

Ajrin Floričić

**A CORPUS-BASED STUDY OF ENGLISH PREPOSITIONS *OVER* AND
ABOVE AND CROATIAN PREPOSITIONS *NAD*, *IZNAD* AND *PREKO***

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Supervisor:

Dr Anita Memišević

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ABSTRACT

This M.A. thesis deals with the English prepositions *over* and *above* and Croatian prepositions *nad*, *iznad* and *preko*. A corpus-based study was conducted by means of finding and analysing 3000 sentences containing prepositions listed above – 600 sentences per each preposition. English sentences containing *over* and *above* were later translated into Croatian in order to determine the most frequent Croatian translations for these prepositions. On the other hand, Croatian sentences containing *nad*, *iznad* and *preko* were translated into English so as to examine which English prepositions are their most common counterparts. In the introduction, an overview of the theoretical framework on spatial language is given followed by a brief examination of each of the prepositions. The main part of the thesis is comprised of example sentences containing prepositions *over*, *above*, *nad*, *iznad* and *preko*, their translations and analyses that follow after each example. Then, the results of the study are presented in tables and thoroughly examined. Finally, at the very end, there is the list of references.

KEYWORDS: *corpus-based analysis, prepositions, translation, translation equivalents, over, above, nad, iznad, preko*

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1. Introduction

Since our aim is to explore prepositions, it is important to provide some information on spatial language in general. Furthermore, since both Croatian and English spatial prepositions will be discussed, we will give a brief overview of the complexity of translating prepositions.

First, we need to define spatial language. In the simplest manner possible, we can say that *‘spatial language consists of words that help people explain where objects are in space’*.¹ These words are prepositions. Prepositions are closed class words, as opposed to open class words (nouns, e.g.), which means they do not change their meaning or can expand in the future. Nevertheless, their role in a language is significant given that they determine the relations between open class words. That is why, according to Brala (2013: 189), *‘linguists define prepositions as relational words’*. Lipinski (2011: 1), furthermore, highlights that *‘people use spatial language in impressively flexible ways that can sometimes mask the complexity of the underlying cognitive system’*. Indeed, even in this study one will be able to see the diversity of the prepositions being analysed.

As stated in Grubic (2004: 5) *‘prepositions pose more problems for the non-native speaker or learner of English than any other part of speech’*. This is due to the fact that not every preposition can be translated literally into another language. Lorincz and Gordon (2012: 1) emphasize that the polysemous nature of prepositions is another challenge for EFL learners. What largely affects translating a preposition is, also, the context of the sentence. In conclusion, when one translates prepositions various factors must be taken into consideration.

¹ Retrieved from <https://exploringcognition.wordpress.com/spatial-language-abilities/> Accessed July 2017

As it was previously mentioned, in this thesis, we will take a closer look at five prepositions – *over*, *above*, *nad*, *iznad* and *preko*. The aim of this thesis is to investigate similarities and differences between the two English prepositions and between the three Croatian prepositions and to determine how much they overlap in meaning. The goal is also to determine which their most frequent translation equivalents are. This will be done by conducting a corpus-based analysis. But, first, let us see what previous research of the subject matter has revealed.

2. Prepositions *OVER* and *ABOVE*

To EFL learners, English prepositions *over* and *above* probably appear similar in meaning and, in fact, they are. We can use them interchangeably in some cases; however, there are more than few exceptions to this. We will try to outline the most important pieces of information on these two prepositions.

For start, it must be noted that *over* and *above* share some features. According to Brala (2013: 205), prepositions *over* and *above*, along with *na* which will not be analysed in this paper, code the domain of SUPERPOSITION. Furthermore, they both function as adjectives, adverbs and prepositions. However, as stated in the Merriam Webster's Dictionary while “*there is no overlap in meaning with the adjectives*”, there are some differences regarding adverbs and prepositions. Although this paper deals only with prepositions, we will provide a brief overview of *above* and *over* as adverbs since it can help us better understand *over* and *above* when they function as prepositions.

So, it is indicated that the main difference between adverbs *above* and *over* is that *above* implies only location while *over* implies movement from one position or location to another. Here are some of the examples provided on the same page:

1. OVER as an ADVERB

- 1) They climbed *over* the fence.
- 2) He leaned *over* to see what I had written.

2. ABOVE as an ADVERB

- 1) We lay on our backs and looked at the clouds *above*.
- 2) Some children are fascinated by the moon and the stars *above*.

Clearly, one can conclude that the meaning of *above* is more static than the one of *over*. Let us now take a look at *over* and *above* as prepositions.

For start, as stated, “*both over and above can mean at or to a place that is higher than someone or something, but over is somewhat more common*”.²

- 1) A light hangs *over/above* the table.
- 2) He raised his arms *over/above* his head.
- 3) She rents an apartment *over/above* a bookstore.

Furthermore, it is listed that both prepositions can mean “*more than*” something” which is exemplified in sentences:

- 1) The movie is suitable for children *over/above* 13 years old.
- 2) We've been having temperatures *over/above* 90 degrees Fahrenheit.
- 3) I value time *over/above* money.

However, it is emphasized that *above* cannot be used in every sentence where its meaning “*technically fits*” as is the case in the following sentences:

- 1) I've been waiting for *over* an hour. NOT: I've been waiting for *above* an hour.
- 2) *Over* 50 people attended. NOT: *Above* 50 people attended.

Moreover, *over* and *above* share the meaning of “*more loudly and clearly than (another sound)*”, although, the author highlights, *over* is more common.

- 1) I could barely hear the music *over/above* the noise of the crowd.

² Retrieved from <http://www.learnersdictionary.com/qa/above-and-over> Accessed June 2017

According to the Cambridge Dictionary, both *over* and *above* carry the meaning “*higher than*” which is illustrated in the following example:

- 1) The waves came up *above/over* her head and she started screaming.

But, we use *above*, not *over*, to refer to things that are at an upper or higher level:

- 1) Do they live in a chalet *above* that village? NOT: Do they live in a chalet *over* that village?

There is one important difference between *over* and *above* outlined in the Cambridge Dictionary. Namely, it is noted that “*above is usually used when there is no contact between the things referred to. Over has a more general meaning and can be used when one thing touches or covers another.*”

- 1) They made her comfortable and put a blanket *over* her. NOT: They made her comfortable and put a blanket *above* her.

The second sentence implies that the blanket floats in the air above her.

Also, *over* is usually used with numbers or quantity.

- 1) I get *over* sixty emails a day. NOT: I get *above* sixty emails a day.
- 2) If you weigh *over* 100 kilograms, then you may need to start a diet. NOT: If you weigh *above* 100 kilograms, then you may need to start a diet.

As was noted before, *over* and *above* can both be used when referring to a *temperature higher than a certain number*. However, according to the Cambridge Dictionary, “*when we talk about temperatures in relation to zero or (the) average, we use above not over.*”

- 1) It was three degrees above zero. NOT: It was three degrees over zero.

After providing some of the general similarities and differences between *over* and *above*, we will discuss each of the prepositions in more detail by analysing the sentences containing them, but first, we present the list of their senses.

OVER

1. Extending directly upwards from
 - 1.1. Above so as to cover or protect
 - 1.2. Extending above (an area) from a vantage point
2. At a higher level or layer than
 - 2.1. Higher in rank than
 - 2.2. Expressing authority or control
 - 2.3. Expressing preference
 - 2.4. Expressing majority
 - 2.5. Higher in volume or pitch than
3. Higher or more than (a specified number or quantity)
4. Expressing passage or trajectory across
 - 4.1. Beyond and falling or hanging from
 - 4.2. At the other side of; beyond
5. Expressing duration
6. Expressing the medium by which something is done; by means of
7. On the subject of
8. Moving in more directions
9. Spreading across a surface
10. Relation between an action and an object that follows the action
11. Above; implying superiority after a contest; in spite of; notwithstanding
12. In certain collocations (as compared to)

ABOVE

1. In extended space over and not touching
 - 1.1. Extending upwards over
 - 1.2. Higher than and to one side of; overlooking
2. At a higher level or layer than
 - 2.1. Higher in grade or rank than
 - 2.2. Considered of higher status
 - 2.3. In preference to
 - 2.4. At a higher volume or pitch than
3. Higher than (a specified amount, rate, or norm)
 4. Too great or good for (above one's station, it is not above cheating)
 5. Beyond the reach of; not affected by
 6. Expressing a moment in time until which an action had lasted

3. Prepositions *NAD*, *IZNAD* and *PREKO*

To start with, some information should be provided on Croatian prepositions, in general. According to Matas Ivanković (2009)³, there are three types of prepositions in the Croatian language – simple prepositions, complex prepositions and prepositional phrases. As one can presume, simple prepositions are made of a single word such as *nad* or *preko* whereas complex prepositions are two words joined to form prepositions such as *iznad* (*iz* + *nad*). Lastly, prepositional phrases are combinations of two words that have now yet joined (e.g. *na kraju*).

As it was already mentioned, in this thesis, Croatian prepositions *nad*, *iznad* and *preko* will be discussed and analysed. First, we must say that the English and Croatian language differ in one important aspect; the English language does not have cases, Croatian does. However, it is noteworthy that in Croatian, when translating prepositions, we must bear in mind that not every preposition goes with every case.

For example, *iznad* is generally used with the genitive case (*dignuti se iznad zemlje, ožiljak iznad koljena*). Similarly to it, we also use *preko* with the genitive case (*preletjeti preko šume*). Unlike *iznad* and *preko*, *nad* is used with the accusative and the instrumental case (*navući šešir na oči, nadnijeti se nad tanjur, stajati nad ponorom, granje nad glavom*).

It needs to be said that when we employ *nad* with the accusative and the instrumental the meaning is slightly different. For example, as the author states, both *objesiti nad stol* and *visjeti nad stolom* express place, however, the accusative determines the place where something gets, while the instrumental indicates the place where something already is.

