

Crossing Boundaries: Into, Onto, Out of and Off

Teacher answer key · Keep separate from learner copies | High B1 / Lower B2 | British English

52 fixed-choice items · 1 mark per correct response · Maximum score: 52. This document contains correct answers, feedback and optional read-aloud scripts.

Reference learner page and audiovisual exercises: <https://learningenglish.tailtiu.org/prepositions-for-crossing-boundaries/>

The learner workbook preserves all answer options and item IDs from the approved online activities. The correct answer appears below verbatim, followed by the explanation used in the hosted lesson. Q01–Q07 test story comprehension; Q08–Q11 use the second video.

Story video: gist (Q01)

Video / learner materials: <https://learningenglish.tailtiu.org/prepositions-for-crossing-boundaries/>

ID	Correct answer	Why? / feedback
Q01	B late/stressful journey + wrong meeting	Maya is late, has a stressful journey, catches the train and finally enters the wrong meeting.

Story video: second viewing (Q02–Q07)

Video / learner materials: <https://learningenglish.tailtiu.org/prepositions-for-crossing-boundaries/>

ID	Correct answer	Why? / feedback
Q02	stops alarm and falls asleep again	Maya's alarm rings at seven, but she stops it and falls asleep again.
Q03	forgot phone	Outside, she realises she has forgotten her phone, so she runs back into the building, goes into the flat, finds it on the kitchen table and rushes out again.
Q04	traffic hardly moving	But the traffic hardly moves.
Q05	train already there	Her train is already there.
Q06	two stops later	Two stops later, she gets off the train and races out of the station.
Q07	wrong meeting	It is the wrong meeting.

Explanation video: directional patterns (Q08–Q11)

Video / learner materials: <https://learningenglish.tailtiu.org/prepositions-for-crossing-boundaries/>

ID	Correct answer	Why? / feedback
Q08	into	Into shows movement from outside towards the inside of a place or space.
Q09	out of	Out of shows movement from inside towards the outside of a place or space.
Q10	onto	Onto shows movement towards and onto a surface.
Q11	off	Off shows movement away from a surface.

Exercise 1 — Crossing Boundaries (Q12–Q19)

ID	Correct answer	Why? / feedback
Q12	into	Into shows movement from outside towards the inside of a place or space.
Q13	onto	Onto shows movement towards and onto a surface.
Q14	out of	Out of shows movement from inside towards the outside of a place or space.
Q15	off	Off shows movement away from a surface.

ID	Correct answer	Why? / feedback
Q16	into	Into shows movement from outside towards the inside of a place or space.
Q17	onto	Onto shows movement towards and onto a surface.
Q18	off	Off shows movement away from a surface.
Q19	out of	Out of shows movement from inside towards the outside of a place or space.

Exercise 2A — The Usual Transport Pattern (Q20–Q24)

ID	Correct answer	Why? / feedback
Q20	into / out of	Cars/taxis normally use into/out of; buses/trains/planes normally use on/off.
Q21	into / out of	Cars/taxis normally use into/out of; buses/trains/planes normally use on/off.
Q22	on / off	Cars/taxis normally use into/out of; buses/trains/planes normally use on/off.
Q23	on / off	Cars/taxis normally use into/out of; buses/trains/planes normally use on/off.
Q24	on / off	Cars/taxis normally use into/out of; buses/trains/planes normally use on/off.

Exercise 2B — Getting Around (Q25–Q30)

ID	Correct answer	Why? / feedback
Q25	into	Cars/taxis normally use into/out of; buses/trains/planes normally use on/off.
Q26	on	Cars/taxis normally use into/out of; buses/trains/planes normally use on/off.
Q27	out of	Cars/taxis normally use into/out of; buses/trains/planes normally use on/off.
Q28	off	Cars/taxis normally use into/out of; buses/trains/planes normally use on/off.
Q29	on	Cars/taxis normally use into/out of; buses/trains/planes normally use on/off.
Q30	off	Cars/taxis normally use into/out of; buses/trains/planes normally use on/off.

Exercise 3 — What Is the Movement? (Q31–Q36)

ID	Correct answer	Why? / feedback
Q31	into the office	Into shows movement from outside towards the inside of a place or space.
Q32	onto	Onto shows movement towards and onto a surface.
Q33	out of	Out of shows movement from inside towards the outside of a place or space.
Q34	off	Off shows movement away from a surface.
Q35	climbs onto	Onto shows movement towards and onto a surface.
Q36	out of	Cars/taxis normally use into/out of; buses/trains/planes normally use on/off.

