

In the Beginning

Language probably began with one-word sentences. A cave man would rub his stomach and say, "Hungry!" The cave woman would hand the man a raw chunk of saber-toothed muskrat and say, "Cook!"

But when people started going to college, they needed several smaller words to fit in between the big ones, so that messages would be more exact. They invented words like *in, of, on, at, by, to, for, up, down, with, since* and *from*. They gave these little words a big name: *prepositions*. People started talking nonstop once prepositions were created, and there hasn't been a quiet moment since.



- ◆ Rewrite the sentences below spoken by cave couple Og and Ug. Add prepositions as you see fit, from the box below. Circle each preposition. (You will also need to add words that are not prepositions.)

within without with upon up unto until underneath under toward to
 through throughout since past over on off of near like amid into in
 from for during down by outside beyond between beside beneath
 below behind before at around among along against after across
 above about aboard inside

- Og: "Sky dark." _____
- Ug: "Rain." _____
- Og: "Get wet." _____
- Ug: "Hide cave." _____
- Og: "No. Climb tree. Hide leaves." _____
- Ug: "Afraid heights." _____
- Og: "Before married, weren't afraid heights." _____
- Ug: "Crawl hole." _____
- Og: "Afraid dark." _____ "You afraid everything." _____
- Ug: "I not afraid you." _____

- ◆ Write at least six more lines, continuing the conversation between Og and Ug. Circle each preposition.