Prepositions

Before you start

1 Read the information in the article. Look at the highlighted grammar examples.

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THE STRATFORD SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

THE STRATFORD SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL is one of the major theatre festivals in the world. It takes place in Stratford, Ontario, near the town of Kitchener. It starts in the spring and runs from April to November every year.

Some of the world's best actors appear on stages in front of crowds of thousands of fans

who travel to the festival from all parts of the world. Transport to the festival is good: you can reach Stratford by plane, train, bus or car. There are special buses from Toronto and Kitchener on some Saturdays during the summer.

Tickets for this year's festival are for sale now, on the festival website.

2 Now read the sentences. Choose the correct words in *italics*. The highlighted grammar examples will help you.

- 1 Our closest theatre festival takes place *on / at / in* Burnham.
- 2 Sometimes you can't get *close / near / by* the stage.
- 3 Some actors don't like to play *opposite / behind / in front of* a big crowd.
- 4 A lot of people go *at / in / to* the Burnham Theatre festival.
- 5 The Burnham Theatre Festival starts in / on / at August.
- 6 Most summer festivals here are from July up / in / to September.
- 7 We try to see a play at the festival in every / on every / every week.
- 8 Festivals don't usually take place while / during / from the winter.
- 9 Most people travel to the festival *in / with / by* car or train.
- 10 Tickets are usually to sale / by sale / for sale two months before the start.
- **3** Check your answers below. Then go to the unit for more information and practice.

1 in 2 near 3 in front of 4 to 5 in 6 to 7 every 8 during 9 by 10 for sale

🖞 Go online for a full diagnostic test

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➤ Unit 18

➤ Unit 18

➤ Unit 19

► Unit 20

Unit 21

➤ Unit 21

➤ Unit 21

► Unit 22

➤ Unit 23

► Unit 24

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18 Prepositions of place (1)



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1 Main uses

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at 🚺	There's someone at the door. She's at her desk by 9.00 every day. Write your name at the top	below		Adrian is standing below the clock. The coats are in the cupboard below the stairs.
in	of the paper. There are some books in the cupboard. There was no one in	under		The rubbish bin is under the desk. I keep my old school books under the bed.
on	the house. The computer is on the desk. The poster is on the wall.	next to by beside		The cupboard is next to/by/beside the desk. He lives in the house next to/by/beside the school.
above	There's a poster on the wall above the desk. He lives in the flat above the shop.	near	•	Adrian is standing near the door. She works at the shop near the station.

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2 Other uses

We use *at* with

- home and places of study/work: *at home, at school, at university, at work, at the office*
- other places in a town: *at* the doctor's, *at* the cinema, *at* the station

We use in with

• towns and countries: *in Milan, in Italy, in Europe*

👃 🗴 I live at Buenos Aires. ✓ I live **in** Buenos Aires.

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Practice

1 Match the two parts of the sentences.

- 0 There were some really good bands
- 1 Your coats and scarves are
- 2 Who painted that lovely picture
- 3 Can you put your old papers in the bin
- 4 You'll find the tickets
- 5 At the moment Meral is living
- 6 Louisa met her husband

- A on the desk in my office.
- B on the bedroom wall?
- C in the cupboard by the front door.
- D at her best friend's wedding.
 - E under the sink?
- > F at the festival last year.
 - G in Izmir, but she comes from Ankara.

GRAMMAR IN USE Complete the conversation with the correct phrases from the box. (1)2.38 Listen and check.

beside the park in the office block in the park near the festival near the station next to our house

- A How are you getting to the festival on Saturday?
- B I'm going by train. We live quite (0) <u>near the station</u> it's only about a fifteen-minute walk.
- A That's too far with luggage!
- B No, I'll take a taxi to the station. The taxi office is (1) next door.
- A That'll be expensive. Why don't you drive here and we can go by bus? The bus stops (2), just outside really.
- B Does it stop (3), then?
- A Quite near, it's only about a five-minute walk.
- A Why don't we just drive? There's parking for the festival (5)
- B That's true! Let's do that.

GRAMMAR IN USE Look at the picture. Complete the text with prepositions. 2.39 Listen and check.



Hi Melissa!

b Go online for more practice

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19 Prepositions of place (2)



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1 in front of, behind, opposite, between

in front of	Joanne is in front of Simon. Annie sits in front of me in the class.
behind	Simon is behind Joanne. There's a police car behind our car.
opposite	The snack bar is opposite the ticket office. My house is opposite the post office.
between	Simon is between Joanne and Mariella. That's me in the photo – between mum and dad.

▲ X The snack bar is opposite to the ticket office.
 ✓ The snack bar is opposite the ticket office.

