Preposition (Anything that a plane could/can do to a cloud.)

A preposition is a word (or group of words) that shows the relationship between its object (a noun or a pronoun that follows the preposition) and another word in the sentence. There are three kinds of prepositions: simple (at, in, of, on), compound (within, outside, underneath), and phrasal (on account of, on top of).

 To make a mustache, Natasha *placed* the hairy caterpillar **under** her *nose.*

 (**Under** shows the relationship between the verb placed and the object of

 the preposition nose).

The first noun or pronoun following a preposition is its object.

The drowsy insect clung obediently **to** the girl’s upper *lip.* (The first noun following the preposition **to** is *lip*; lip is the object of the preposition.

A prepositional phrase includes the preposition, the object of the preposition, and the modifiers of the object. A prepositional phrase may function as an adverb or as an adjective.

 Some people *run* **away** from the caterpillars.

 (The phrase functions as an adverb and modifies the verb *run).*

 However, little *kids* **with inquisitive minds** enjoy their company.

 (The phrase functions as an adjective and modifies the noun *kids*).

A preposition that lacks as object may be used as an adverb.

 Natasha never *played* with caterpillars **before**. (The object of the preposition is understood: before *today*. **Before** modifies played, a verb).