Phrase Detectives

Find the sentences with extra place or time details.

3.L.GC.1.27 "Grammar: Form and use prepositional phrases. (Continue)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

SENTENCE WITH A PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE

This sentence has a group of words that begins with a preposition and adds a detail about where or when.

The lantern glowed beside the tent.

SENTENCE WITHOUT A PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE

This sentence does not have a group of words that begins with a preposition.

Rabbits nibble carrots.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle HAS PHRASE or NO PHRASE for each sentence, then choose two item numbers and explain which words helped you sort each one.

1.	The kite landed on the fence.	HAS PHRASE / NO PHRASE
2.	Bees buzzed around the flowers.	HAS PHRASE / NO PHRASE
3.	Maya laughed loudly.	HAS PHRASE / NO PHRASE
4.	After lunch, we read quietly.	HAS PHRASE / NO PHRASE
5.	The puppies chased each other.	HAS PHRASE / NO PHRASE
6.	Dad fixed the broken lamp.	HAS PHRASE / NO PHRASE
7.	A coin rolled under the sofa.	HAS PHRASE / NO PHRASE
8.	Snow covered the sidewalk.	HAS PHRASE / NO PHRASE

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new sentence with a prepositional phrase and one new sentence without a prepositional phrase.

HAS PHRASE _____

NO PHRASE _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence that has two prepositional phrases.

ANSWER KEY # Phrase Detectives

GRADE 3 · 3.L.GC.1.27

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The kite landed on the fence.	**HAS PHRASE**	"on the fence" begins with the preposition "on" and tells where.
2	Bees buzzed around the flowers.	**HAS PHRASE**	"around the flowers" begins with the preposition "around" and tells where.
3	Maya laughed loudly.	**NO PHRASE**	There is no prepositional phrase.
4	After lunch, we read quietly.	**HAS PHRASE**	"After lunch" begins with the preposition "after" and tells when.
5	The puppies chased each other.	**NO PHRASE**	There is no prepositional phrase.
6	Dad fixed the broken lamp.	**NO PHRASE**	There is no prepositional phrase.
7	A coin rolled under the sofa.	**HAS PHRASE**	"under the sofa" begins with the preposition "under" and tells where.
8	Snow covered the sidewalk.	**NO PHRASE**	There is no prepositional phrase.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **HAS PHRASE**: The drummer played during the parade.
- **NO PHRASE**: Stars twinkled.

Challenge: The child placed the book on the shelf after dinner.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. In the challenge sample, "on the shelf" and "after dinner" are the two prepositional phrases.