Exercise 4A — Physical or Metaphorical? (Q37–Q42)

ID	Correct answer	Why? / feedback
Q37	Physical movement	Physical = real movement between places/positions; metaphorical = movement idea used for entering/leaving a situation.
Q38	Metaphorical situation	Physical = real movement between places/positions; metaphorical = movement idea used for entering/leaving a situation.
Q39	Physical movement	Physical = real movement between places/positions; metaphorical = movement idea used for entering/leaving a situation.
Q40	Metaphorical situation	Physical = real movement between places/positions; metaphorical = movement idea used for entering/leaving a situation.

ID	Correct answer	Why? / feedback
Q41	Physical movement	Physical = real movement between places/positions; metaphorical = movement idea used for entering/leaving a situation.
Q42	Metaphorical situation	Physical = real movement between places/positions; metaphorical = movement idea used for entering/leaving a situation.

Exercise 4B — Into or Out Of? (Q43–Q46)

ID	Correct answer	Why? / feedback
Q43	into	Into = enter a difficult situation; out of = leave a difficult situation.
Q44	out of	Into = enter a difficult situation; out of = leave a difficult situation.
Q45	into	Into = enter a difficult situation; out of = leave a difficult situation.
Q46	out of	Into = enter a difficult situation; out of = leave a difficult situation.

Final Challenge — Can You Cross the Right Boundary? (Q47–Q52)

ID	Correct answer	Why? / feedback
Q47	into	Into shows movement from outside towards the inside of a place or space.
Q48	onto	Onto shows movement towards and onto a surface.
Q49	into	Cars/taxis normally use into/out of; buses/trains/planes normally use on/off.
Q50	on	Cars/taxis normally use into/out of; buses/trains/planes normally use on/off.
Q51	onto	Onto shows movement towards and onto a surface.
Q52	into	Into shows movement from outside towards the inside of a place or space.

Open production task: assessment guidance

The final 5–7 sentence journey is not part of the 52-point fixed-choice score. Accept original answers that correctly describe direction and use a normal transport expression. Look for at least one appropriate example each of into, out of, onto, off and one car/taxi or bus/train/plane expression.

Read-aloud scripts / transcript alternatives

For a low-tech classroom, read Video Section 1 aloud twice: once before Q01, and again before Q02–Q07. Then read Section 2 or explain the directional contrasts before Q08–Q11. The learner workbook includes the transcripts at the end for independent reading. Avoid distributing this answer key during the test.

Original audiovisual materials: <https://learningenglish.tailtiu.org/prepositions-for-crossing-boundaries/>

Script 1 — Maya's Morning

Accompanying video and learner page: <https://learningenglish.tailtiu.org/prepositions-for-crossing-boundaries/>

Maya's alarm rings at seven, but she stops it and falls asleep again. Twenty minutes later, she wakes up, looks at the time and realises she's late.

She gets dressed quickly, grabs her bag and rushes out of her flat. Outside, she realises she has forgotten her phone, so she runs back into the building, goes into the flat, finds it on the kitchen table and rushes out again.

A taxi is waiting, so Maya gets into it and asks the driver to take her to the station. But the traffic hardly moves. After a few minutes, she gets out of the taxi and runs into the station.

Her train is already there. She hurries onto the platform, gets on the train and finally sits down. Two stops later, she gets off the train and races out of the station.

At work, Maya runs into the office building, takes the lift upstairs and walks into a meeting room. Everyone turns and looks at her.

There is just one problem.

It is the wrong meeting.

Maya quietly walks out of the room and closes the door.

Script 2 — Crossing Boundaries: How the Pattern Works

Accompanying video and learner page: <https://learningenglish.tailtiu.org/prepositions-for-crossing-boundaries/>

Maya's morning gives us a useful way to understand four common movement words: into, out of, onto and off.

First, think about places with an inside and an outside, such as a room, a building or a car.

When we move from outside to inside, we use into. Maya ran into the building. She got into the taxi.

When we move from inside to outside, we use out of. Maya rushed out of her flat. She got out of the taxi.

Now think about a surface or platform. When we move to that surface, we can use onto. Maya hurried onto the platform.

And when we move away from a surface, we use off. We can step off a stage, jump off a wall, or climb off a roof.

Transport has one important pattern to remember. With cars and taxis, we normally get into and out of them. With buses, trains and planes, we normally get on and off.

So the basic idea is simple: into and out of often describe movement into and out of a place or space; onto and off describe movement to and away from a surface.

Different verbs can show how we move — walk, run, rush, jump or climb — but the boundary pattern stays the same.