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PREPOSITIONS OF PLACE FROM HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE AND THE PRECONDITIONS FOR THEIR TRANSPOSITION

The paper focuses on the beginnings of prepositions of place, the ways of their formation in the Old English language. This will help to ascertain the status of prepositions of place in comparison with adverbs of place in Modern English, as nowadays there is an ambiguity between these two classes. 31 prepositions of place which intersect in their meaning with adverbs of place which have been picked out and examined. In conformity with the number of constituents and on the basis of diachronic research modern one-word locative prepositions can be divided into 3 groups: genuine one-word prepositions, derivative prepositions with 2 constituents, derivative prepositions with 3 constituents. In compliance with the type of locative prepositions 4 structural models have been singled out. The results of the investigation will give an opportunity to redraw the boundaries between grammatical categories of prepositions and adverbs of place and to explain the process of their transposition in language.

Key words: *preposition, adverb, transposition, noun-phrase complement.*

Problem statement. At the present stage of the English language development the overlapping of locative adverbs and locative prepositions meanings can be observed. Both types of lexical units belong to the basic elements of language that generally existed in OE therefore it would be reasonable to reveal the causes of the overlapping.

Analysis of the recent studies and publications. A.C. Bauch and T. Cable assume that “the vocabulary of OE is almost purely Germanic. A large part of this vocabulary, moreover, has disappeared from the language. An examination of the

words in an OE dictionary shows that about 85% of them are no longer in use. Those that survive, to be sure, are basic elements of the vocabulary and the frequency with which they occur make up a large part of any English sentence, apart from the pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions, auxiliary verbs and the like, they express fundamental concepts ...” [3, p. 49]. It gives certain grounds to draw the line not only between the adverbs and prepositions as lexical units, but also between the open and the closed word classes of the language. Current classification principles of the parts of speech distinguish 4 open classes: noun, verb, adjective, adverb and 7 closed classes and their subclasses: auxiliary verb, conjunction, preposition, determiner, pronoun, numeral, interjection [11, p. 79]. “Open classes readily admit new words and therefore they contain most words in the language. Closed classes, on the other hand, rarely admit new words, so that it is possible to list all the words belonging to them” [11, p. 79; 4, p. 56; 17, p. 46]. If we take a more precise look at the closed classes, we can discover that most representatives of the modern closed classes are originally OE but some units of prepositions, pronouns, numerals and interjections.

In modern grammar studies, a lexico-grammatical class of prepositions belongs to the closed word class as it is not a subject for transposition processes, therefore its quantity is limited to “about a hundred prepositions in current use” [13, p. 127]. J. Essberger enumerates the list of 150 prepositions stating that it “is comprehensive at the time of writing, and represents all the prepositions currently found in a good English dictionary such as the *Concise Oxford Dictionary*” [10, p.6].

In current linguistics a preposition “is a word that indicates a relation between the noun or pronoun it governs and another word, which may be a verb, an adjective or another noun or pronoun” [9, p. 355]. Such definition imposes a fundamental restriction on lexical units which can be assigned as prepositions, namely the presence of a noun phrase (NP) as a complement. It means that “in general, words are traditionally analyzed as prepositions only if they have complements in the form of NPs” [13, p. 127], i.e. if a unit does not take a noun phrase as a complement it should not be analyzed as a preposition. Nevertheless, we assume that most of prepositions of place can take complements, represented by other parts of speech.

Thus, **the aim of the paper** is to trace back to the origin of prepositions of place and to analyze the initial forms of prepositions, to group them and to provide OE structural models which became primary models for modern prepositions. This will help to prove or refute our assumption.

Hence, on the grounds of 150 prepositions and data from the English dictionaries, 52 one-word and 13 complex prepositions (total 65) indicating locative relations have been selected, see Table №1.