2 Describing a picture

We use prepositions to describe where things are in a picture. Read this description of the picture at the top of the page.

The picture shows the entrance to a festival.

At the front we can see the ticket office. Three people are waiting for tickets. *There's a festival stage at the back.*

The ticket office is **on the left** of the picture and the snacks are **on the right**. *In the centre* there's a group of people.

At the top we can see the sky and at the bottom we can see some children.

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1 Look at the plan below. Then choose the correct words in *italics*. **1** Listen and check.

- 0 A is on the *right* / *left* of B.
- 1 C is opposite / between B and E.
- 2 D is in front of / behind E.
- 3 F is *opposite* / *between* A and B.
- 4 G is between / in front of H.
- 5 G is opposite / in front of C.
- 6 I is on the *right / left* of H.
- 7 E is behind / opposite I.
- 8 C is on the *right / left* of E.



2 GRAMMAR IN USE Now read the text. Write the correct places in the plan.

The biggest building in the shopping centre is the department store. It's opposite the supermarket and a small hotel. The hotel is on the right of the supermarket. On the right of the hotel is a cinema, and opposite that is the café, which has a lot of tables and chairs in front of it. The café is on the left of the bus station, which is opposite the sports centre. That has a small area behind it with a tennis court.

3 GRAMMAR IN USE Look at the photo. Complete the text with the correct words from the box. (2)2.41 Listen and check.

back front left right top



4 Now look at a picture in the room you are in, or find a picture from this book. Write three sentences with prepositions to describe it.

At the front I can see ...

O Go online for more practice

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20 Prepositions of movement

From the ticket office, you go through the main gate and along the path. Go past the toilets and follow the path to the food court. Then go round the fountain and across the bridge. The main stage is in front of you.



1 along, past, across, over, through, round, from, to

along	Walk along the path.	round	Go round the fountain.
past	Go past the toilets.	from	You go from the ticket office
across over	Go across the bridge. Go over the bridge.	to	Follow the path to the food court.
through	 Go through the main gate.		

We also use *from* in this way:

Our English teacher comes/is from New Zealand. (= New Zealand is her country.)

2 into, out of, onto, off



in for position/place ➤ Unit 18

We *get into/out of* a car or taxi, but *get on/off* a bus, plane, train, ship, bike: *Get into the car. We're ready to go. I felt ill when I got off the ship.*

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I got into the bus. I got on the bus.

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Practice

GRAMMAR IN USE Read these directions to an arts festival. Then choose the correct words in *italics*. (1)2.42 Listen and check.

How to find us

If you are coming by train, follow these directions from the station to the Arts Centre: when you leave the station, go (0) across/ through the railway bridge. (1) To / From the bridge, turn right and walk (2) along / past the path by the river for about 200 metres, then go (3) along / through the small park on your left. Go (4) across / round the statue in the middle and (5) from / past the park café. Follow the path (6) to / along the main gate and go (7) across / through the gate. Go (8) along / across the main road and you'll see the Arts Centre in front of you.

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Tickets	Cars & Parking	Food and drink	Train times	Contact us
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2 Complete the sentences with prepositions. **12.43** Listen and check.

- 0 You have to turn your lights on when you go <u>through</u> the tunnel.
- 1 I always walk the bridge to get to work. It's quicker.
- 2 'Is this Kew Gardens?' 'No. You need to get the bus at the next stop.'
- 3 The doors open at 6.00 p.m. and then people can go the cinema.
- 4 Turn right and go the post office it's the next building on the right.
- 5 Walk the lake. The café is on the other side.

3 GRAMMAR IN USE Complete the description below with prepositions. Use the map to help you.

The parade starts at 10.30.



4 Describe your route to school/work every day.

I always walk to work. I go out of my apartment and turn left. I walk along the street, past some shops ...

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b Go online for more practice

21 Prepositions of time (1)

THEATRE! DANCE! MUSIC! COMEDY!

England's biggest, busiest festival is back – it starts **on** 5 May and continues **until** 27 May.

Events **at** lunchtime **on** most days and **in** the evening every day.

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The ticket office is open from 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. every day.

1 at, in, on

	an exact time	<i>The train arrives at 6.00.</i> <i>The film starts at 9.00.</i>
at +	special days or occasions	Lucy met an old friend at her sister's wedding.
	times of meals and the weekend	The concert is at lunchtime . What are you doing at the weekend ?
in +	parts of the day	There are events in the evening every day. It gets cooler in the afternoon .
	months, seasons, years, centuries	<i>The festival is in May. He was born in 1994. They built the castle in the eleventh century.</i>
on +	dates and days	The festival starts on 5 May . My interview is on Thursday afternoon .