³ Retrieved from <http://www.hrvatskiplus.org/article.php?id=1824&naslov=izrazavanje-prostornih-znacjenja-prijedlozno-padeznim-izrazima> Accessed July 2017

According to Wiktionary⁴, the Croatian preposition *nad* has four senses:

- 1) At a higher level than
- 2) Higher than something/someone without any direct contact
- 3) Subordination relations between concepts
- 4) Comparing related concepts

Other than the ones listed above, on the basis of our study, we have determined five more senses of *nad*. They are, as follows:

- 5) Expressing control or triumph
- 6) Expressing the object of an act
- 7) Expressing advantage
- 8) Reactions caused by something/someone

Next, let us take a look at the senses of the Croatian preposition *iznad*. Wiktionary⁵ offers only one sense of *iznad* which is *nad (ponad)* which would roughly be equivalent to the English *above*. For the purpose of this paper, we have formulated it a bit differently.

- 1) In or to a higher level than

However, by analysing the sentences taken from the corpora, we have determined that *iznad* does not only have this sense. Let us take a look at the rest of the senses:

- 2) More than an amount or level
- 3) In a more important or advanced position than someone else
- 4) Too good or important for something

⁴ Retrieved from <https://hr.wiktionary.org/wiki/nad> Accessed June 2017

⁵ Retrieved from <https://hr.wiktionary.org/wiki/iznad> Accessed June 2017

Finally, here is a list of the senses of *preko*. Again, all the senses were retrieved from Wiktionary⁶ except the senses 3.1 *Overlooking; ignoring* and 7. *Listing; from – through – to* which were formulated after conducting the study.

1. Expressing a position or movement from one side to the other
2. Movement at a higher level than
3. Expressing excess
 - 3.1. Overlooking; ignoring
4. Persons or means by which something is done
5. An amount above a certain number
6. Expressing a time period
7. Listing; from – through – to

After providing the list of senses for each of the prepositions, we can commence with the analyses. It should be pointed out that sentences containing *over* and *above* were taken from the British National Corpus and the Corpus of Contemporary American English. In the brackets following each sentence example, it will be indicated where they were taken from. Regarding the Croatian prepositions *nad*, *iznad* and *preko*, sentences containing them were retrieved from Hrvatski jezični korpus.

⁶ Retrieved from <https://hr.wiktionary.org/wiki/preko> Accessed June 2017

4. Examples – OVER

4.1. Extending directly upwards from

4.1.a) Cook **over** medium heat, stirring, until heated through, about 4 minutes. (COCA)

4.1.b) Kuhajte **iznad** umjerene vatre, miješajući dok se ne ugrije, oko 4 minute.*

4.1.c) Kuhajte **na** umjerenj vatri, miješajući dok se ne ugrije, oko 4 minute.

We can say that this sentence exemplifies the *above* sense of *over*. When an object is above the other, it is at a higher level. In this sentence, the pot or the pan is at a higher level than the fire. That is why *over* can be translated as *iznad* in the Croatian language. However, although this is not wrong and it is used in everyday speech, the more fortunate choice is the preposition *na*. In this context, referring to the *cooking above a fire*, *na* is the most suitable Croatian equivalent.

4.1.1. Above so as to cover or protect

4.1.1.a) Serve **over** ice cream or vanilla yoghurt sprinkled with toasted nuts. (COCA)

4.1.1.b) Poslužite **preko** sladoleda ili jogurta od vanilije posutog prženim orasima.

This sense of *over* also implies that one object is at a higher position than the other, however, there is a direct contact, which was not the case in sentence 4.1.a, between them since one covers or protects the other. Although *preko* in the Croatian language is used in more senses and is not strictly related to the sense of ‘‘covering’’ or ‘‘protecting’’ in this case it is the most suitable equivalent. Here, it implies spreading a certain foodstuff, possibly, a chocolate topping, over a surface, in this case, the ice cream.

4.1.2. Extending above (an area) from a vantage point

4.1.2.a) *His house on the hill had a magnificent view **over** the bay.* (BNC)

4.1.2.b) *Njegova kuća na brdu je imala prekrasan pogled **na** zaljev.*

The preposition *over*, in this case, also conveys the *above* sense. But, it would be rather strange to translate *over* here as *iznad* or *nad*. Here, what affects the most the translation of *over* is the word that precedes it, which is *view*. In the Croatian language a common collocation is *pogled na*, therefore, the best translation here is *na*.

4.2. At a higher level or layer than

4.2.a) *Bend knees and slide torso 6 inches down imaginary wall, bringing knees **over** ankles and in line with second toes.* (COCA)

4.2.b) *Savijte koljena i klizite torzom 15 centimetara prema dolje, kao uz zamišljeni zid, te pazite da vam koljena budu **iznad** gležnjeva, u ravnini s prstima.*

This English sentence exemplifies, once more, the *above* sense of *over*. However, it is worth mentioning that *over* could not be replaced with the preposition *above* in this case since the exercise in question requires that the knees are directly above the ankles. Regarding the Croatian translation, the best option is the preposition *iznad* since it conveys the meaning of *being at a higher position*.

4.2.1. Higher in rank than

4.2.1.a) *She has only the director **over** her.* (BNC)

4.2.1.b) *Jedino je direktor **iznad** nje.*

This, of course, is not the literal meaning of *over*, but it also implies the *above* sense. As we are talking about certain positions within, one can suppose a company or an institution,

we can imagine than one person is at a higher position than the other, meaning that one position is of greater importance than the other. That is why the most suitable preposition is *iznad*.

4.2.2. Expressing authority or control

4.2.2.a) *China has almost complete control **over** North Korea. (COCA)*

4.2.2.b) *Kina ima gotovo potpunu kontrolu **nad** Sjevernom Korejom.*

First, let us note that as it is the case with the meaning 4.2.1. *Higher in rank than*, *over* here does not have the literal meaning but a metaphorical one. Generally, when one talks about control, rights or power, the most frequently used Croatian preposition is *nad*.

4.2.3. Expressing preference

4.2.3.a) *The puppet who nicely rolls a ball back and forth with another is preferred **over** one who steals the ball and runs off with it. (COCA)*

4.2.3.b) *Lutka koji lijepo zakotrlja loptu naprijed i nazad s drugim lutkom se preferira **više od** onog koji ukrade loptu i pobjegne s njom.*

4.2.3.c) *Lutka koji lijepo zakotrlja loptu naprijed i nazad s drugim lutkom se preferira **nad** onime koji ukrade loptu i pobjegne s njom.*

When expressing preference the most frequently used Croatian preposition is *više od* which is the direct translation of the sense *more than*. However, we can also use *nad* in this context.

4.2.4. Expressing majority

4.2.4.a) *There was a slight predominance of boys **over** girls.*⁷

4.2.4.b) *Dječaci su neznatno prevladavali **nad** djevojčicama.*

4.2.4.c) *Dječaka je bilo neznatno **više od** djevojčica.*

4.2.4.d) *Dječaka je bilo neznatno **više nego** djevojčica.*

Although an example for this sense of *over* did not appear in our study, we believe it is important to explain it since it has more than one suitable translation. When expressing majority we can use three different prepositions. However, when using *više od* and *više nego* we have to paraphrase the sentence a bit. Besides *više od* and *više nego*, a suitable translation equivalent is also *nad*.

4.2.5. Higher in volume or pitch than

4.2.5.a) *...still a good hundred yards from her, but my voice echoed and rang out **over** the waves.* (COCA)

4.2.5.b) *...još sam uvijek bio dobrih devedesetak metara od nje, no jeka moga glasa je odzvanjala **unatoč** valovima.*

This is a little bit tricky to translate. The meaning of *over* always conveys in itself the *above* sense. Even in this one, the point is that the echo was louder than the waves, that is, it was at a higher volume. However, although that is the case we cannot translate *over* as *iznad* or *preko* because that would not sound very good in Croatian. Rather, we can translate it as *unatoč* because although the waves were loud, the man's echo was still heard. So, by using the preposition *unatoč* we want to state that the wave was an obstacle but the echo was ‘stronger’ than it.

⁷ Retrieved from <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/us/over> Accessed August 2017

4.3. Higher or more than (a specified number or quantity)

4.3.a) *House dust mites are a major factor in asthma, a condition which affects **over** 2 million people in Britain and **over** 10% of children.* (BNC)

4.3.b) *Grinje su veliki čimbenik kod astme, stanja koje pogađa **više od** 2 milijuna ljudi u Britaniji i **više od** 10% djece.*

4.3.c) *Chairman Ken Bailey said unless there were special reasons, a driver doing **over** 100mph was normally banned.* (BNC)

4.3.d) *Predsjednik Ken Bailey rekao je kako, osim ako ne postoje posebni razlozi, vozač koji vozi **preko** 160 km/h mora biti kažnjen.*

As you can see, with respect to this sense of *over*, there are two possible Croatian equivalents that we know of. However, it might still seem not very clear when to use which one. In some cases both *više od* and *preko* are perfectly acceptable. But, it is notable that *preko* is a more fortunate choice when translating statements related to some kind of limits. For example, *preko* is a better choice than *više od* when followed by matters related to age, percentage or speed limit. On the other hand, *više od* is used when talking about the number of people or time.

4.4. Expressing passage or trajectory across

4.4.a) *Margo shrugged and helped him carry the baby carriage **over** another bridge.*
(COCA)

4.4.b) *Margo je slegnula ramenima i pomogla mu prenijeti dječja kolica **preko** još jednog mosta.*

This case is specific since here *over* does not possess the classical *above* sense. Rather, the emphasis in this sentence is on the path. That is why the best Croatian translation

is *preko* which indicates that a person or an object was in motion. So, in this type of sentence we have a starting point, a path and a destination, so to say. In this sentence, the path refers to moving the carriage across the bridge.

