SUBJECT

In *Cognitive English Grammar* (2007: 307-27), Radden & Dirven note that "notions of spatial dimension are expressed in English by topological, or *dimensional* prepositions":

- zero dimensional  *at the corner*  [point]
- one-dimensional  *on the border*  [line]
- two-dimensional  *on the table*  [surface]
- three-dimensional  *in the bottle*  [container]

Later they remark that topological prepositions may also refer to "domains other than physical space" like "time", "circumstance", "cause", "reason" and "purpose" (i.e. "abstract space").

Discuss
Candidates will use relevant excerpts from the following corpus to address the above topic.
Excerpt n°1
So with the lamps all put out, the moon sunk, and a thin rain drumming on the roof a downpouring of immense darkness began. Nothing, it seemed, could survive the flood, the profusion of darkness which, creeping in at keyholes and crevices, stole round window blinds, came into bedrooms.

V. Woolf, *To the Lighthouse*, 1927

Excerpt n°2
The roadside hedges were gone to rows of black and twisted brambles.

Cormac McCarthy, *The Road*, 2006

Excerpt n°3
Standing at the edge of a winter field among rough men. The boy's age. A little older. Watching while they opened up the rocky hillside ground with pick and mattock and brought up to light a great bolus of serpents perhaps a hundred in number. Collected there for a common warmth. The dull tubes of them beginning to move sluggishly in the cold hard light. Like the bowels of some great beast exposed to the day. The men poured gasoline on them and burned them alive.

Cormac McCarthy, *The Road*, 2006

Excerpt n°5
His shoes were bound up with wire and coated with roadtar and he sat there in silence, bent over in his rags. The boy kept looking back. Papa? he whispered. What is wrong with the man?

Cormac McCarthy, *The Road*, 2006

Excerpt n°6
The king stood by the pillar and renewed the covenant in the presence of the LORD.

Josiah Renews the Covenant, 2 Kings: 23, New International Version, 1984

Excerpt n°7
I am afraid Dolly is hurt and put out by what has passed. I must go to her.

G.B. Shaw, *You Never Can Tell*, 1899

Excerpt n°8
As he was crouching to set down the dishes, he was pitched forward by a kick from behind. The pots went in a stream down the stairs, he clung to the pillar of the banisters. And as he was rising he was kicked heavily again, and again, so that he clung sickly to the post for some moments.

D.H. Lawrence, *The Prussian Officer*, 1914

Excerpt n°9
The bodies of the two men lay together, side by side, in the mortuary, the one white and slender, but laid rigidly at rest, the other looking as if every moment it must rouse into life again, so young and unused, from a slumber.

D.H. Lawrence, *The Prussian Officer*, 1914

Excerpt n°10
He went with her, not to talk, but to have his arm round her, and for the physical contact. This eased him, made it easier for him to ignore the Captain. The Captain perceived it, and was mad with irritation.

D.H. Lawrence, *The Prussian Officer*, 1914

Excerpt n°11
And when the Captain was there on horseback, giving orders, while he himself stood, with rifle and knapsack, sick with pain, he felt as if he must shut his eyes—I as if he must shut his eyes on everything. It was only the long agony of marching with a parched throat that filled him with one single, sleep-heavy intention: to save himself.

D.H. Lawrence, *The Prussian Officer*, 1914

Excerpt n°12
Having made too many gambling debts when he was young, he had ruined his prospects in the Army, and remained an infantry captain. He had never married: his position did not allow of it, and no woman had ever moved him to it. His time he spent riding—occasionally he rode one of his own horses at the races—and at the officers club.

D.H. Lawrence, *The Prussian Officer*, 1914
**Excerpt n°13**
When he was on Highway 99, he floored it. The Tesla leapt forward like it was launched from a catapult. Within seconds, they were cruising at 80.


**Excerpt n°14**
"Get out!" Locke yelled at the nonplussed elevator operator who was guiding people to the exits. She stared at him, not sure what to do until shots from the silenced Hechler and Koch tore into the elevator wall. She dove aside, and Locke frantically pushed the elevator's button for the observation level, while Dilara pressed herself to the opposite side.


**Excerpt n°15**
It is understood, then, that we meet at half past one. (She makes for the door. Philip goes with her. Valentine retreats to the bell.)

G.B. Shaw, *You Never Can Tell*, 1899

**Excerpt n°16**
The gentleman at the iron table is not dressed for the seaside. He wears his London frock coat and gloves; and his tall silk hat is on the table beside the sugar bowl.

G.B. Shaw, *You Never Can Tell*, 1899

**Excerpt n°17**
My dear good lady: there is nothing in any of those views now-a-days to prevent her from marrying a bishop. You reproached me just now for having become respectable. You were wrong: I hold to our old opinions as strongly as ever. I don't go to church; and I don't pretend I do. I call myself what I am: a Philosophic Radical, standing for liberty and the rights of the individual.

G.B. Shaw, *You Never Can Tell*, 1899

**Excerpt n°18**
He stops at the chair left by McComas in the middle of the terrace, and steadies himself for a moment by placing his hand on the back of it.

G.B. Shaw, *You Never Can Tell*, 1899

**Excerpt n°19**
Two small Lagers for the children as usual, William; and one large for this gentleman (indicating Valentine).

G.B. Shaw, *You Never Can Tell*, 1899

**Excerpt n°20**
WAITER (entering anxiously through the window). Beg pardon, ma'am; but can you tell me what became of that— (He recognizes Bohun, and loses all his self-possession. Bohun waits rigidly for him to pull himself together.)

G.B. Shaw, *You Never Can Tell*, 1899

**Excerpt n°21**
A systematic search of the research literature from 1996 through July 2008 identified more than a thousand empirical studies of online learning.

US Education Department Report, 2009

**Excerpt n°22**
Thirteen studies measured declarative knowledge outcomes only, typically through multiple-choice tests.

US Education Department Report, 2009

**Excerpt n°23**
Both groups used networked computers in instruction, in writing and for communication. However, the "on campus" group met face-to-face, giving students the opportunity to communicate in person, whereas the "off campus" group met only online.

US Education Department Report, 2009

**Excerpt n°24**
The study was conducted in a teacher education course on educational technology in which the primary pedagogical approach was collaborative, project-based learning.

US Education Department Report, 2009

**Excerpt n°25**
A comparison of computer-based distance education and traditional tutorial sessions in supplemental instruction for students at risk for academic difficulties.

US Education Department Report, 2009