We say at night, NOT in the night: ★ The supermarket is open in the night ✓ The supermarket is open at night.

2 No preposition

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We don't use a preposition with

- *this* (morning, week, etc.): *What time did you have breakfast this morning?*
- *last* (month, year, etc.): *The new theatre opened last month.*
- *next* (week, year, etc.): *My English course starts next week*.
- *every* (day, weekend, etc.): *There are special events every day.*

▲ Kevin's exam was on last Tuesday. ✓ Kevin's exam was last Tuesday.
 ★ There's a festival here in every February. ✓ There's a festival here every February.

3 *in, until, from ... to/until*

My birthday is in five days. (five days from now) *The festival continues until 12 May.* (it ends on this date) *The festival lasts from 9 May to/until 12 May.* (from the beginning to the end of this time)

Use of prepositions in American English > page 317

	8	
	9	\uparrow
	10	TODAY
M	11	FESTIVAL
Δ	12	↓
V	13	
•	14	
	15	My birthday
	16	

Brighton

festiva

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- **1** Match the two parts of the sentences. **1** Listen and check.
 - 0 The first men walked on the moon in —
 - 1 Americans usually have family parties in
 - 2 World War Two lasted from
 - 3 People usually do their best work in
 - 4 Johnny Depp was born on
 - 5 Children don't usually go to school on
- A 9 June, 1963.
- B Saturdays.
- C the morning.
- →D 1969.
 - E November.
 - F 1939 until 1945.
- 2 Look at the notices. Complete the sentences below them. Use the correct prepositions.



22 Prepositions of time (2)



London FILMFESTIVAL Classic films of the 1920s:

The Hunchback of Notre Dame Wednesday 10 March at 7 p.m.

Drinks before the film

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- Neil Brand plays the piano during the film
- Talk after the show by the Director of the National Film Theatre

1 before, after

We use before and after with

- times: Let's meet before 7.00. The film starts then. Train tickets are cheaper after 9.30 in the morning.
- events/situations: *There will be drinks before the film. Let's watch TV after dinner. My grandmother was born before the war. I can meet you after work.*

before and after + -ing form ➤ Unit 95.1

2 by, for, during

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We use *by* to mean 'not later than': *Please give me your homework by Friday*. (on or before Friday) *The holiday will be cheaper if we book it by 30 April*. (on or before 30 April) *The meeting is on Wednesday so I'll finish the report by then*.

We use *for* + a period of time: *for an hour, two days, three weeks* It means 'the whole time': *We waited for the bus for an hour.*



We use *during* + an event or situation: *during the flight, the winter, the war Neil Brand plays the piano during the film. Uncle Andy called us during supper* with some bad news.

Compare *during* and *for*: I only slept **for** half an hour **during** the flight. It rained **for** two days **during** our holiday.

X I go to classes during three hours in the afternoon.
 ✓ I go to classes for three hours in the afternoon.

for with present perfect > Unit 53.1



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1 GRAMMAR IN USE Look at the flight information board. Use the information below to complete it.

DEPART	URES	ARRIVALS		
08.55	(0) BC218 Edinburgh	09.05	LT079 FRANKFURT	
09.10	ACIS25 MONTREAL	(5)	AF1062 PARIS	
09.15	DA729 MADRID	09.15	(6)	
09.25	PA1921 (1)	09.30	BA9193 JOHANNESBURG	
09.35	LT200 FRANKFURT	09.35	DA738 MUNICH	
09.45	DA1910 MILAN	09.55	AA0107 TANGIER	
09.50	PA8310 MONTEVIDEO	10.10	(7)	
(2)	(3)	10.25	(8)	
10.20	(4)	10.35	DA661 ATHENS	

Only one flight leaves the airport before 9 o'clock in the morning, the BC218 to Edinburgh.

There are two flights for North America before 9.30, for Montreal and New York.

Only two flights leave between 10.00 and 10.30,

the AF1063 to Paris, and ten minutes before that the SAS202 to Stockholm.

Two flights arrive from Paris after 9.00: BA5634 arrives five minutes after the Air France flight. There are two arrivals from the United States: BA4242 from Miami first at 10.10, then PA2190 from Dallas fifteen minutes after that.