4.4.1. Beyond and falling or hanging from

4.4.1.a) *Her black dress, her underclothes were hung **over** a chair.* (BNC)

4.4.1.b) *Njezina crna haljina, njezino rublje su visjeli **preko** stolice.*

As seen in the previous example, *preko* is used when referring to a path. This is not the case here. However, we can compare these two situations. A path stretches across a certain surface; for example, a bridge, and similarly to that, clothes stretch across a surface, the chair. Consequently, the most suitable translation is *preko*.

4.4.2. At the other side of; beyond

4.4.2.a) *Larry squinted at the empty space **over** the river.* (COCA)

4.4.2.b) *Larry je škiljio u prazan prostor **onkraj** rijeke.*

4.4.2.c) *Larry je škiljio u prazan prostor **preko** rijeke.*

The best preposition we can use is *onkraj* because it corresponds the best with *over* in this case. Space is on the other side of the river and “*s druge strane rijeke*” is the literal translation of *onkraj*. However, it must be noted that *preko* would also be a valid translation and in everyday speech more frequently used.

4.5. Expressing duration

4.5.a) *We organise various courses **over** the winter period.* (BNC)

4.5.b) *Organiziramo razne tečajeve **tijekom** zimskog perioda.*

In this context *over* has a different sense, related to time and not space. As was mentioned earlier *over* sometimes refers to a path. Here we do not have motion in space but rather a time period that lasts for a certain amount of time. In this context, the most fortunate choice is the Croatian preposition *tijekom*, a preposition of time.

4.5.c) *Chicago couple David and Sharon Schoo were arrested after leaving their two daughters at home **over** Christmas while they went to Acapulco.* (BNC)

4.5.d) *David i Sharon Schoo, par iz Chicaga, uhićeni su nakon što su otputovali u Acapulco i ostavili svoje dvije kćeri same kući **za** Božić.*

Tijekom is more appropriate for a longer period during which a process occurs and potentially has a result. However, since this is not a long(er) period of time, we believe that the more fortunate choice in this translation is *za*.

4.6. Expressing the medium by which something is done; by means of

4.6.a) *His choice of vegetables was being dictated to him **over** a portable telephone.* (BNC)

4.6.b) *Izbor povrća diktiran mu je **putem** prijenosnog telefona.*

4.6.c) *Izbor povrća diktiran mu je **preko** prijenosnog telefona.*

When translating statements related to the media and the messages broadcasted over them the most fortunate choice is the Croatian preposition *putem*. However, people often use the Croatian preposition *preko* which is also a good translation. However, according to the rules of the standard Croatian language *putem* is a more fortunate choice.

4.7. On the subject of

As will be shown below, this meaning of *over* has several suitable Croatian equivalents although each of them requires a particular context. Let us take a look at the first example.

4.7.a) *The civil war was not fought **over** the partition of the island as is popularly believed.*

(BNC)

4.7.b) *Gradanski rat se, suprotno popularnom mišljenju, nije vodio **zbog** podjele otoka.*

The first case which illustrates the sense ‘‘on the subject of’’ is related to the meaning of ‘‘cause’’. In this sentence that means that the partition of islands was not the cause of the war. Regarding this sense, the most fortunate Croatian preposition is *zbog* since it indicates a reason why something was or was not done.

4.7.c) *It may be advantageous to both groups to liaise with each other **over** the monitoring of Little Mill and Fishers Brae corner.* (BNC)

4.7.d) *Moglo bi biti korisno za obje skupine kada bi se udružile **radi** nadgledanja ugla između Little Milla i Fishers Braea.*

It should be pointed out that, in the Croatian language, it is hard to distinguish when one should use *zbog* and when *radi*. This is, in fact, because sentences can function well with both prepositions. However, the meanings are slightly different. The preposition *zbog* indicates ‘‘cause’’ while *radi* implies ‘‘purpose’’. In this case, it is easy to conclude on the basis of the first part of the sentence that it implies purpose. So, the most fortunate choice in the Croatian translation is *radi* which is a preposition of purpose.

4.7.e) *For decades, film critics Gene Siskel and Roger Ebert argued explosively **over** movies.*

(COCA)

4.7.f) *Desetljećima su se filmski kritičari Gene Siskel i Roger Ebert žestoko prepirali **oko** filmova.*

This is rather a common example of this sense of *over*. It expresses a topic of an argument. In this case, the best translation is preposition *oko*.

4.7.g) *There is little point in arguing **over** which of these two gaits is " better ".* (BNC)

4.7.h) *Nema se smisla svađati **oko toga** koji je od ova dva načina hodanja bolji.*

Although *oko* is the more frequent translation of the *over*'s meaning ‘*on the subject of*’, one can also encounter Croatian translation *oko toga*. The reason why we must put *toga* after the preposition is because in the original English sentence *over* is followed by a *wh* – word. So, *oko toga* is most frequently used when translating a collocation comprised of *over* + *wh*- word.

4.7.i) *Yellowstone was at the centre of a heated debate **over** various proposals to manage the park's grizzlies.* (COCA)

4.7.j) *Yellowstone je bio u centru gorljive debate **o** različitim prijedlozima o tome kako brinuti o grizlijima u parku.*

In this case, the most suitable translation of *over* is *o*. The reason why it is so is simply because when we are talking about a debate in the Croatian language the preposition that frequently follows is *o*.

4.8. Moving in more directions

4.8.a) *They took me all **over** the Ursuline convent... and to meet the Reverend Mother -- an old Irishwoman.* (BNC)

4.8.b) *Vodili su me **po** cijelom uršulinskom samostanu... i upoznali me sa starom Irkinjom, prestonicom samostana.*

This example is quite simple since in cases when there is the phrase ‘*all over + noun*’ we most frequently use the preposition *po*.

4.9. Spreading across a surface

4.9.a) *Spilled my cup of tea **over** the tablecloth.* (BNC)

4.9.b) *Prolila sam šalicu čaja **po** stolnjaku.*

This example is actually very similar to the previous one. Both senses, 4.8. *Moving in more directions* and 4.9. *Spreading across a surface* include a common feature – expansion. In the first case, people are spreading across a place, while in the second a substance is permeating through the tablecloth. That is why *po* is in this sentence, too, the best option.

4.10. Relation between an action and an object that follows the action

4.10.a) *My guess was that he probably had a lot of stories I'd enjoy **over** a beer if we ever met.* (COCA)

4.10.b) *Moje je mišljenje da je vjerojatno imao puno priča u kojima bih uživao **uz** pivo da smo se ikada sreli.*

It is important to highlight what is the action and what is the object that follows it. In this sentence, the action is the talking, and the beer is the object. The action – *talking* and the

object – *beer* accompany each other. This is the reason why the best Croatian equivalent is the preposition *uz*.

4.11. Above; implying superiority after a contest; in spite of; notwithstanding

4.11.a) ...*said, after having just done so by moving thousands of Russian troops into Crimea over the objections of the central government in Kiev.* (COCA)

4.11.b) ...*rečeno, upravo nakon što je tisuće ruskih trupa premješteno na Krim unatoč prigovorima središnje vlade u Kijevu.*

Clearly, *over* here does not convey the literal meaning of ‘*above*’ rather the figurative meaning of ‘*in spite of*’. So, in spite of the objections, the troops have been moved to Crimea. That is why the most fortunate Croatian preposition is *unatoč* that conveys the meaning of ‘*in spite of*’.

4.12. In certain collocations (as compared to)

4.12.a) *But unlike my brother, I believe women have an advantage over men when working undercover.* (COCA)

4.12.b) *No, za razliku od mog brata, vjerujem da žene imaju prednost u odnosu na muškarce kada rade na tajnom zadatku.*

Since this case implies comparing one object to another, and in this sentence indicating certain kind of advantage the most suitable Croatian translation is *u odnosu na*. This is, in fact, a prepositional phrase but in this case, serves the function of a preposition. Usually, we could, also, express advantage with the preposition *nad*. However, here this is not possible.

5. Examples – ABOVE

5.1. In extended space over and not touching

5.1.a) *A rocket exploded **above** their heads and Ruth screamed in terror.* (BNC)

5.1.b) *Raketa je eksplodirala **iznad** njihovih glava i Ruth je vrisnula od straha.*

This sentence exemplifies the most basic meaning of the preposition *above*. It indicates that one object is at a higher position than the other one; rocket being at a higher position than their heads without any direct contact. However, it must be noted that the object that is at a higher position does not need to be directly over the other one. If that were the case than the preposition *above* could be interchangeable with the preposition *over*. To conclude, in the Croatian language, the preposition that corresponds the best in this sense of *above* is *iznad* which implies the meaning ‘*at a higher position than*’.

As was mentioned before, sometimes *over* and *above* can be used interchangeably. The following sentence illustrates this case.

5.1.c) *When he came to, the sun was a flame directly **above** him. (**over**)* (COCA)

5.1.d) *Kad je došao k sebi, sunce je bilo direktno **iznad** njega.*

This is due to the fact that "the sun is *directly above* him", not just *above* him. As we said in the introduction *over* understates that one object is *directly above* the other one. Regarding the Croatian translation, above is again translated as *iznad*.

5.1.e) *To detect UV radiation, rockets had to carry telescopes **above** the atmosphere.*

5.1.f) *Kako bi se detektiralo UV zračenje, teleskopi su se raketama iznijeli **izvan** atmosfere.*

Although *above* here possesses the meaning of ‘*iznad*’ a more fortunate choice is the Croatian preposition *izvan*. *Izvan* is more appropriate since the atmosphere is not a tangible object, while *iznad* is often used when we are talking about a relation between two objects.

5.1.1. Extending upwards over

5.1.1.a) *Stand up, stretch your arms **above** your head, then let them fall loosely to your sides.*
(BNC)

5.1.1.b) *Ustanite, rastegnite ruke **iznad** glave, zatim ih pustite da vam lagano padnu uz bokove.*

In this case, *above* is again literally translated as *iznad* since the hands are at a higher position in the air than the head. The difference between the first sense 5.1. *In extended space over and not touching* and this one is the fact that in the first sense an action occurs only in the air, above one's head, and here the hands go above the head but soon down again. However, the Croatian translation remains the same.