Table №1

Location Prepositions in English

One-word location prepositions				Complex location prepositions
*aboard	*atop	*inside	*through	ahead of
*about	*before	into	*throughout	away from
*above	*behind	*near	till	close to/on
*across	*below	of	*to	forward of
*after	*beneath	*off	toward/towards	in front of
against	beside	*on	*under	near to
*along	*between	onto	*underneath	next to
*alongside	*beyond	*opposite	until	on to
amid/amidst	*by	*out	*up	on top of
among/amongst	*down	*outside	upon	opposite to
*around	for	*over	via	out of
*astride	from	*past	with	outside of
at	*in	*round	*within	up against

Table №1 represents the full list of locative prepositions in English selected on the basis of their lexical meanings – one way or other indicating location relations. Traditionally, most of the one word locative prepositions (marked in table №1 with a * sign) are treated both as prepositions and adverbs. The study shows that among these 36 prepositions, only 5 units (*after, before, between, on, over*) take exclusively NP complements and therefore are genuine prepositions according to the modern definition. Correspondingly, the rest of lexical units must undergo a thorough research. Other units, like *at*, are basically used to denote position (when we speak of them in the frames of locative preposition) and their core sense is characterized “as a one-dimensional locative expression, that is expressing the location of an entity as being at a specific point” [7, 4].

Modern prepositions of place are divided into one-word and complex prepositions, according to J.Essberger [10, p. 2]. The research is carried out on the basis of the Oxford English Dictionary [16], A Concise Anglo-Saxon Dictionary [6], An Anglo-Saxon Dictionary Supplement [18], Online Etymological Dictionary [15]. The dates which follow the examples indicate the first usage of the lexical item.

The etymological analysis gives us an opportunity to assume that most of the modern “one word” prepositions of place include at least 2 constituents, one which is an OE preposition. Therefore, it is possible to single out several types of prepositions of place on the basis of their constituents.

The 1st group can be represented by the general model: *Prep* → *Prep [a, an, and] + N/Adj/Adv/Prep*, where *N* – noun, *Adv* – adverb, *Adj* – adjective, *Prep* – preposition, *V* – verb.

R. Lowth stated that “the particle *a* before participles, in the phrases *a coming*, *a going*, *a walking*, *a shooting* etc., and before nouns as *a-bed*, *a-board*, *a-shore*, *a-foot* etc. seems to be a true and genuine preposition, a little disguised by familiar use and quick pronunciation” [14, p. 114]. J. Harrison stressed that “the word *a* seems to be a preposition, perhaps a contraction of *on*” [12, p. 36], A. Crombie mentioned that “... nor is it to be doubted that a perfect acquaintance with the Northern languages would convince us that all prepositions are abbreviations, corruptions or combinations of other words” [8, 205], W. Cobbett assumed that “there are two abbreviations or shortenings of prepositions: *a* and *o*” [7, 79], T. G. Chestnut supposed that “the word *a* in the sense of *at*, *in*, *on*, *to*, *of* has the force of a preposition ... and may be parsed as such” [5, p. 119], B. Johnson believed that “*a* hath also the force of governing before a noun” [1, p. 785] and others. The same references can be found in the Oxford English Dictionary [16], A Concise Anglo-Saxon Dictionary [6], and An Anglo-Saxon Dictionary Supplement [18].

The most common subtype of this group is: *Prep* → *Prep [a, an, and] + N*:

- Aboard → A [Prep] + Bord [N]

1) *My mastyr paid fore botes to set them a bord the barge. 1466, Manners & Househ. Exp. Eng.;*

2) *Barges or suche lyke vessayles, & sodaynly brought them a bord where ye Cristen host lay. 1494, Fabyan vii. 373 The Turkes ordeyned .iiii.*

Preposition **aboard** first appeared with the NP complement, and later was used without it, that gives us an opportunity to speak about its adverbial function.

- Across → A [Prep] + Crosse [N]

3) *I charge thee waft me safely a-crosse the Channell. 1591 Shakes. 1 Hen. VI, iv. i. 114;*

4) *The whiche blyster must be slytte with a knyfe a-crosse. 1523 Fitzherbert Husb. (1534) F 5.*

Preposition **across** consists of the OE preposition **a** and a French noun **crosse**. First **across** was used without an NP complement, see, e.g. 4.

- Around → A [Prep] + Rond [N]

Preposition **around** combines the OE preposition **a** and noun **rond**:

5) *Rewlers of rewmes around all þe erthe. 1399 Rich. Redeless iii. 264*

6) *They [i.e. the eggs] beon more feor aroun. 1300 K. Alis. 6603.*

Around appeared in 1300 with a Null complement and then took an NP complement.

- Astride → A [Prep] + Stræde [N]

Astride also consists of a preposition **a** and an OE noun **stræde**.