2 Choose the correct words in *italics*. **12.46** Listen and check.

- 0 If you aren't doing anything this evening, let's go to the cinema *during / after*)work.
- 1 The flight's at 8.00 a.m. so we'll have to get up after / before 6.00 to get to the airport.
- 2 The last date for your project is 25 March. Please give it to your teacher *by* / *after* then.
- 3 Mike had a bad accident *during / for* his holiday and was in hospital *during / for* two weeks.
- 4 Everything smells very fresh before / after rain.
- 5 Please don't talk *for / during* the exam.
- 6 We'll send out the interview letters by / after the weekend, so you'll hear early next week.

GRAMMAR IN USE Complete the text with the correct words from the box. **3**(2.47) Listen and check.

after before by during during for for

The Rocks Hotel

has welcomed visitors (0) <u>for</u> 25 years.

The following information will help you to have an enjoyable stay:

- The restaurant is open from 6.30 until 9.30 p.m. If you would like an evening meal (1) this time, please call 135.
- Breakfast is served between 6.30 and 9.00 a.m. If you would like breakfast in your room, please hang the menu card on your door (2) 2.00 a.m.
- Reception is closed from 11.30 p.m. to 6.00 a.m. If you need a doctor
 (3) the night, please call 100.
- - ** SPECIAL SPRING OFFER** (5) the months of March and April, stay(6) two nights and have dinner here, get the third night FREE!

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O Go online for more practice

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23 Prepositions with other meanings

Last year I went to the Hay-on-Wye book festival. I went **with** my two best friends, and we went **by** bus. It was great – we went to a really funny and interesting talk **by** Charlie Higson. He wrote the Young James Bond books.

1 by

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We use *by* to talk about

- a way of travelling: We went to Hay by bus. Dave goes to work by bike.
- a way of communicating: *I keep in touch with all my friends by email.*
- a way of paying for something: *I pay for my shopping by credit card.*(But we pay for something in cash or by cash.)

▲ 🗴 Amanda goes to work by foot. 🗸 Amanda goes to work on foot.

We also use *by* to say who wrote or produced something: *The 'Young James Bond' books are by Charlie Higson. 'Guernica' is a famous painting by Pablo Picasso. The play 'Macbeth' was written by Shakespeare.*

by with passive form of verb \succ Unit 96.3

2 with

We use *with* to mean 'together': *I went to Hay with my two best friends. My parents are on holiday with my brother at the moment.*

We can also use *with* to say what we use to do something: *He pushed the door open with his foot.*

3 as, like

We use *as* for a person's job, or to say what something is used for: *Martin works as a waiter in the evenings. You can use the side of a book as a ruler.*

We use *like* when we mean 'similar to': *Debbie's very beautiful – she looks like a model.* (She isn't a model.) *This tastes like chocolate.* (It isn't chocolate.)

We don't use *like* when we talk about someone's job. We use *as*:
★ Alex works like a builder. ✓ Alex works as a builder. (This is his job.)

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- **1** Match the sentences 1–5 with the meanings A–F.
 - 0 That picture is by Karen, when she was at college.
 - 1 That picture is of Karen, when she was at college.
 - 2 Karen usually goes to work on foot.
 - 3 Karen catches the bus if she's late.
 - 4 Karen works as a photographer.
 - 5 Karen looks like a photographer.

- A She is a photographer.
- B She walks to work.
- C She is in the picture.
- \rightarrow D She painted the picture.
 - E She isn't a photographer.
 - F She sometimes goes to work by bus.

GRAMMAR IN USE Complete the conversation with the phrases A–H below. ①2.48 Listen and check.

- SUE Did you go to any festivals last year?
- AMY Yes, we went to one a film festival in Liverpool.
- SUE Really? Did you go $(0) \dots H \dots$?
- AMY Yes. We went to a wonderful talk (1) about Indian films.
- SUE How did you go (2)?
- AMY No, we didn't drive. We went (3) But it was quite expensive – we had to pay for the train fares (4)
- SUE Mmm, but did you enjoy the festival?
- AMY Yes, it was great but Justin fell and hurt his foot and he had to walk (5) for weeks afterwards!
- SUE Oh, no! Is he OK now?
- AMY Yes. He got a book (6) with exercises in, and he did those. He's fine now.
- SUE Good. Oh, I nearly forgot. When is the Ely festival this year?
- AMY Mmm, I've got the information at home. I'll send it to you (7)
- SUE Great. Thanks.
- A by email C by car E by a famous fitness teacher G with a stick
- B by train D by credit card F by an Indian film director H with Justin

3 Complete the sentences with *as* or *like*. **12.49** Listen and check.

- 0 Robert spent years ... a carpenter before he became a teacher.
- 1 Your brother really looks that footballer in Real Madrid.
- 2 Marina loves going to parties, most girls of her age.
- 3 You can use this sofa a bed. It's really comfortable.
- 4 Mmm, your perfume smells roses. It's lovely.
- 5 The TV chef Gordon Ramsay trained a footballer when he was young.