5.1.2. Higher than and to one side of; overlooking

5.1.2.a) *Dorothea frowned into the mirror **above** the sink.* (BNC)

5.1.2.b) *Dorothea se namrštila u ogledalo **iznad** umivaonika.*

This meaning indicates that one object is at a higher position than the other one but they are on the same side of the wall. Once again, the most appropriate Croatian preposition is *iznad*.

5.2. At a higher level or layer than

5.2.a) *A more fundamental design fault is the positioning of our noses **above** our mouths, which requires our food and air passages to meet at the back.* (BNC)

5.2.b) *Veća mana temeljnog dizajna je pozicioniranje noseva **iznad** ustiju što zahtijeva da se probavni i dišni putevi sretnu otraga.*

This example is also quite simple and, once more, the best translation is *iznad*.

However, take a look at the following example:

5.2.c) *Besides lacking reinforcement, buildings in many central and eastern cities sit **above** homogeneous basement rock, which conducts vibrations for much greater distances than the ground in. (BNC)*

5.2.d) *Osim što im nedostaje pojačanje, zgrade u mnogim središnjim i istočnim gradovima leže **na** homogenim ishodišnim stijenama koje provode vibracije na većim udaljenostima nego tlo.*

First, it must be said that in this case *above* again has the ‘*iznad*’ sense, however, it would be strange to say that ‘zgrade su izgrađene *iznad* ili *nad* homogenim ishodišnim stijenama’ although they are. However, *iznad* or *nad* imply that there is an empty space between the two objects; the one at a higher position and the one below. In this case, the buildings ‘stand’ on the ground, there is contact and therefore, a more fortunate translation is *na* which indicates that one object is above the other but also that the objects are touching.

5.2.e) *...about Bermuda, for example, and a banner ad for Caribbean hotels might appear **above** your profile. (COCA)*

5.2.f) *...o Bermudama, primjerice, web oglas o karipskim hotelima vam se može pojaviti **preko** profila.*

Since the banner ad is above the profile it fulfils the sense of being at a higher layer, however, this case is specific since it encompasses the covering part. That is why the most appropriate choice is the Croatian preposition *preko* that conveys the *covering* sense.

5.2.1. Higher in grade or rank than

5.2.1.a) *I'm just another one of God's children.' There's nobody **above** me, there's no one beneath me.* (BNC)

5.2.1.b) *Ja sam samo još jedno Božje dijete. Nitko nije **iznad** mene, nitko nije ispod mene.*

Obviously, this is not the literal meaning of the preposition *above*. However, the meaning stays the same as if we were talking about objects and again, the most fortunate choice in the Croatian language is *iznad*.

5.2.2. Considered of higher status

5.2.2.a) *They say she married **above** herself, but who cares?*⁸

5.2.2.b) ~~*Govore kako se udala **iznad** sebe.*~~

In order to translate the sentence in a meaningful way, we had to discard the translation which includes the preposition because that would not sound good, so we formulated it differently by using an adjective *više* which indicates being elevated or exalted in rank.

5.2.2.c) *Govore kako se udala za čovjeka iz **više** društvene klase.*

5.2.3. In preference to

5.2.3.a) *The code articulates that social workers elevate service to others **above** self-interest.*
(COCA)

5.2.3.b) *Prema kodeksu, socijalni radnici bi trebali **pretpostaviti** služenje drugima osobnome interesu.*

⁸ Retrieved from <http://idioms.thefreedictionary.com/marry+above+oneself> Accessed August 2017

This particular meaning is somewhat different than those analysed so far. Unlike the senses of *above* that referred to an object being at a higher level, this one indicates preference. However, as shown, we modified the Croatian translation and did not use a preposition. Instead, we opted for the verb *prepostaviti* which is formed by joining the preposition *pred-* and the verb *postaviti*. The verb *prepostaviti* conveys the meaning of *giving priority* or *being of great importance* which corresponds with the sense *In preference to*.

5.2.4. At a higher volume or pitch than

5.2.4.a) *I could barely hear her **above** the noise of the terminal.* COCA

5.2.4.b) *Jedva sam ju čuo **zbog** buke na terminalu.*

Although *above*, almost always, understates being at a higher level, here we cannot translate it literally. In this case, the noise represents an obstacle to clearly hearing a person. Therefore we opted for the preposition *zbog* which indicates *a reason*.

5.3. Higher than (a specified amount, rate, or norm)

5.3.a) *However cuckoos are very abundant in the Santa Fe area, which is 700-800m **above** sea level.* (BNC)

5.3.b) *No, kukavica ima puno na području Santa Fea, koji je 700-800 metara **iznad** razine mora.*

5.3.c) *No, kukavica ima puno na području Santa Fea, koji je na 700-800 metara **nadmorske** visine.*

Once more, we can translate *above* as *iznad*. However, if we decide to translate it without a preposition standing on its own we can do so by using the word *nadmorska*. The adjective *nadmorska* contains the preposition *nad* and it is used more frequently than the collocation *iznad razine mora*.

5.3.d) *Marie's intelligence appears to be within normal limits and possibly **above** average.*

(BNC)

5.3.e) *Čini se kako je Mariejina inteligencija u granicama normale i eventualno **iznad** prosjeka.*

5.3.f) *Čini se kako je Marie prosječne, ili čak **iznadprosječne** inteligencije.*

5.3.g) *Čini se kako je Marie prosječne, ili čak **natprosječne** inteligencije.*

In this case, we have three possible options. First, we can simply translate the English collocation *above average* as *iznad prosjeka* which is a common Croatian collocation. Then, we can omit the preposition and use an adjective. Here, two possible adjectives are possible – *iznadprosječna* and *natprosječna*. Thus, we use prepositions *iznad* and *nad* but as a part of a word. However, it should be pointed out that in the word *natprosječna* a voice change occurred – [d] turned into [t] since [p] is a voiceless sound.

5.4. Too great or good for

5.4.a) *And he isn't **above** taking a little advice.* (BNC)

5.4.b) *I on nije **iznad** toga da prihvati pokoji savjet.*

Again, this is not the literal meaning of *above*. However, the most suitable translation is, once more, *iznad*.

5.5. Beyond the reach of; not affected by⁹

5.5.a) *Thus we free ourselves from our chains and are raised into regions high **above** sadness and a calm engulfs us and a burden falls from our shoulders.* (BNC)

⁹ Bujas, Ž. 1999. *Veliki englesko – hrvatski rječnik*. Zagreb: Nakladni zavod Globus.

5.5.b) *Tako se oslobađamo od naših lanaca, i uzdižemo u područja visoko **iznad** tuge te se smirujemo i teret nam pada s leđa.*

This sentence refers to the meaning *beyond the reach of* where sadness cannot get you. The most appropriate translation in this context is *iznad*. But, let us take a look at the following example.

5.5.c) *I think Mark is absolutely right about this point about living unlike others and living **above** the law.* (COCA)

5.5.d) *Mislim da je Mark potpuno u pravu što se tiče toga da ne živi kao drugi već da živi **izvan** zakona.*

The point of this sentence is that Mark is not living by the law, meaning that he is not respecting some social norms. So, ‘*above the law*’ here represents a unit outside which Mark is living. That is why we opted for the Croatian preposition *izvan*. However, let us see one more example.

5.5.e) *...situation of privilege, that is, of people who are absolutely convinced they are **above** the law* (COCA)

5.5.f) *...privilegija, tj., od ljudi koji su uvjereni da su **iznad** zakona*

In this case, the people are not living above the law, they rather believe they are above it. What this means is that they consider themselves more important than the law. So, *above* in this sentence conveys the meaning of 5. 4. *Too great or good for*.

5.6. Expressing a moment in time until which an action had lasted¹⁰

5.6.a) *The evidence cannot be traced **above** the fifth century.*

5.6.b) *Svi valjani dokazi pronađeni su **do** petog stoljeća.*

This sense is not really frequent in everyday speech so we did not find any sentences corresponding to it. However, it is distinctive since we do not literally translate above as *iznad* or *nad* and, thus, refer to being at a higher layer. Instead, in this example above refers to a period of time. In this case *above* marks a certain time limit and the most fortunate translation is *do*.

6. Examples – NAD

6.1. At a higher level than

6.1.a) ***Nad** stolom drhtaše plinska svjetiljka, prostirući što jasnije što slabije svjetlo **nad** glavama mladića.*

6.1.b) *The gas lamp was trembling **above** the table, alternately stretching clearer and weaker light **over** the boys' heads.*

As it was mentioned earlier, we use *over* when something is *directly above* someone or something and *above* when something is just at a higher level than someone or something. In this sentence, the gas lamp is directly above the table, however, there is no direct contact between them so we employ *above*. Regarding the second *nad* in the sentence, we opted for *over* since the light stretches directly above their heads but what is more important, we cannot say that there is no contact since the light is not tangible.

¹⁰ Božić, D. 2000. *Rječnik englesko – hrvatski rječnik, hrvatsko – engleski s gramatikom*. Split: Knjigotisak d.o.o.

6.2. Higher than something/someone without any direct contact

6.2.a) *Autsajder ne zaboravlja da je nebo **nad** njim, ma u kom se kutku zemlje nalazio!*

6.2.b) *An outsider does not forget that the sky is **above** him, no matter where in the world he is!*

This sentence exemplifies a very common collocation which refers to the sky being at a higher level than someone. In this case *above* is more frequently used than *over*, although *over* is also correct. The reason why *above* is used more is that we refer to the ‘whole’ sky when we use this expression, not just to the ‘piece’ of the sky that is directly above (*over*) us. Also, *above* is a more fortunate choice since there is no direct contact.