7) *Does not the Whore of Bab'lon ride Upon her horned Beast astride? 1664 Butler Hud. ii. 764*

8) *It is my intention to sit astride the dragon upon Bow steeple. 1713 Guardian No. 112 (1756) II. 118*

- Atop → A [Prep] + Top [N]

One more illustration of the *Prep + N* model is **atop**, which appeared in the language in the middle of the 17th century, e.g.:

9) *Float a-top the waves. 1655 W. Gurnall Chr. in Arm. 14. xviii. (1669) 67/1*

10) *Boil them in an earthen vessel, take off the skim a top. 1658 Rowland Mouffet's Theat. of Ins. 912.*

It should be mentioned that a common trait for this model is the initial usage of the preposition and noun separately, e.g. *a bord, a crosse, a round, a top*; or with a hyphen, e.g. *a-board, a-crosse, a-top*. It indicates that in OE preposition *a* was used as a genuine preposition but in the course of time it was either tagged to the following noun [7, p. 79-80] or “was becoming unintelligible and vulgar in Shakespeare’s time and he generally used *at* instead” [1, p. 135].

In modern grammar the usage of prepositions is restricted to the structural model *preposition + noun phrase complement*. If the second part of the structure is not NP complement, then we deal not with a preposition, but with an adverb. Though we assume this to be false, as a closer look at the mentioned above prepositions shows that they already include such a complement, that is they do not need the second complement, e.g.:

11) *There is great number that fayne would **aborde**, our ship can holde no more. 1509 Barclay Ship of Fools.*

12) *... himself went **abourd** unto a trireme galley. 1600 Holland Livy xliiii. lvi. 1148h, C. Lucretius*

In sentences 11 and 12 the lexical unit *aboard* (in its forms *aborde* and *abourd*) is used without a noun phrase complement, and hence must be parsed as an adjective. But if we resolve *aboard* into its components we would get the following sentences:

11a) *... that fayne would **a borde**, our ship can holde no more*

12a) *... himself went **a bourd** unto a trireme galley*

In these examples we analyze not just a unit *aboard*, but a combination of a preposition and a noun, the structure that fully corresponds to the modern definition of a preposition. Therefore, we assume that such lexical units do not need an additional NP complement as they already include it in their structures. In case when these prepositions acquire additional noun phrases components, the latter acts as the units of specification aimed at clarifying the place of an action, e.g.:

13) ***Aboord** my Gally, I inuite you all. 1606 Shakes. Ant. & Cl. ii. vi. 83*

***Aboord** [Prep] + **my Gally** [NP Complement]*

13a) *A **boord** my Gally, I inuite you all*

A [Prep] + **Boord** [NP Complement] + **my Gally** [NP Complement]

From the grammatical point of view the phrase “**my Gally**” is redundant in the sentence, as preposition **a** has already taken the complement **boord**, see, e.g. 13a. But taking into consideration the author’s intention to highlight the place where he invites guests, the phrase becomes an essential element which serves as a specification of the author’s intention.

Next subtype is **Prep** → **Prep [a, an, and] + Prep/Adv**:

- About → A/On [Prep] + Butan [Prep]

According to the Oxford English Dictionary [16], A Concise Anglo-Saxon Dictionary [6], and An Anglo-Saxon Dictionary Supplement [18] OE preposition **about** was formed with the help of 2 constituents: prepositions **a** or **on** and preposition **butan**, which in OE functioned as a preposition as well as an adverb and conjunction:

14) *Ond suæ suæ se here sceolde bion getrymed **onbútan** Hierusalem. 880 K. Ælfred Pastoral Care xxi. (Sweet, Reader 14);*

15) *[Hi] besæton þonne castel **abuton**. 1120 O.E. Chron. (Laud. MS.).*

Resolving **about** (and its forms **onbutan** and **abuton**) into the components in example 14 we can see, that preposition **a/on** is combined with the preposition **butan** (modern English equivalent for **outside (of)**, etc.) and with noun *Hierusalem*, which specifies a place. In example 15 a noun is omitted as the place is clear from the sentence, e.g.:

15a) *Then he laid an ambush **at the outside of** the castle*

Thus, we suppose that if the place was clear from the context the preposition could be used with another preposition without the noun to specify the place.

