

## Preposition 5

Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions. In some cases there is more than one possible correct answer.

### Mount Etna

Mount Etna is the largest active volcano in Italy; it towers **1)** \_\_\_\_\_ the city of Catania on the east coast of Sicily and is nearly 11,000ft **2)** \_\_\_\_\_ sea level. It covers an area of 460 square miles and more than 25% of the population of Sicily live on its slopes. It is one of the most active volcanoes in the world and is also the volcano **3)** \_\_\_\_\_ the longest record of continuous eruption; it has been erupting **4)** \_\_\_\_\_ half a million years. Vulcan was the Roman God of metalworking and fire and the Romans believed his workshop was at the base of the mountain. **5)** \_\_\_\_\_ the centuries volcanic lava has carved **6)** \_\_\_\_\_ more than 200 caves. Local people have used them for everything from burial places to cold food storage. Animals such as foxes, squirrels, hedgehogs, weasels and a few wild cats can be found in the forests **7)** \_\_\_\_\_ Mount Etna. Local people call the volcano Mongibello which means 'beautiful mountain', because although it can be dangerous the volcano is Sicily's main source of income. People living on its slopes can grow grapes and olives as the ash makes the soil fertile resulting **8)** \_\_\_\_\_ good crops. A lot of money is made **9)** \_\_\_\_\_ the tourists who come to look at the volcano and take photos of it. A railway runs **10)** \_\_\_\_\_ the bottom of it and for the more adventurous, treks and hikes to the top **11)** \_\_\_\_\_ the help of a guide are available, (although not **12)** \_\_\_\_\_ the dangerous restricted area **13)** \_\_\_\_\_ the active craters), lava caves can be explore and a cable car runs up to the summit. Mount Etna has snow on it for most of the year and you can even ski on it at one of its two ski resorts! The best time to visit Mount Etna is during an eruption, this spectacle attracts thousands **14)** \_\_\_\_\_ tourists. Property can be destroyed **15)** \_\_\_\_\_ the lava but danger to the inhabited area **16)** \_\_\_\_\_ the volcano is rare as the lava is slow moving allowing people to evacuate the areas in time. In 2002 a large eruption threw **17)** \_\_\_\_\_ a cloud of ash which could be seen **18)** \_\_\_\_\_ space. Sometimes the Italian airlines alter their routes to avoid flying **19)** \_\_\_\_\_ ash clouds. Mount Etna is spitting lava more violently than it has in years and scientists are baffled **20)** \_\_\_\_\_ this, there have been 13 eruptions since February.