6.2.c) *Velika većina Europljana ne boji se toliko mogućeg terorističkog napada, klimatskih promjena ili zagađenja okoliša koliko se boji utvare koja »lebdi **nad** njima« i svakodnevno im krade poslove, poskupljuje život i pojeftinjuje njihov rad.*

6.2.d) *The vast majority of Europeans are not afraid of a possible terrorist attack, climate changes or environmental pollution as much as of the colour illusion that ‘hovers **over** them’ and every day steals their jobs, increases their expenditure and decreases the cost of their labour.*

This case illustrates a figurative use of this preposition since the danger mentioned does not actually hover in space. However, we translated it as though it really does hover, and since it hovers directly above them, we translate *nad* as *over*.

6.3. Subordination relations between concepts

6.3.a) *To sigurno nije neka polubožanska institucija **nad** kojom je samo Bog.*

6.3.b) *That is certainly not a semi-divine institution **above** which there is only God.*

Here we have a different sense of the preposition *nad*. In this sentence, it does not denote a higher position than something or someone in space but rather a higher position in a hierarchy. When translating *nad* in this sense we believe that the more fortunate (and common) choice is *above*, although *over* is not wrong.

6.4. Comparing related concepts¹¹

6.4.a) *To je Svetinja **nad** svetinjama.*

6.4.b) *It is ‘the Holy **of** Holies’.*

This sentence exemplifies a sort of comparison of more things, concepts or ideas that possess the same or similar qualities; but, one stands out. In this sentence, clearly, we do not translate *nad* literally but rather use the preposition that is commonly used in this type of collocations which in the English language is *of*. Generally, when something is best **of** the best the best English equivalent is *of*.

6.5. Expressing control or triumph

First, it is important to say that there are many possible ways of expressing control or triumph in English as well as in Croatian. Therefore, we have found several possible translations of *nad* in case of this sense. Let us take a closer look at each.

6.5.a) *Da, ako pod totalitarizmom podrazumijevamo odlučno nastojanje političke vlasti da uspostavi potpunu kontrolu **nad** pojedincem i društvom, sustavno ih, bez alternative usmjeravajući prema svojim ciljevima.*

6.5.b) *Yes, if by totalitarianism you mean a determined effort by political authorities to establish full control **over** the individual and society, we are directing them systematically, without alternatives, towards their goals.*

¹¹ Retrieved from <http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/of> Accessed August 2017

Here, *nad* does not have the sense of *above*. Usually, when it comes to translating authority or control *over* is a very common translation. However, let us take a look at the following example.

6.5.c) *Zbog neprilagođene brzine, vozač je izgubio kontrolu nad upravljačem te je desnim kotačima zahvatio rubnjak, a nakon toga sletio je s kolnika na travnatu površinu uz desni rub ceste.*

6.5.d) *Due to speeding the driver lost control of the wheel and the right wheel caught the curb, and then the car landed on a grassy area along the right side of the road.*

The phrase is the same as in the example above – *kontrola nad*. However, the translation is slightly different. The reason why we opted for *control of* in this case is that in the English language there is a collocation *to lose control of the vehicle*.

We use *control over* someone or something when we express the power to manage someone or something. On the other hand, *control of* is used when we master or subdue something or someone or when we achieve management of someone or something.¹²

6.5.e) *Ramon nam je ostavio u svojoj knjizi vrlo snažne poruke o stvarima o kojima nam je dao misliti, kao što su smrt, vlasništvo nad svojim tijelom, sebičnost i nesebičnost ljubavi.*

6.5.f) *Ramon has left us very strong messages about the things he has given us to think about, such as death, ownership of our body, selfishness and unselfishness of love, in his book.*

This example is just to show that there are many words that can stand in front of *nad* and thereby influence how *nad* will be translated into Croatian. In this case, the best option is *of*.

¹² Retrieved from <https://english.stackexchange.com/> Accessed July 2017

Other than simple prepositions, we can also translate *nad* as a compound preposition *in charge of* which is illustrated in the example below.

6.5.g) *Ivan Jarnjak još nije zaprimio Kovačevićev zahtjev, a o sazivanju sjednice će, kaže, razmisliti kad mu pravne službe pojašne je li Odbor nadležan **nad** ovim slučajem.*

6.5.h) *Ivan Jarnjak has not yet received the request Kovacevic has made and says he will think about convening the session when the Legal Department clarifies whether the Committee is **in charge of** the case.*

The preposition *nad* can also be used when expressing victory or triumph which is illustrated in the examples below.

6.5.i) *To potvrđuju njegove riječi: »Priateljima sam obećao trijumf **nad** SCG.*

6.5.j) *His words confirm that: ‘I promised triumph **over** Serbia and Montenegro to my friends.’*

Generally, when we have *nad* in a sports context talking about victories or triumphs we translate it as *over*. However, there is another possible translation.

6.5.k) *Upravo je zato svaka pobjeda **nad** izravnim konkurentom od iznimne važnosti.*

6.5.l) *That's why every victory **against** a direct competitor is of the utmost importance.*

Although we could also translate *nad* as *over* here, this is to show that *against* can also be a fortunate choice as an English equivalent of *nad* and is actually often used.

6.6. Expressing the object of an action

6.6.a) *Činjenica je to koju mnogi građani već znaju, no treba je tu i tamo ponoviti i **nad** njom se zamisliti.*

6.6.b) *This is a fact that many citizens already know but every now and then one should think **about** it.*

6.6.c) *Ako se zahtjevi za osnivanje pedofilske stranke u Nizozemskoj mogu tumačiti kao »normalni liberalizam«, onda se ta politička ideologija mora zamisliti **nad** vlastitim vrijednostima.*

6.6.d) *If the requests for the establishment of a paedophile party in the Netherlands can be interpreted as ‘normal liberalism’, then this political ideology must reflect **upon** its own values.*

Although in the Croatian language the collocation is the same – *nad njom se zamisliti* – we translated it differently in order to show that there are more possible ways of translating it. We can also translate the phrase as *ponder* but then we omit the preposition. When using a preposition the best options in this context are *about* and *upon*.

6.6.e) *Prijatelji životinja u četvrtak su se okupili ispred grčke ambasade u Opatičkoj 12, s transparentima na kojima je pisalo »Grčkoj olimpijsko zlato za sramotu« i »Stop okrutnostima **nad** životinjama«, kako bi održali miran prosvjed.*

6.6.f) *Animal Friends gathered on Thursday in front of the Greek embassy in Opatička 12, with banners that said ‘Olympic medal in shame for Greece’ and ‘Stop cruelty **to** animals’, in order to hold a peaceful protest.*

In this context, we used *to* as a translation for preposition *nad* since this is the preposition used with *cruelty* in the English language.

6.6.g) *Uhićen je 52-godišnji muškarac, **nad** kojim se još uvijek provodi kriminalistička obrada, pa još uvijek nije poznato je li uhićeni i počinitelj pljačke u ljekarni.*

6.6.h) *A 52-year-old man, who is still **under** criminal investigation, was arrested, however, it is still not known whether the perpetrator arrested is the one who robbed the pharmacy.*

In English, if we want to use the preposition in order to translate the fact that one is being investigated the best option is *under*. This is of course the complete opposite of *nad* which denotes a higher place in space, while *under* refers to something below. The reason why this is so, is the difference in the perception of law in the Croatian and the English language. In English, law is seen as a roof structure which covers everything, thus, we use the preposition *under*.

6.6.i) *Imat ćemo veća sredstva i za borbu protiv ovisnosti, kao i za borbu protiv nasilja u obitelji, posebice **nad** ženama i djecom.*

6.6.j) *We will have more funds for the fight against addiction, as well as to combat domestic violence, especially **against** women and children.*

6.6.k) *Za svojeg posjeta Armeniji minulog vikenda, francuski predsjednik Jacques Chirac pozvao je Tursku da prizna genocid počinjen **nad** Armencima tijekom Prvog svjetskog rata.*

6.6.l) *During his visit to Armenia last weekend, the French President Jacques Chirac called on Turkey to recognize the genocide **of** Armenians during the First World War.*

As was the case with translating sentence 6.7.g) here we also have to take into consideration English collocations, therefore we use *against* after *violence* and *of* after *genocide*.

In conclusion, when expressing an object of an act *nad* has many English translation equivalents. It is important to take into consideration the sentence context as well as common collocations of the language that the word is being translated into.

6.7. Expressing advantage

6.7.a) *»Ne smijemo dopustiti da oni koji imaju novac, imaju i prednost **nad** onima koji ne mogu platiti određene pripreme za prijemne ispite«, rekao je Tihomir Tonković te istaknuo da su se neke stvari s vremenom otele kontroli.*

6.7.b) *“We must not allow those who have money, to have the advantage **over** those who cannot pay for certain preparation for entrance exams” Tihomir Tonkovic said and pointed out that some things have got out of control over time.*

This case was quite simple to translate since *over* is the most fortunate choice when translating phrases related to having an advantage.