- Above → A [Prep] + Be(i) [Prep] + Ufan [Adv]

Preposition **above** consists of preposition **a**, **be** and adverb **ufan** which can be either a preposition or an adverb. A. Crombie, R.W. Bailey and others stated the existence of preposition **be** in the OE language [8, p. 210; 2, p. 47]. Primarily **bufan** was used as a preposition, and then as an adverb e.g.:

16) *Be Lygan xx mila **bufan** Lunden-byrig. 896 O.E. Chron;*

17) *Seo sunne gæð · eall swa feorr adune on nihtlicre tide under þære eorþan swa heo on dæg **bufan** up astihð. c 1000 Ælfric Manual of Astron. 2*

At first **bufan** was used with NP complement, see, e.g. 16, but when the position of the object was clear **bufan** was used without it, see, e.g.:

17a) “...as all day long she moves up **above**”

Next subtype is **Prep** → **Prep [a, an, and] + Adj**:

- Along → And [Prep] + Lang [Adj]

Here we come across the combination of a preposition **and** and an adjective **lang**. According to the Anglo-Saxon dictionary the OE unit **and** had a sense of prepositions **an** (modern meaning of **in, unto, to**), **on** [6].

18) *Her for se here up **andlang** Sigene oþ Mæterne. 887 O.E. Chron.*

19) *Ten myle they yeode **alang**. 1300 K. Alis. 3410*

- Alongside → And [Prep] + Lang [Adj] + Side [N]

Close to **along** in the meaning is its derivative **alongside**. In a case when additional specification is necessary **alongside** can take one more complement, this time NP complement:

20) *We chased, and at noon got **along-side** of her. 1781 Westm. Mag. IX. 167*

21) *The Enemy would not come up **a long Side**. 1707 Lond. Gaz. 2*

The 2nd group can be represented by the general model: **Prep** → **Prep [bi, be] + Adj/Adv/Prep**

On a par with the first group represented by the OE preposition **a**, the common feature of the second group is the existence of the OE preposition **be/bi**. R.W. Bailey mentioned that “... prepositions can be compounded by prefixing **a-**, **be-**, or of two prepositions, or a preposition plus an adverb” [2, p. 47]. A. Crombie also singled out the preposition **be** as an inseparable preposition [8, p. 210], though as the examples show the primary form **bi** was capable of separation, see, e.g. 22. Functioning of **be** as a preposition is recorded in the dictionaries [6; 16; 18]. Among the prepositions of place which are under the research the most common subtype of the second group is:

Prep → **Prep [be, bi] + Adv**:

- Behind → Bi [Prep] + Hindan [Adv]

First the combination of a preposition and an adverb appeared in 900 and took no complement at all (e.g. 22), but in 1200 the NP complement was used (e.g. 23):

22) *Ða Deniscan sæton þær **be hindan**. 900 O.E. Chron. an. 894*

23) *He wass þa **bihinndenn** hemm bilefedd att te temmple. 1200 Ormin 8913*

In sentence 22 the place where Deniscan sat is clear, while in sentence 23 it is necessary to specify that the hero was behind the border.

- Beneath → Bi [Prep] + Neoðan [Adv]

24) *Ofte wes þe drake buuen: And eft seoððen **bineoþen**. 1205 Lay. 25610*

25) *Gif se sconca biþ þyrel **beneoðan** cnéowe. 900 Pol. Laws Ælfred §63 in Thorpe I. 96 if he occured to appear hole beneath knees*

The author's intention to specify and stress the nearness of the hole beneath his knees made him use NP complement, see, e.g. 25, though the preposition **bi** already had a complement represented by the adverb **Neoðan**.

Next subtype is **Prep → Prep [be, bi] + Adj**:

- Below → Bi [Prep] + Lah [Adj]

26) *It makes the Oke to overlooke the slender shrubs bylow. 1567 Turberv. in Chalmers Eng. Poets II.*

27) ***Bylowe** the lampe of Phœbus light. 1575 Turberv. All Things as used (R.)*

Example 26 shows the usage of preposition **bi** and its adjective complement **low**. In example 27 preposition **bi** is used with a double complement adjective **lowe** and a noun phrase **the lamp**.

