

Using to and for

The preposition to has many uses.

To can mean towards or in the direction of.

We went to the market.

Let's walk to the station.

The apple fell to the ground.

To can also mean 'towards a condition, quality' etc.

The boy went to sleep.

The preposition to is used to introduce the indirect object in structures where the direct object comes before the indirect object.

Give it to her.

I wrote a letter to him.

To can also mean 'towards the end of a time' or 'the end of a period of time' etc.

'Can you tell me the time?' 'Yes, it is a quarter to two.'

We stayed to the end of the play.

To can be used to indicate a comparison.

I prefer walking to driving.

They won by four goals to two.

For

The preposition for can be used to indicate destination or progress.

I caught the last train for London.

They are sailing for home.

The time is getting on for six o'clock. (= The time is advancing towards six o'clock.)

For can be used with too. This structure has a similar meaning to too...to...

She is too good for such a man. (= She is too good to be his wife.)

For can also be used with enough.

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This soil is good enough for growing cotton.

For can also mean in view of.

That is good work for a beginner. (= That is good work in view of the fact that it was done by a beginner.)

He is healthy for his age.