6.8. Reactions caused by something/someone

6.8.a) *Američka skupina Pearl Jam izrazila je u subotu zgroženost **nad** tragedijom koja se dogodila, dok su svirali pred oko 50.000 gledatelja.*

6.8.b) *On Saturday, the American group Pearl Jam expressed dismay **at** the tragedy that occurred while they were playing before 50,000 spectators.*

6.8.c) ***Nad** sudbinom nesretne Kašmirke zgražavaju se čak i oni koji u vlastitoj povijesti bilježe, ali nikada to ne ističu, još gore zločine.*

6.8.d) *Even those who remember, but never point out, even worse crimes in their own history are appalled **by** the fate of the unfortunate Kashmiri woman.*

6.8.e) *Nažalost, imao je obiteljsku tragediju **nad** kojom i ja drhtim i doista ne znam koliko je on upoznat sa svim događajima.*

6.8.f) *Unfortunately, he went through a family tragedy **over** which I shiver and I really do not know how familiar he is with all the events.*

6.8.g) *Više nego nad Jazerom, plakat ću **nad** tobom, o lozje sibmansko, kojem se mladice pružahu preko mora, sezahu sve do Jazera.*

6.8.h) *More than for Jazer I weep **for** you, O vine of Sibmah! Your branches passed over the sea, reached as far as Jazer.*

6.8.i) *Ni muke oko golog života, ni strah pred smrću, ni gađenje **nad** svime tim što je oko čovjeka, sve to životinje ne poznaju.*

6.8.j) *No hassle of bare life, no fear of death, no disgust **with** everything that is around man, all that animals do not know.*

When translating *nad* in sentences where it is related to certain feelings or emotions one has to take a look at the noun that expresses the emotion. Therefore, the translation of the preposition *nad* depends on the word that expresses the emotion. For example, we cannot translate *gađenje nad* as *disgust for* since *disgust* cannot combine with *for*. However, we can translate it also with *disgust over* since these two words go together. As shown in the examples above, *nad* can be translated in this sense as *at, by, over, for* and *with*.

7. Examples – IZNAD

7.1. In or to a higher level than

7.1.a) *Imat će dva pilona koji su 118 metara **iznad** kolnika, a **iznad** mora 177 metara.*

7.1.b) *It will have two pylons which are 118 metres **above** the pavement and 177 metres **above** the sea.*

When we talk about a certain level, for example, sea level, we most frequently use *above* since this is a direct translation of the Croatian preposition *iznad*.

7.1.c) *Nema putovanja na posao, radni sati su fleksibilni, postoji sloboda odijevanja, nema ometanja kolega ni šefa koji visi **iznad** glave, a i znatno je manje stresa.*

7.1.d) *No commute, working hours are flexible, there is no dress code, no distractions from colleagues, no boss hanging **over** your head, and considerably less stress.*

Although the boss is not literally sitting over your head we translate the sentence as though he does. The reason why we opted for *over*, in this case, is because it appears that the boss is hanging ‘‘directly above’’.

7.1.e) *Najproblematičnije područje je između 900 i 1000 kilometara **iznad** Zemlje, gdje prevladavaju komunikacijski, navigacijski i meteorološki sateliti.*

7.1.f) *The most problematic area is between 900 and 1,000 kilometers **above** the Earth, dominated by the communication, navigation and meteorological satellites.*

Here, the best option is *above* since the area is broad and we cannot say if it is directly above the Earth or not.

7.1.g) *Međutim, vrijeme posljednja dva dana **iznad** Sljemena nije obećavajuće.*

7.1.h) *However, during the last two days, the weather **at** Sljeme has not been promising.*

This sentence is particular since we cannot translate *vrijeme iznad Sljemena* as the *weather over/above* because it would sound a bit odd. That is why we changed the sense of *iznad* in English and opted for *at*. The reason for this is that Sljeme is a point, and the English preposition that denotes a point is *at*. But, take a look at the following example:

7.1.i) *Kako doznajemo u Državnom hidrometeorološkom zavodu (DHMZ), iznadprosječno toplo vrijeme **iznad** naših krajeva zadržat će se i idućih desetak dana, dok se zahlađenje može očekivati tek oko 20. siječnja.*

7.1.j) *As we found out from the Meteorological and Hydrological Service (MHS), the above average warm weather **in** our region will continue in the next ten days, while the colder weather can be expected around January 20.*

Again, we are dealing with the concept of weather. But, once more, we cannot translate it as *over* or *above* because it would lose meaning in English. In this case, we chose *in* as the best translation for *iznad* since a region is perceived as a container in English.

7.2. More than an amount or level

7.2.a) *Nesmiljeno prženje sunca i temperature **iznad** 30 stupnjeva Celzijevih štetne su za organizam, pa i za vlasište.*

7.2.b) *Relentless scorching sun and temperatures **above/over** 30 degrees Celsius are harmful to the body, even to the scalp.*

We have already mentioned that *over* and *above* can sometimes be used interchangeably. This is one of those cases. Namely, when talking about temperature higher than zero degrees we can use both prepositions. However, let us take a look at the following example:

7.2.c) *Moskovski Crveni trg postaje golemo klizalište te se, bez obzira na za Moskvu neubičajeno visoke temperature od pet stupnjeva **iznad** nule, dobar dio velikog trga sada našao na raspolaganju klizačima.*

7.2.d) *Moscow's Red Square becomes a huge ice rink and, regardless of, for Moscow, unusually high temperatures of five degrees **above** zero, a good part of the large square is now available to skaters.*

In this sentence, when we specify a certain temperature that is *higher than zero* we can use only *above*. It would be rather strange to say *over zero*.

7.2.e) *S jedne strane imate grad Zagreb koji je po određenim čimbenicima **iznad** EU-ova prosjeka, a s druge imate županije koje su daleko ispod tog prosjeka.*

7.2.f) *On the one hand you have the city of Zagreb, which is according to certain factors **above** the EU average, and on the other, you have counties that are far below this average.*

This example is rather simple since the Croatian collocation *iznad prosjeka* is simply translated into English as *above average* which is a common collocation, too.

7.2.g) *Cilj je bio na licu mjesta i u izravnom kontaktu utvrditi aktualno stanje u vezi preseljenja CIOŠ-a, s obzirom da se preseljenje odužilo znatno **iznad** predviđenog roka.*

7.2.h) *The aim was to determine the current situation regarding the relocation of CIOŠ's on the spot and in direct contact since the relocation has **passed** its deadline.*

Although *iznad* is a spatial preposition, here it functions as a preposition of time. It refers to exceeding a certain time limit. That is why we adapted the English translation and

instead of using a preposition, we employed the verb *to pass* which refers to go past a particular point in time.¹³

7.2.i) *To je, kažu, u skladu ili čak **iznad** nedavnih iznosa plaćenih u sličnim transakcijama.*

7.2.j) *This, they say, is in line with or even **above** the recent amounts paid in similar transactions.*

Usually, both *over* and *above* convey the meaning of *more than*, but since here we have the Croatian preposition *iznad* we will translate it as *above* since we believe it fits better than *over*. On the other hand, *over* would fit better as a translation of *više od*.

7.3. In a more important or advanced position than someone else

7.3.a) *Nitko ne smije biti **iznad** zakona«, kazao je.*

7.3.b) *No one should be **above** the law, he said.*

This means that no one should be more important than the law. This meaning is usually translated with *above* since *above the law* is a common English collocation.

7.4. Too good or important for something

7.4.a) *»Iako je Ukrajina **iznad** svih očekivanja prezentirala svoj novi nogometni dom te uza sve komplimente i njima i Poljacima, to teško može biti presudno pri odlučivanju o domaćinu EP-a 2012. godine.»*

7.4.b) *''Although Ukraine has presented its new football home **beyond** all expectations and with all due respect to them and the Poles, this can hardly be crucial in deciding the host of the EC in 2012. ''*

¹³ Retrieved from <http://dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/pass> Accessed August 2017

7.5.a) *Sa stanovišta nacionalne ekonomije, to je potrošnja **iznad** naših mogućnosti.*

7.6.b) *From the perspective of the national economy, we are spending **beyond** our means.*

These are, too, examples of fixed English phrases. Here, it would not sound good if we translated *iznad* as *above* or *over*, so we rather employ *beyond*. When we wish to state that something is better than we expected or imagined we tend to use this particular preposition (*beyond capacities, beyond our possibilities*).

8. Examples – PREKO

8.1. Expressing a position/place or movement from one side to the other

8.1.a.) *Utvrđeno je, naime, da su oni iz Hrvatske u Sloveniju, **preko** zelene granice, prevezeni cross motociklom.*

8.1.b) *It was found that they were transported **over** the green border from Croatia to Slovenia, by a cross motorcycle.*

8.1.c) *Uhićena su i tri slovenska državljana, koji su također uz novčanu naknadu strance ilegalno prebacili **preko** državne granice.*

8.1.d) *Three Slovenian nationals who have also illegally transferred foreigners **across** the state border for a fee were also arrested.*

The first two examples exemplify the sense of moving from one side to another, in these cases, from one state to another. As shown, *both over and across* function well in this context.

8.1.e) *Prema pretpostavkama policije, najvjerojatnije su »splavarili« **preko** Korane.*

8.1.f) *The police assume that they have most likely rafted **across** the Korana.*

In this case, the best translation is also *across* since a raft serves to cross a river which denotes the sense of *moving from one side (of the river) to the other*. Unlike the examples above, in this sentence crossing lasts for a longer period of time, but, as shown, the meaning and the translation stay the same.

8.1.g) *Cukor je sa dvojicom prijatelja ribiča u koritu Save, preko puta Jaruna, čistio od smeća i raslinja mjesto za ribolov.*

8.1.h) *Cukor has been cleaning, with two of his friends, a place for fishing in the bed of the river Sava, across from Jarun.*

In this particular case, where the collocation ‘*preko puta*’ is used the best possible option is *across from* since it is its literal translation. As opposed to the first three examples, here *preko* does not denote movement but a location.

8.1.i) *Tako je policijska ophodnja u Gornjem Kuršancu, blizu mosta preko Drave, na međimurskoj strani zatekla deset državljana Irana, koji kod sebe nisu imali putne isprave.*

8.1.j) *So the police patrol in the Upper Kuršanec, near the bridge over the Drava, on the Međimurje side, found ten Iranian citizens, who had no travel documents.*

In this case, *preko* marks a location – *a bridge over a river*. The most fortunate choice here is *over* since, as we mentioned before, we use it when something is directly above something/someone else.