4 Change the sentences so they are true for you.

- 0 I pay for most things by cheque. I pay for most things in cash.
- 1 I look like my father.
- 2 I live with two other students.
- 3 I love music by Mozart.
- 4 I always go to work by car.

ப் Go online for more practice



24 Common phrases with prepositions

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1 Phrases of place

	PHRASE	EXAMPLE
at	at home at school at work	I'm usually at home in the evenings. The children are at school next week so we can't come. Robert's at work now – why don't you call him there?
in	in bed	Teenagers often stay in bed till late.
on	on holiday on business	Where are you going on holiday this year? Melissa's in Rome on business this week. (working there)



We don't use to with home, here or there:
 X I'm tired. I want to go to home now.
 ✓ I'm tired. I want to go home now.

2 Phrases of time

	PHRASE	MEANING	EXAMPLE
at	at first at last at once at the same time	in the beginning after a long time immediately together	At first I was unhappy at college but now I really like it. At last it stopped raining so we went outside. The ambulance arrived almost at once. You can't watch TV and study at the same time.
in	in a hurry in the end in time	have to do something quickly finally early enough for something	I can't talk now. I'm in a hurry . We solved the problem in the end , after a lot of work. Make sure you get home in time for dinner.
on	on time	at the right time	The plane left on time .

In time means 'early enough for something':

I didn't arrive at the station in time for the six o'clock train, so I had to wait for the next one.

On time means 'at the correct time': *Last year 92 percent of South-East trains left on time*.

3 Other common phrases

	PHRASE	MEANING	EXAMPLE
h	by chance	you did not plan or expect it	We found this wonderful restaurant by chance.
by	by mistake	you did not intend to do it	I sent that email by mistake – I didn't want you to read it.
	in love	loving someone in a romantic way	My father says that he's still in love with my mother after twenty-five years!
in	in public	where everyone can see/hear	I was very nervous the first time I spoke in publi c.
	in private	where other people can't see/hear	Can we discuss your work in private?
on	on fire	burning	The motorway was closed because a car was on fire.
	on purpose	deliberately	I didn't get wet on purpose – I fell in the water.
for	for sale	you can buy it	The house at the end of the road is for sale.
out of	out of order	not working	The lift is out of order . We'll have to use the stairs.

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- **1** Complete the sentences with prepositions. **1**2.50 Listen and check.

 - 1 Can I talk to you private after the class?
 - 2 It's dangerous to drive and talk on a mobile phone the same time.
 - 3 I really like the handbag in the window. Is it sale?
 - 4 The police found the money chance when they searched the apartment.
 - 5 Ahmed travels to Switzerland every month business.
 - 6 After nearly an hour, our bus arrived last!

2 GRAMMAR IN USE Complete the story with the correct words and phrases from the box.

at first at once home in a hurry in the end in time on fire

We had a terrible experience a few weeks ago. One evening, a friend of ours had dinner with us, and we drove him to the station after our meal. We were quite late for his train so we left the house (0) in a hurry, and I forgot to turn off the cooker. When we got (1) from the station, the kitchen was (2)! We were shocked (3) but then we called the fire service. They arrived almost (4), and put the fire out. We were lucky that they put the fire out (5) to save our kitchen – there wasn't much damage, so everything was OK (6)

3 Write the sentences again. Replace the <u>underlined</u> words with a common phrase.

0 I'm really sorry I took your coat – I didn't do it deliberately. I'm really sorry I took your coat – I didn't do it on purpose. 1 The film seemed very boring in the beginning, but then it got better. 2 I'm going to be in Prague for work next week. _____ 3 Please make sure that you arrive <u>at the correct time</u> for your appointment. 4 If you hear the bell, go to your class <u>immediately</u>. 5 The coffee machine isn't working again. 4 **GRAMMAR IN USE** There are five more mistakes with prepositions in the conversation. Find and correct them. ^{12.51} Listen and check. A Well, I'm actually by holiday from work A Did you get tickets for Radiohead? B Yes, I did. I had to phone the box office that day. I'll meet you to there. about ten times but I got through B Can you meet me at 6.30? It starts at 8.00 on the end. hour before it starts. A That's great! B I've got tickets for Friday 15th – I'll be

- on work that day, so I'll go straight from the office to Wembley Stadium.
- and I want to be there by time at least an
- A Yes, that's fine. I'll drive and park nearby, then I can drive you to home afterwards.
 - B Thanks. That's great.

O Go online for more practice and a progress test

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