Next subtype has the model **Prep → Prep [be, bi] + Prep**:

- Beyond → Bi [Prep] + Geondan [Prep]

This structure is another example when a preposition was used as a complement to another preposition:

28) *Ulterius, feor **begeondan**. 1000 Ælfric Gram. 232*

29) ***Beiundane** lordane on Moab lande. 1000 Ælfric Deut. i. 5*

The 3rd group is represented by the general model: **Prep → Prep/Adv/V/N**

The prepositions of this group were genuine one-word prepositions and formed exclusively from the prepositions or adverbs.

- By → Bi [Prep]

In OE preposition **bi** was one of the cornerstones in prepositions' formation and as a preposition of place had the meaning of *near, in, on, upon, at, to* [6, p. 76]. Preposition **bi** developed in two ways: became a compound of new prepositions (beyond, below etc.) and functioned as an independent preposition and transformed into modern **by**, see, e.g.:

30) *Ceolas stondað bi staðe fæste. 1000 Whale (poem) 18*

31) *Opir Lordis, þat war by. 1425 Wyntoun Cron. viii. xl. 93*

An independent preposition **by** usually took various types of complements, a noun complement *staðe (river)* as in e.g. 30 or a null complement, see, e.g. 31.

- In → In [Prep]

32) *Pa gegaderedon þa þe in Norþhymbrum bugeað & on East Englum. O.E. Chron. an. 894*

33) *Pa me gerymed wæs sið inn under eorðweall. Beowulf (Z.) 3090*

In OE preposition **in** was used both before the NP or any other complement.

- Near → Near/neah [Prep]

34) *Gang me near hider. 971 Blickl. Hom. 179*

35) *Egipte wimmen comen ner. 1250 Gen. & Ex. 2611*

Near is one of the basic prepositions, which has not changed either its form or meaning.

- Off → Of [Prep]

The modern form of the preposition **off** has derived from the OE **of**, see, e.g.:

36) *One come and sayd that she was ix myle of. 1500 Gregory Chron. in Hist. Coll. Citizen Lond. 213*

37) *Her Romane hine of his setle afliesndon. 855 O.E. Chron. an. 797*

In OE the preposition **off** could acquire various types of complements.

- Opposite → Opposit [Prep]

English one-word preposition **opposite** came from the French word **opposit**.

38) *From his armed Peers Forth stepping **opposite**, half way he met His daring foe.* 1667 Milton P. 128

39) ***Opposite** this Chamber was another.* 1758 Goldsm. Mem. Protestant 226

- Out → Ut [Adv]

The preposition **out** has been derived from the OE adverb **ut**:

40) *Ic ne mæg **ut** aredian.* 888 K. Ælfred Boeth. xxxv. §5

41) *Quuan he weren **ut** tune went, Iosep haueð hem after sent.* 1250 Gen. & Ex.

In example 40 we may observe a genuine use of **ut** as an adverb as it takes verb (**aredian**) as a complement. Example 41 shows the ability of **ut** to take NP (**tune**) complement.

- Past → Pass [V]

The preposition **past** is the only preposition of place derived from the verb. “The prepositional use appears to have arisen out of the perfect tenses of pass verb, formed with **be** instead of **have** in the statement of resultant; **be** was illogically used even when the verb was transitive” [16], for instance:

42) *He behelde hir after that she was gon **past** hym.* 1542 Udall Erasm. Apoph.

43) *The sounding blast, That, if it could, would hurry **past**.* 1805 Wordsw.32

- Round → Rond [N]

The preposition **round** is also unique as it is formed from the noun **rond** and later became the primary form for the preposition **around**:

44) *For I am kyng and well knowen in these realmes **rounde**.* 1500 World 5

45) *Full thirtie times hath Phæbus Cart gon **round** Neptunes salt Wash.* 602 Shakes. Ham. iii. ii. 165

- Through → Þurh [Prep]

46) *Per seudoterum, **þorh** ludgaet.* 700 Epinal Gloss. (O.E.T.) 741

47) *He sæ toslat, sealte yþa gefæstnade, and hi foran **þurh**.* 1000 Ags. Ps. 15

Preposition **through** was used either with NP complement or null complement.

- To → To [Prep]

48) *Ic ðær furðum cwom, **to** ðam hring-sele.* Beowulf (Z.) 2010.

It should be mentioned that in OE *to* was used exclusively as a preposition of place and had no adverbial sense as an adverb of place.