8.2. Movement at a higher level than

8.2.a) *Kapara, očito zavidan, zorno predoči tu sliku: lete avioni preko mora, spuštaju se negdje u Africi ili južnoj Italiji, slijeću u dubokoj pozadini i dok posluha odvlači avione u hangar, piloti odlaze u klubove, piju rum i žestoka pića, provode se s djevojkama...*

8.2.b) *Kapara, obviously envious, vividly portrayed this picture: planes fly **over** the sea, descend somewhere in Africa or southern Italy, land in the deep background and while service hauls the planes into the hangar, the pilots go to clubs, drink rum and spirits, have fun with girls...*

Although *across* could be used in this context, too, as a valid translation for *preko* we opted for *over*. Perhaps it suits better since *over* conveys the sense of being at a higher place than something else while *across* refers more to the distance between two things at the same level.

8.3. Expressing excess

8.3.a) *U svoje doba danas neugledno vozilo dizajnirao je, kao komforni automobil za četiri osobe, tadašnji glavni Fiatov inženjer Dante Giacosa, koje u domaćoj inačici tek 1959., ugradnjom novog motora, razvija brzinu od **preko** 100 km na sat.*

8.3.b) *Then Secretary Fiat engineer Dante Giacosa has, in his time, designed, what is today considered an unattractive vehicle, as a comfortable car for four people, which in the domestic version only in 1959, by installing a new engine, has a maximum speed of **over** 100 km per hour.*

Although we did not encounter an example of this sense of *preko* in our study it is often used in daily life, thus, we think it is important to analyse it. In cases where we exceed something, no matter what it is, we most often use *over*. Perhaps the reason why we did not find the sentence in Croatian containing *preko*, in this sense, is the fact that we often use *više od* in this sense. However, we also translate it as *over*.

8.3.c) *U raspravi postalo je očito kako se može eventualno govoriti o različitim misaonim poticajima koje nudi povijest filozofije, no ništa **preko** toga.*

8.3.d) *It became apparent in the discussion that it is possible to talk about a variety of thought incentives offered by the history of philosophy, but nothing **beyond** that.*

Here we are not literally exceeding something but *preko* again conveys the sense of doing something too much, crossing the border. It conveys the meaning of *more than*. Since *over* is not a very fortunate choice we opted for *beyond*.

8.3.1. Overlooking; ignoring

8.3.1.a) *Oprost, rečeno je u nastavku, ne treba miješati s trivijalnim stavom opraštanja u kojem se olako prelazi **preko** stvarne ozbiljnosti problema.*

8.3.1.b) *Forgiveness, it is said below, should not be confused with the trivial attitude of forgiveness in which one lightly **overlooks** the actual severity of the problem.*

This, of course, is not literal exceeding of something but rather a metaphorical one but on this example, we want to show how when ignoring or letting things behind the best option is *over*, in this case, as a part of the verb *overlook*.

8.4. Persons or means by which something is done

8.4.a) *Madeleine Albright je u Rim stigla iz Tokija **preko** Rusije.*

8.4.b) *Madeleine Albright has arrived to Rome from Tokyo **through** Russia.*

8.4.c) *Madeleine Albright has arrived to Rome from Tokyo **via** Russia.*

In this case, we can look at Russia as a means by which something (arrival) was done. Since we are dealing with trips two options are possible, *through* and *via*. They are interchangeable, with the only difference being that *via* is a Latinism and a bit more formal.

8.4.d) **Preko** medija stalno upozoravamo građane na oprez, a pokušavamo i u svakom većem mjestu organizirati profesionalnu ili dobrovoljnu vatrogasnu postrojbu.

8.4.e) **Over** the media, we constantly warn citizens to be careful, and also try to organize a professional voluntary fire brigade in each town.

8.4.f) VIP net je pored vijesti iz svijeta sporta, hrvatskih regija, događaja te financija, ovih dana uveo i dva nova sadržaja na svom satelitskom telefonu (VIP.wap) **preko** kojeg je moguće ući i na Internet.

8.4.g) These days VIPnet has, in addition to the news from the world of sports, the Croatian regions, events and finance, introduced two new contents on their satellite phone (VIP.wap) **via** which it is also possible to access the Internet.

8.4.h) Razlog tome je nedostatak novca, što je pokazalo i kašnjenje travanjskih mirovina za umirovljenike koji ih primaju **preko** Pošte.

8.4.i) The reason for this is the lack of money, which has been shown by the delay in the April pension for pensioners who receive them **by** mail.

These three sentences exemplify the usage of *preko* in the context of the media. In the sentence 8.4.e the best option is *over* since it is frequently used as a collocation *over the media*. In the sentence 8.4.g the most fortunate choice is *via* although *over* would not be wrong. In the last sentence, we have to use *by* since in English the phrase is *by mail*.

8.4.j) Mi smo se već u ponedjeljak ujutro **preko** Hrvatskog rukometnog saveza obratili EHF-u i zatražili zaštitu, a odluku Natjecateljskog povjerenstva EHF-a očekujemo tijekom ovog tjedna, kazao je Kaleb.

8.4.k) *We have already addressed **through** the Croatian Handball Federation the EHF on Monday morning and asked for protection, and we expect the decision of the Competition Commission EHF during this week, said Caleb.*

When translating something that was done by means of a person or an institution *preko* has more suitable translations. In the sentence 8.4.k the best option is *through* since it refers to an institution. However, let us take a look at the following example.

8.4.l) *Gospodin Chenu se vratio u Francusku, te sam pokušao **preko** njega, ali i **preko** naše ambasade i privatno **preko** sada pokojnog dr. Grmek, koji je postao poznati francuski znanstvenik i član šest izdavačkih kuća, nisam uspio da se moja knjiga tiska u Francuskoj!*

8.4.m) *Mr Chen has returned to France, and I have tried **via** him, but also **through** our embassy and privately **via** the now deceased Dr Grmek, who became a famous French scientist and a member of six publishing houses, I was not able to get my book printed in France!*

As stated before, when something is done by means of an institution the best option is *through*. This case illustrates that when something is done by means of a person the most fortunate choice is *via*.

8.5. Expressing a link in listing, from – through – to

8.5.a) *Od Euklida **preko** Descartesa, pa sve do naših dana, najveći je ideal znanosti i filozofiji bio iznošenje vlastita nauka geometrijskom metodom: more geometrico.*

8.5.b) *From Euclid **through** Descartes, to this day, the greatest ideal of science and philosophy was the introduction of one's own teaching by the geometric method: more geometrico.*

In the Croatian language, when expressing range we opt for prepositions *od – preko – do* which we employ as one prepositional structure. In the English language, we use the direct translation of this structure which is *from – through – to*. Hence, regarding this sense of *preko* the best option is *through*.

8.6. Expressing a time period

8.6.a) *Lider HSLS-a u ponedjeljak nije imao što dodati svojim izjavama koje je dao **preko** vikenda i u kojima je odbio komentirati razinu odnosa dviju stranaka, ali i izrazio optimizam i uvjerenje da će one uspješno riješiti svoje nesporazume.*

8.6.b) *The leader of the HSLS on Monday had nothing to add to his statements that he gave **during** the weekend in which he refused to comment on the level of relations between the two parties, but also expressed optimism and confidence that they will successfully resolve their disagreements.*

8.6.c) *U Sydneyu je u noći na četvrtak padala jaka kiša, a ujutro i navečer je dosta hladno, dok je **preko** dana ugodno toplo.*

8.6.d) *In Sydney, it was raining during the Thursday night, and in the morning and the evening it was quite cold, while **over** the day it was pleasantly warm.*

We will analyse these examples together in order to understand the difference between *preko* in these two contexts. In the first sentence, we translated it as *during*, while in the second as *over*. The difference is that in the first sentence the leader of the party was giving the statements through the whole weekend which means he did it, as supposed, at different points in time with pauses in between. In this case we use *during*.

On the other hand, *over* is employed when we refer to an action that lasted during the entire time of the period specified. So, in the second sentence it was warm over the day without any time changes in that period.

8.7. The amount above a certain number

8.7.a) *No, to nije sve, jer je u dubokim naslagama otpada (nitko točno ne zna koliko je duboko smetište na Jakuševcu) dosada pronađeno preko 1.200 bačvi opasnog otpada.*

8.7.b) *But that's not all because over 1,200 barrels of hazardous waste have been found in the deep layers of waste (no one knows exactly how deep the dump at Jakuševac is) so far.*

In this context, when *preko* conveys the meaning of *more than* we most often translate it as *over*.

9. Conclusion

9.1. Comparison OVER – ABOVE

As was mentioned earlier, *over* and *above* share some common features and can sometimes be used interchangeably. However, although they share some similarities we can say that *over* conveys more diverse senses. In this paper, we have analysed 17 senses of *over* and 12 senses of *above*. On the basis of our research, we have determined that *over* and *above* overlap in 6 senses. The senses in which they overlap are: *extending (directly) upwards over, at a higher level or layer than, higher in rank than, in preference to, higher in volume or pitch than and higher than (a specified number or quantity)*.

All in all, when we analyse these two prepositions we can conclude that although in some cases they can be interchangeable, in the majority of cases they cannot. *Above*, almost exclusively, in every possible of its senses conveys the meaning of being at a higher position. This refers to both its literal and metaphorical use. Unlike *above*, *over* possesses both the senses of being at a higher level, but, various others, too. Moreover, the biggest difference between these two prepositions is that *over* conveys the idea of contact, while *above* never includes contact.

Moreover, there is also a difference between these two prepositions regarding their Croatian equivalents. Even though the number of their Croatian equivalents is almost even there is one major difference. With respect to *over*, it was found that it has many Croatian equivalents and a couple of them appear frequently as an appropriate translation. On the other hand, even though *above* also has many translation equivalents, only one appears significantly more frequently than the others.

Let us take a look at the tables with the results. The results for each corpus are collated and presented in one table.

