Note of medium courses of BBC learning English.

跟着BBC 的Course学习，先学习medium level

**General**

1, Academic English Tips：

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| * **Suggestions for academic English**   Avoid contractions.  Avoid personal pronouns and use the passive more.  Use single words rather than multi-word verbs  Don't use slang or colloquialisms(口语)  As a very rough guide, longer words with a Latin or French origin are more formal |

2, at, on, in：

at: 用于具体时间点，节日也是时间点  
at 7 o’clock, at breakfast,   
at noon / midday / night  
at the weekend  
at Christmas

on: 用于特定的一天，日期，周内的一天  
on Tuesday  
on 3rd May  
on Sunday morning  
on Christmas day

in: 用于一天的某段时间，年，季节, 未来的时间  
in the morning / afternoon / evening   
in spring / winter  
in 1996

in two days/months

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| * **Time expressions with at**   + specific times - **at** **one o’clock / at 2:30pm**   + points of the day - **at noon / at midday / at night / at midnight**   + points of the day when things happen - **at** **breakfast / at dinner / at lunchtime**   + festivals and special days - **at Easter, at Eid**   + weekend -**at the weekend**   **Time expressions with on**   * + specific dates - **on 3rd May**   + specific days - **on Christmas Day / on New Year's Eve**   + days of the week - **on Monday / on Mondays**   **Time expressions with in**   * + parts of the day - **in the morning / in the afternoon / in the evening**   + seasons - **in spring / in summer / in autumn / in winter**   + years - **in 1996** |

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| **Tip 1 - On Saturday night**  Look at this sentence. Should **in, on** or **at** go in the gap?   * We're meeting \_\_ Saturday night.   We would normally say **on** Saturday and **at** night. So should it be **on** – for Saturday – or **at** – for night? The answer is:  We're meeting **on** Saturday night.  We use the preposition **on** even though there is another time expression afterwards.  **Tip 2 - On Christmas morning**  Why do you think we use **on** in this sentence?   * What did you do **on Christmas morning**?   Normally we use **at** for festivals like Christmas and we use **in** for parts of the day like the morning, but Christmas Day is actually a specific day, rather than a whole festival, so we use **on**. Again, we use the preposition **on** even though there is another time expression afterwards.  **Tip 3 - No preposition**  Finally, **in**, **at** and **on** are not generally used before the words **today, tomorrow** and**yesterday**:   * I can't go **tomorrow** * He wrote that article **yesterday**   We don't use **in, on** or **at** in time expressions with the words **this, that, next, last, all, one, each, some and every:**   * I slept **all day** * He didn't come**last night** |

**3, every and each**

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| **1)** **Every** and **each** can often be used in the same place, but we prefer **every** when we are thinking about the whole number in a group, and **each** when we are thinking about the members of the group as individuals.   * **Every room** has Wi-Fi. **Each one** has a different view.   **2)** To emphasise the individual members of a group, use **every** not **each**.   * I was too late to apply for accommodation. **Every room** in the building is already taken.   **2)** For only two things, we can use **each** but not **every**.   * The university has two student dormitories, with about 1,000 students in **each building**. |

4, a comma before “but”

You must put a comma **before**“but” when it connects two **independent clauses**. An independent clause can function as a standalone sentence (i.e., it has a subject and a verb).

Maria hoped to go for a run, but it rained outside.

5, “prefer to do” or “prefer something”

“perfer to” is followed by a verb while only a noun can be preceded by “prefer”.

For instance, we can say “prefer to do… rather than…” or “prefer something rather than something”. The phrase “rather than” is optional.

**Writing**

1, The conjuction “so” is somewhat colloquial and should, as a rule, be avoided in formal writing. A simple correction is to omit *so* and begin the first clause with “*as*” or “*since*”:

*I had never been in the place before; so I had difficulty in finding my way out.*

*As I had never been there before, I had difficult in finding my way out.*

(from “The Elements of Stytle”, II.5)