- Under → Under [Prep/Adv]

The modern preposition *under* has been formed from the OE word *under* which was either a preposition or an adverb:

49) *Æðelinges weox rice under roderum. 900 Cynewulf Elene 13 (Gr.)*

50) *Pa wreccan munecas laæon onbuton þam weofode & sume crupon under. 1120 O.E. Chron. (Laud MS.) an. 1083*

As in case with the rest prepositions *under* may take direct NP complement, e.g. 49 or a null complement when it is understood from the context.

- Up → Uppan [Prep]

The preform of the modern up is an OE preposition *uppan*, e.g.:

51) *Hwæðer þu nu onæite forhwy þæt fyr fundiæ up & sio eorðe ofdune? 888 K. Ælfred Boeth. §11*

52) *Pa ferdon hig uppan Oliuetes dune. 1000 Ags. Gosp. Matt. xxvi. 30*

The 4th group is represented by the general model: *Prep → Prep/Adv +N/Adv*

The difference of the fourth model in comparison with the first and the second is that the first group is based on the prepositions *a/and* and the second group used *be/bi* as the prepositions. The fourth group is based on the various initial prepositions predominantly one word OE prepositions:

- Down → Of [Prep] + Dune [N]

In OE preposition *down* was formed due to the combination of a preposition *of* and a noun *dune* (hill). Very often preposition *of* was shortened:

53) *Brohton dune þæt hæcce þe þær wæs behid. 1100 O.E. Chron. an. 1070*

Till the beginning of the 16th century this preposition had not taken NP complement.

- Inside → In [Prep] + Side [N]

On the contrary to the preposition *in* which is an initial component in the combination, the preposition *inside* appeared at the end of the 18th century and according to the model took a constant NP complement *side*, e.g.:

54) *The coachman put me **inside** the carriage. 1791 J. Lackington Mem. 212*

In example 54 the preposition **in** has a complement **side** and specification which is at the same time the second complement – **the carriage**.

55) *This Island is bold, too, **inside** or out. 1803 Nelson in Nicolas Disp. V. 79*

In example 55 the preposition **in** took the complement **side** and did not take the additional NP complement as a specification, because the situation was clear from the discourse.

- Outside → Ut [Adv] + Side [N]

A similar in form but not in constituents is the preposition **outside**. There is no preposition among its constituents, though from beginning of the 19th century **outside** is used either with NP complement or without it, e.g.:

56) *They could see every thing that took place **outside**. 1813 T. D. Broughton Lett. Mahratta Camp 55*

57) *As I came **outside** the Southampton coach to Oxford, I felt as if I could have rooted up St. Mary's spire. 1826 J. H. Newman Lett. I. 140*

- Throughout → þurh [Prep] + Ut [Adv]

58) *He for **þurhut** Eoferwic. 1066 O.E. Chron. an. 1066 (MS. C.)*

59) *Swa þæt þæt spere him eode **þurh ut**. 1000 Ælfric Saints' Lives xii. 55*

The combination of preposition and adverb in OE was commonly used.

- Underneath → Under [Prep/Adv] + Neoðan [Adv]

As a preposition or an adverb **under** could easily take an adverb **neoþan** as a complement creating a new preposition of place **underneath**:

60) *Ðær wearð Alexander þurhscoten mid anre flan **underneoðan** oþer breost. 893 K. Ælfred Oros. 134*

61) *And þu nymst cealfes blod mid þinum fingre, and gitst þæt oðer **undernyðan**. 1000 Ælfric Exod. 12*

- Within → Wiþ [Prep] + Innan/inne [Adv]

62) *Ðu wyrcest wununga binnan ðam arce & clæmst **wiðinnan** & wiðutan mid tyrwan. 1000 Ælfric Gen.*

63) *Ealle ða ðe **wiðinnan** me synd. 1000 Ags. Ps. (Spelman) cii[i]. 1*

In OE preposition *within* was a combination of the preposition *with* and the adverb *innan /inne*. It appeared to be one of the first OE prepositional combinations.

On the basis of the above given research we can make the **conclusions**:

- In conformity with the number of constituents modern one-word locative prepositions can be divided into 3 groups:

a) Genuine one-word prepositions: *by, in, near, of, opposite, out, past, round, through, to, under, up*;

b) Derivative prepositions with 2 constituents: *aboard, about, above, across, along, around, astride, atop, behind, below, beneath, beyond, down, inside, outside, throughout, underneath, within*;

c) Derivative prepositions with 3 constituents: *alongside*.