Table 1: Over_results

BNC & COCA – OVER (600 sentences)			
	Croatian equivalent	Number of occurrences	Frequency in percentages
1)	TIJEKOM	149	24.8%
2)	PREKO	103	17%
3)	VIŠE OD	74	12.3%
4)	NAD	50	8.3%
5)	OKO	41	6.8%
6)	IZNAD	36	6%
7)	PO	26	4.3%
8)	NA	21	3.5%
9)	U ODNOSU NA	20	3.3%
10)	ZBOG	19	3.2%
11)	O	13	2.2%
12)	U	9	1.5%
13)	PREMA	8	1.3%
14)	OKO TOGA	7	1.2%
15)	PUTEM	6	1%
16)	UZ	4	0.67%
17)	NULTI PRIJEDLOG	3	0.5%
18)	KROZ	2	0.3%
19)	NEGO	2	0.3%
20)	DILJEM	1	0.2%
21)	MEĐU	1	0.2%
22)	NA VIŠE	1	0.2%
23)	POSVUDA	1	0.2%
24)	RADI	1	0.2%
25)	UNATOČ	1	0.2%
26)	ZA	1	0.2%

As shown in the table, there are 26 possible translations of the preposition *over*, and the most frequent one is *tijekom*. Since more senses of *over* are related to space and only one to *duration*, this shows us that the sense of *duration* is most frequently used in everyday speech. The preposition that follows is *preko* which is related to *space* and is, according to our study, also often used. Then the prepositions *više od*, *nad*, *oko* and *iznad* follow with a fewer number of occurrences, but still significant. We can conclude that most frequently used senses of *over* are related to space relations (*preko*, *nad*, *iznad*), duration (*tijekom*) and expressing exceeding in number (*više od*) and the subject of an action (*oko*).

Table 2: Above_results

BNC & COCA – ABOVE (600 sentences)			
	Croatian equivalent	Number of occurrences	Percentage
1)	IZNAD	515	86%
2)	VIŠE OD	27	4.5%
3)	NAD	22	3.6%
4)	PREKO	10	1.6%
5)	GLASNIJE OD	7	1.1%
6)	NA	3	0.5%
7)	U ODNOSU NA	3	0.5%
9)	UNATOČ	2	0.3%
11)	IZVAN	2	0.3%
12)	PROTIV	1	0.17%
13)	VIŠE NEGO	1	0.17%
14)	ISPRED	1	0.17%
15)	DALJE OD	1	0.17%
16)	BOLJE OD	1	0.17%
17)	OD	1	0.17%
18)	NAKON	1	0.17%
20)	ZBOG	1	0.17%
21)	BEZ OBZIRA	1	0.17%

When it comes to the preposition *above*, the results are somewhat different. *Above* has 21 possible Croatian translation equivalents. As shown in the table, the Croatian preposition *iznad* is predominantly used in comparison to the other ones; in 86% of the cases. *Iznad* is followed by *više od*, *nad* and *preko* which occur every now and then while the rest of the prepositions are generally used when the context is peculiar so the translation needs to be adapted. With respect to the results shown, it can be concluded that *above* is used mainly as a spatial preposition. It is also worth noting that there are only 8 overlaps regarding the Croatian equivalents of *over* and *above* and they are as follows: *iznad*, *više od*, *nad*, *preko*, *na*, *u odnosu na*, *unatoč* and *zbog*.

In order to see which Croatian prepositions are the best correspondents for each sense of *over* and *above* the results have been laid out in tables.

Table 3: Senses of *over* and their Croatian equivalents

Senses of OVER	Croatian equivalents
1. Extending directly upwards from	IZNAD, NA
1.1. Above so as to cover or protects	PREKO
1.2. Extending above (an area) from a vantage point	NA
2. At a higher level or layer than	IZNAD
2.1. Higher in rank than	IZNAD
2.2. Expressing authority or control	NAD
2.3. Expressing preference	VIŠE OD, NAD
2.4. Expressing majority	VIŠE OD, VIŠE NEGO, NAD
2.5. Higher in volume or pitch than	UNATOČ
3. Higher or more than (a specified number or quantity)	VIŠE OD, PREKO
4. Expressing passage or trajectory across	PREKO
4.1. Beyond and falling or hanging from	PREKO
4.2. At the other side of; beyond	ONKRAJ
5. Expressing duration	TIJEKOM, ZA
6. Expressing the medium by which something is done; by means of	PUTEM, PREKO
7. On the subject of	ZBOG, RADI, OKO, OKO TOGA, O
8. Moving in more directions	PO
9. Spreading across a surface	PO
10. Relation between an action and and object that follows the action	UZ
11. Above; implying superiority after a contest; in spite of; notwithstanding	UNATOČ
12. In certain collocations (as compared to)	U ODNOSU NA

Table 4: Senses of *above* and their Croatian equivalents

Senses of ABOVE	Croatian equivalents
1. In extended space over and not touching	IZNAD, IZVAN
1.1. Extending upwards over	IZNAD
1.2. Higher than and to one side of; overlooking	IZNAD
2. At a higher level or layer than	IZNAD, NA, PREKO
2.1. Higher in grade or rank than	IZNAD
2.2. Considered of higher status	VIŠE (adj.)
2.3. In preference to	U ODNOSU NA
2.4. At a higher volume or pitch than	ZBOG
3. Higher than (a specified amount, rate, or norm)	IZNAD, NAD
4. Too great or good for	IZNAD
5. Beyond the reach of; not affected by	IZNAD , IZVAN
6. Expressing a moment in time until an action had lasted	DO

9.2. Comparison NAD – IZNAD – PREKO

First, it needs to be emphasized that, although these prepositions are all spatial prepositions and one would expect that they share some features, this is not really the case. They do not overlap much in their senses. *Nad*, *iznad* and *preko* share only the sense of being at a higher level, but this, too, only to some extent.

This is why there are not many similarities in terms of their English equivalents. The only English preposition common to all three prepositions is *over*. But, let us analyse them one by one.

Regarding *nad*, the English equivalent that convincingly prevails, among 14 found translations, is *over* which was the best translation for more than half of the analysed sentences. This is due to the fact that several of *nad*'s senses can be translated with *over* (*space relations, authority/control, victory/triumph, e.g.*). The English preposition *of* has also occurred in many cases as a good translation. Other than these two equivalents, we can mention *against* and *above* that we opted for in a number of sentences.

Table 5: Nad_results

HRVATSKI JEZIČNI KORPUS – NAD			
	English equivalent	Number of occurrences	Percentage
1.	OVER	359	60%
2.	OF	112	18.7%
3.	AGAINST	55	9.2%
4.	ABOVE	28	4.7%
5.	UNDER	17	2.8%
6.	BY	9	1.5%
7.	ON	6	1%
8.	UPON	5	0.83%
9.	WITH	3	0.5%
10.	FOR	2	0.33%
11.	AT	1	0.17%
12.	TO	1	0.17%
13.	IN CHARGE OF	1	0.17%
14.	ABOUT	1	0.17%

When it comes to *iznad* we can say, that this is the best translational equivalent of *above* and vice versa, as shown in the table. *Above* was the best option in 441 sentences which is the highest occurrence of a preposition in this study. This is, we presume, because *iznad* conveys only four senses and almost all of them can be translated with *above*. But, *over* has also appeared as a fortunate choice in a significant number of cases and we should not neglect this fact.

Table 6: Iznad_results

HRVATSKI JEZIČNI KORPUS – IZNAD			
	English equivalent	Number of occurrences	Percentage
1.	ABOVE	441	73.5%
2.	OVER	127	21.2%
3.	BEYOND	29	4.83%
4.	AT	1	0.17%
5.	IN	1	0.17%
6.	PAST	1	0.17%

Preko is also a preposition that conveys various senses. Consequently, it has more diverse translation equivalents. There are 11 possible English translations of *preko* of which *over* is most commonly used. The preposition that also occurs in a significant number of examples is *through*. The preposition *across*, that is supposed to be the most direct translation of *preko* in English, is the third most common translation. This is, as presumably, due to the fact that *preko* conveys various senses of which more of them can be translated with *over*, not *across*, and are often used in everyday speech.

Table 7: Preko_results

HRVATSKI JEZIČNI KORPUS – PREKO			
	English equivalent	Number of occurrences	Percentage
1.	OVER	250	41.6%
2.	THROUGH	181	30.2%
3.	ACROSS	95	15.8%
4.	VIA	58	9.6%
5.	DURING	6	1%
6.	ON	3	0.5%
7.	BEYOND	2	0.33%
8.	BY	2	0.33%

9.	TO	1	0.17%
10.	FROM	1	0.17%
11.	BECAUSE	1	0.17%

Finally, in the tables that follow, we laid out the senses of three Croatian prepositions analysed and their English equivalents for each sense.

Table 8: Senses of *nad* and their English equivalents

Senses of NAD	English equivalents
1. At a higher level than	OVER
2. Higher than something/someone without any direct contact	OVER, ABOVE
3. Subordination relation between concepts	ABOVE
4. Comparing related concepts	OF
5. Expressing control and triumph	OVER, OF, IN CHARGE OF, AGAINST
6. Expressing the object of an act	ABOUT, UPON, TO, UNDER, AGAINST, OF
7. Expressing advantage	OVER
8. Reactions caused by something/someone	AT, BY, OVER, FOR, WITH

Table 9: Senses of *iznad* and their English equivalents

Senses of IZNAD	English equivalents
1. In or to a higher level than	OVER, ABOVE, AT, IN
2. More than an amount or level	OVER, ABOVE, PAST
3. In a more important or advanced position than someone else	ABOVE
4. Too good or important for something	BEYOND

Table 10: Senses of *preko* and their English equivalents

Senses of PREKO	English equivalents
1. Expressing a position or movement from one side to the other	OVER, ACROSS, ON
2. Movement at a higher level than	OVER
3. Expressing excess	OVER, BEYOND
3.1. Overlooking; ignoring	OVER
4. Persons or means by which something is done	THROUGH, VIA, OVER, BY
5. An amount above a certain number	OVER
6. Expressing a time period	OVER, DURING
7. Listing; from – through – to	THROUGH

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