

GRAMMAR

When do you work?

LEVEL

Elementary (A2)

NUMBER

EN_A2_1043G

LANGUAGE

English



Learning outcomes

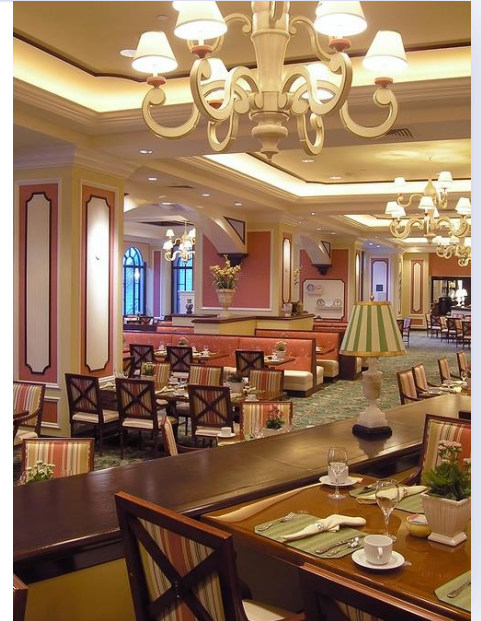
- I can correctly use the prepositions of time 'in', 'on' and 'at'.
- I can use some basic adverbs of time in simple sentences.



Warm-up

Test your knowledge of prepositions of time!

We have dinner reservations _____ Saturday
_____ seven o'clock. We went to that same
restaurant last week and it was really good. I'm glad
we're going again _____ three days. We're
going to the theatre after dinner.



in

at

on



in, at and on

- **in** → months of the year, parts of the day, and seasons
- **on** → days of the week and calendar dates
- **at** → times on the clock

in	on	at
in January	on Monday	at two o'clock
in the morning	on January 10 th	at half past three
in the spring	on the first day of the month	at noon



More about *in*

We also use *in* to say that some time will pass:

in a few seconds



when a few seconds have passed

in thirty minutes



when thirty minutes have passed

in four hours



when four hours have passed

in two weeks



when two weeks have passed

in six months



when six months have passed

in five years



when five years have passed



Don't worry, I can take a short cut through the park, and I'll be there **in no time**!



in no time = *a very short time.*



Choose the correct preposition

		in	at	on
1	My Mum's birthday is _____ July.			
2	We often go to the farmer's market _____ Saturday.			
3	I have a meeting _____ five o'clock.			
4	Our exam is _____ two weeks!			
5	We are leaving _____ ten minutes, so hurry up!			
6	_____ three years, I will buy my own house.			



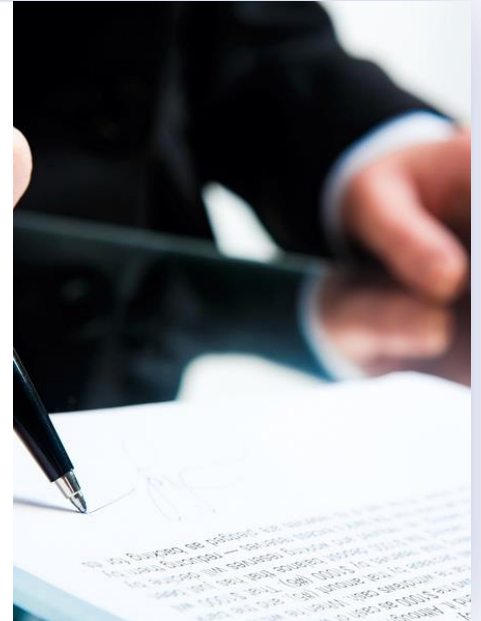
Fill in the blanks

Steve's work contract finishes _____ two weeks.

He started this job _____ October.

He is going to the office to talk to his boss
_____ three o'clock.

He is meeting Sara's friend Erin at the cinema
_____ Saturday.



in

on

at

in



Put these sentences on the correct list

My meeting is ____
thirty minutes.

I moved into this house
____ August.