- According to the English grammar all of the above mentioned prepositions must take NP complement. The diachronic research shows that the existence of NP complement is not obligatory and the complement can be represented by some other parts of speech or it can be absent at all (null complement) in case if it is reproducible from the context, as the genuine one-word prepositions could take various types of complements and derivative prepositions with two or more constituents were formed with the help of the preposition and its constituent which could be represented by a noun, adverb, adjective or preposition. It means that in fact derivative prepositions do not need any constituent as they already have one in their structure and every additional constituent becomes the second complement, which can be omitted if it is reproducible from the context or is used to denote specification if necessary.

- In compliance with their type prepositions can be divided into 4 groups:

a) *Prep* → *Prep [a, an, and] + N/Adj/Adv/Prep*, OE prepositions *a, an, and* can take a noun, an adjective, adverb or a preposition and form new derivative prepositions of place, namely: *aboard, about, above, across, along, alongside, around, astride, atop*;

b) *Prep* → *Prep [bi, be] + Adj/Adv/Prep*, OE prepositions *bi, be* take an adjective, adverb or a preposition and form new derivative prepositions of place, namely: *behind, below, beneath, beyond*;

c) *Prep* → *Prep/Adv/V/N*, this group represents all genuine one-word prepositions which were formed from other parts of speech – nouns, verbs, adverbs and prepositions: *by, in, near, of, opposite, out, past, round, through, to, under, up*;

d) *Prep* → *Prep/Adv +N/Adv*, to this group belongs prepositions formed with the help of the genuine one-word prepositions and their complements – nouns or adverbs, namely: *down, inside, outside, throughout, underneath, within*.

A separate group can be formed by the preposition *out* and its derivative *outside* as they are the only locative prepositions with an adverb as the main constituent. Such divergence is explained by the fact that *out* and *outside* are contracted/elliptical forms of the prepositional phrases *out of* and *outside of*.

Therefore, the diachronic analysis gives us all the grounds to assume that there are no reasons to distinguish prepositions as the units which require nouns or pronouns to be combined with (noun phrase complements). All prepositions can take nouns, pronouns, adverbs, adjectives, verbs, prepositions as their complements or null complements; both as in case with separate complements for genuine one-word prepositions and with inseparable complements for derivative prepositions.

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Ковбаско Ю. Г. Предлоги места с исторической точки зрения и предпосылки к их транспозиции.

В статье рассматриваются истоки возникновения предлогов места в древнеанглийском языке. Полученные данные могут способствовать определению статуса предлогов места в сравнении с наречиями места в современном английском языке, поскольку сейчас существует двусмысленность при разграничении этих классов. Было отобрано 31 предлог места, чье значение совпадает со значением наречий места. В соответствии с количеством составляющих и на основе диахронного исследования однословных предлогов места было выделено 3 группы: истинные однословные предлоги, деривативные двухкомпонентные предлоги, деривативные трехкомпонентные предлоги. В соответствии с типом локативных предлогов было определено существование 4 моделей. Результаты исследования дадут возможность пересмотреть существующие отношения между грамматическими классами предлогов и наречий места, а также объяснить процессы их транспозиции в языке.

Ключевые слова: предлог, наречие, транспозиция, именная фраза-дополнение.

Ковбаско Юрій Григорович. Прийменники місця з історичної точки зору та передумови до їх транспозиції

У статті розглядаються джерела виникнення прийменників місця в давньоанглійській мові. Отриманні дані можуть сприяти визначенню статусу прийменників місця порівняно з прислівниками місця в сучасній англійській мові, оскільки наразі існує двозначність щодо розмежування цих класів. Було виокремлено 31 прийменник місця, значення яких збігається зі значенням прислівників місця. Відповідно до складових та на основі діахронного дослідження однослівних прийменників місця було визначено 3 групи: істинні однослівні прийменники, деривативні двокомпонентні прийменники, деривативні трикомпонентні прийменники. З огляду на типи локативних прийменників було виокремлено 4 моделі. Результати дослідження дадуть змогу переглянути існуючі відносини між граматичними класами прийменників та прислівників, а також пояснити їхні транспозиційні процеси у мові.

Ключові слова: прийменник, прислівник, транспозиція, іменникова
фраза-доповнення.