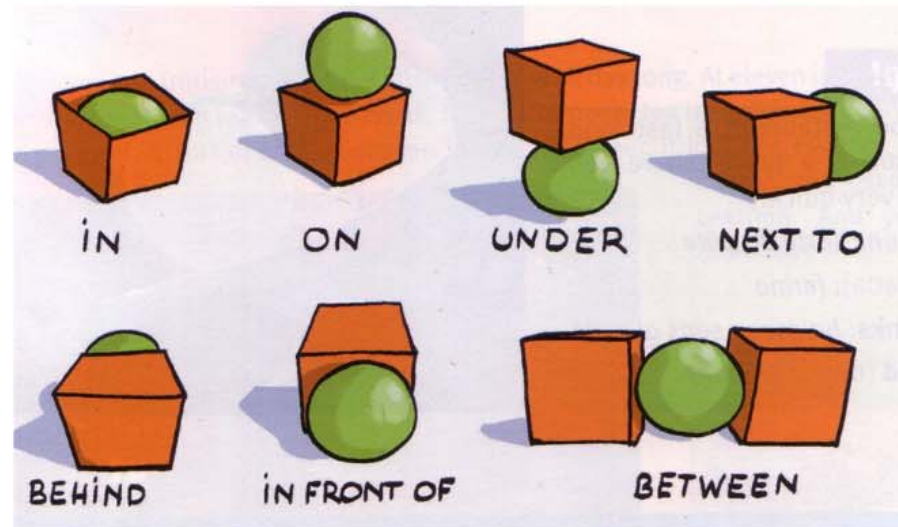


Preposition

A preposition is a word used to link nouns, pronouns, or phrases to other words within a sentence.

Prepositions are usually short words, and they are normally placed directly in front of nouns. In some cases, you'll find prepositions in front of gerund verbs.

Examples:



'Like' as a preposition

Like used as a preposition means "similar to" or "the same as".

*His house is huge.
It's like a palace.*



Sandra is a teacher, like me.



I hate television quiz shows like this.



As a question:

If we want to know general information about a person or place, we can use **like** in the question:

look + Adjective / Age

Q: What is your father like?

A: He is tall and muscular and a very generous person.



Q: What is London like?

A: Well, it's a chaotic, cosmopolitan city. But in summer, it's full of tourists.



We can use **look like** if we only want physical information:

look like + Person / Noun

Q: What does your sister look like?

A: She is blonde with lovely green eyes. She is quite short.



Note the difference between look and look like in these sentences:

My father looks happy all the time.

Your sister looks like a model.

He looks French if you ask me!

Jane looks like Meryl Streep.