We eat lunch together
____ Saturdays.

I start work ____ eight
o'clock.

I often go skiing ____
winter.

I don't work ____
Sundays.

I have to wake up ____
ten minutes.

I have reservations
____ four hours.

My meeting is ____ half
past two.

Mr Jones is available
____ five minutes.

I am always asleep
____ midnight.

I have a reservation
____ 4th February.

in

at

on



Find the mistakes

You can do this activity with a partner **in breakout rooms**.
Compare your answers afterwards with the class!

I love living on Australia because there are so many celebrations! The best one is Australia Day which is in 26th January – that is at summer in Australia! There are always fireworks in night. We also have Easter holidays – they are usually on March or April. A serious holiday is Anzac Day. It is at 25th April and it celebrates people who died in the wars. A really fun day is Picnic Day. It is at 1st August and lots of families have picnics and play games outside.

There are 7 mistakes with *on*, *in* and *at*.

Can you find them?



When...



...is Christmas?

...do you do your shopping?

...is your birthday?

...do you normally wake up?

...do people usually go on holiday in your country?

...is Halloween?

...do people normally finish work in your country?

...is it hot in your country?

...is it cold in your country?



More prepositions of time

We can also use prepositions of time to relate one time or an event to another.

preposition	example
before	Breakfast is before lunch.
during	I watched TV during lunch.
between	Lunch is between breakfast and dinner.
after	Dinner is after lunch.
from ... until	I eat breakfast from seven o'clock until half past seven.



Using *last*, *this* and *next*

We can use ***last***, ***this*** and ***next*** to talk about past events, events that are happening around now and to talk about future plans.

earlier	now / later	later
yesterday	today	tomorrow
last week	this week	next week
last month	this month	next month
last spring	this spring	next spring
last year	this year	next year



We **don't** put a preposition of time in front of *last*, *this* or *next*:
~~in~~ this week...



Match the parts of the sentences

1 I eat breakfast...

2 I eat lunch...

3 I have a meeting...

4 I check my emails...

5 I am writing a report today from noon...

a after lunch every day.

b between phone calls.

c during the day while I'm at work.

d before I go to work in the morning.

e until three o'clock.



About you

**Did you do anything
nice last week?**



**What are you doing
this evening?**

**Are you going on any
trips next month?**

Fill in the blanks

Tom: "Hi, Steve! When is your meeting with your boss _____?"

Steve: "My meeting is _____ three o'clock."

Tom: "Good luck! What are you doing _____ the meeting?"

Steve: "I don't have any plans. Do you want to have dinner at the pub?"

Tom: "That is a good idea! Are you still meeting Erin _____ week?"

Steve: "No, we're going to the cinema _____ Saturday."

Tom: "Oh, so you're meeting her this week, _____ three days! Have fun!"



after

today

on

in

next

at



Talk about your schedule

Try to **answer the questions** in many different ways!

I'm going on holiday next week.

When do you start work every day?

Do you have any dinner reservations?

When do you have meetings?

I'm going on holiday after I get a promotion.

When did you start your job?

When are you going on holiday?

When was your last holiday?

I'm going on holiday from now until June.

When do you check your emails?

When are you going home today?

When do you eat lunch?



Guessing game

Describe something you do but only say **when** you do it.

Have your teacher or classmates **guess** what you're talking about.

Keep going, **taking turns** with lots of different activities.

I do this at seven o'clock. I do this after I go to sleep. I do this before I go to work.

Are you talking about waking up?

Yes, I am!



End of the lesson

Idiom

Time flies

Meaning: Time passes quickly

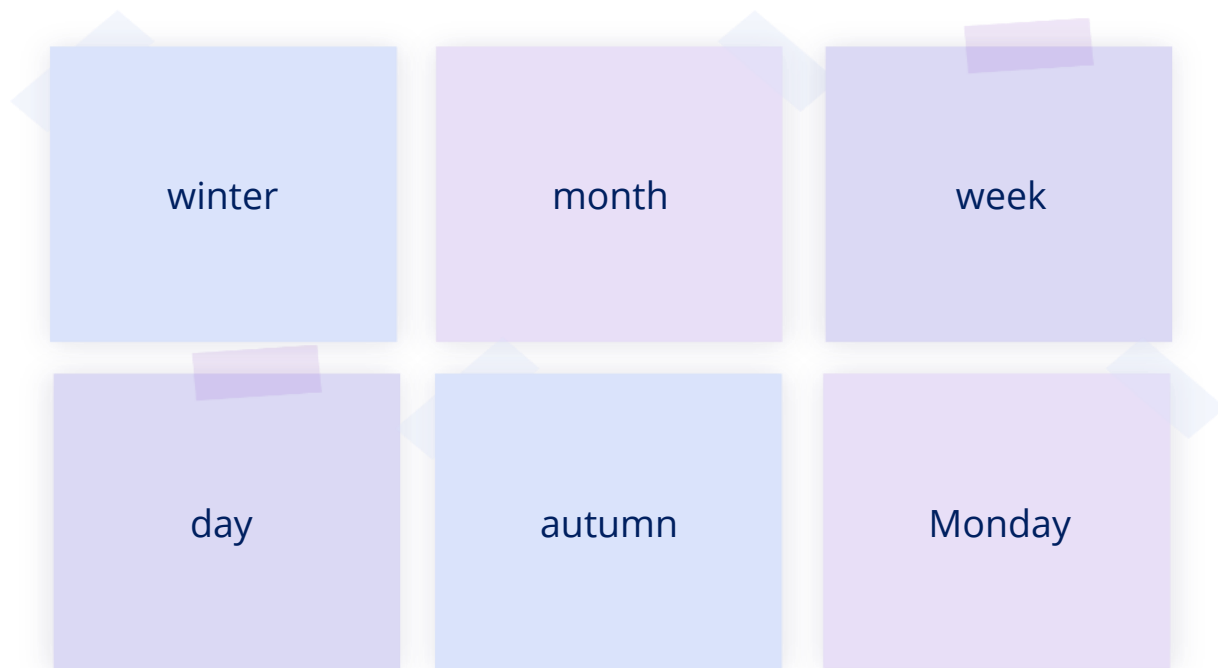
Example: Time flies! I can't believe the last time I saw you was at Christmas.



Additional practice



Last year I was a student. This year, I have a job!



What is different for you? Think about the past, present and future



Choose the correct time

earlier	now	later
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

1 this month

2 last week

3 today

4 next year

5 yesterday

6 next week



Discuss the quote

“

**Don't put off until tomorrow what
you can do today...**

Have you ever heard
this phrase?

What do you think it
means?

Do you agree or
disagree?





Answer key

P. 3: 1. on 2. at 3. in

P. 7: 1. in 2. on 3. at 4. in 5. in 6. in

P. 8: in; in; at; on

P. 9:

in: in thirty minutes, in August, in winter, in ten minutes, in four hours, in five minutes

at: at eight o'clock, at half past two, at midnight

on: on Saturdays, on Sundays, on 4th February

P. 10: in Australia; on 26th January; in summer; at night; in March or April; on 25th April; on 1st August

P. 14: 1. d 2. b or c 3. a or b or c 4. a or b or c 5. e

P. 16: today, at, after, next, on, in

P. 23: 1. now/later 2. earlier 3. now 4. later 5. earlier 6. later



Summary

In, on and at:

- *in*: months of the year, parts of the day, and seasons
- *on*: days of the week and calendar dates
- *at*: times on the clock

The preposition *in*:

- Use ***in*** to say that some **time will pass** → *in a few seconds; in a couple of hours*

More prepositions of time:

- *before; during; between; after; from ... until* → Breakfast is ***before*** lunch.

Using *last, this* and *next*:

- to talk about **past events**, events that are happening **around now** and **future plans**.
- *last night; this morning; next week*



Vocabulary

in

on

at

before

during

between

after

from ... until

last

this

next

