

Prepositions and adverbs of place

GRAMMAR

LEVEL
Lower-intermediate

NUMBER
EN_BE_2123G

LANGUAGE
English



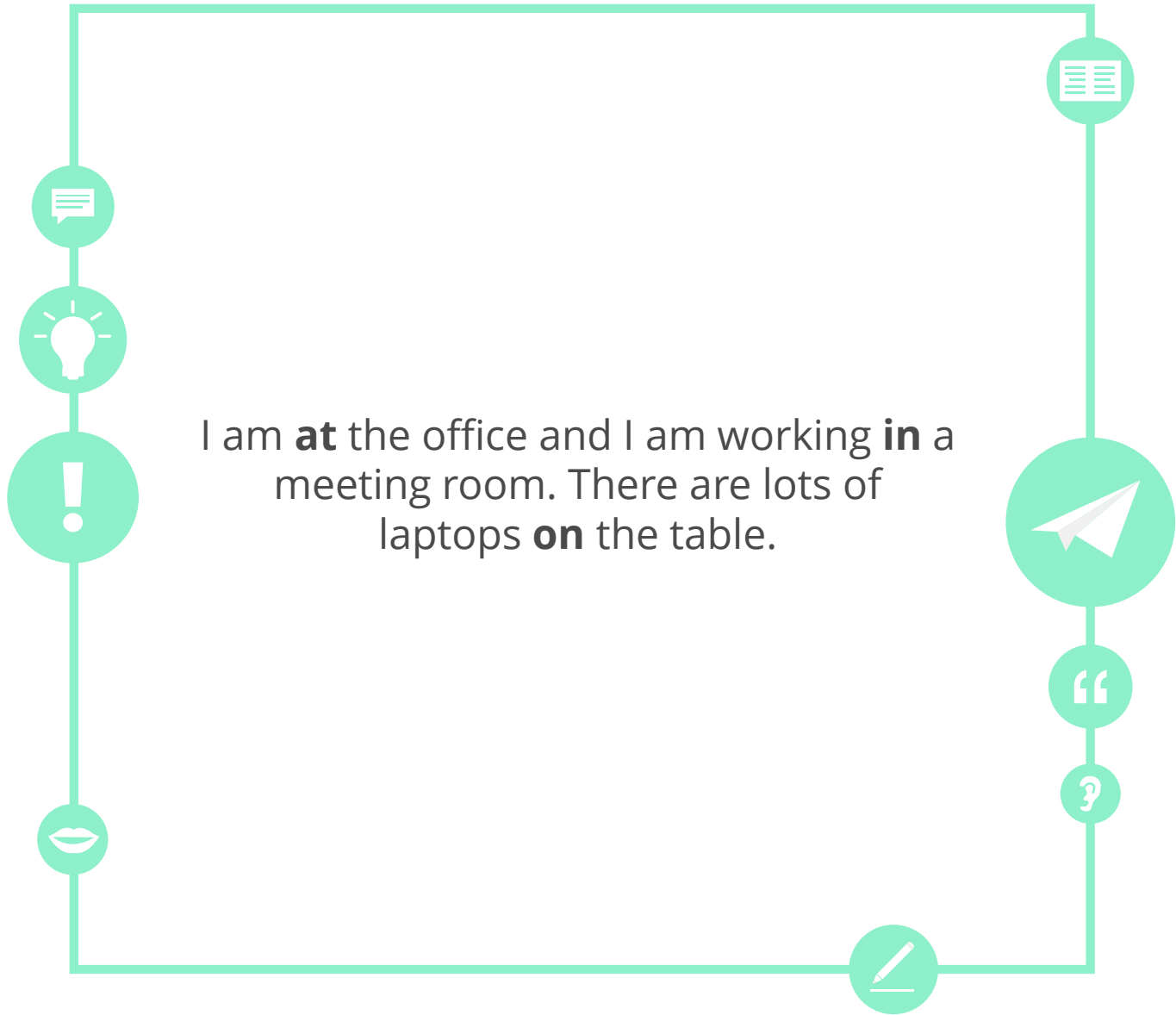


Goals

- Can determine when to use the prepositions 'in', 'on' and 'at' for places.
- Can correctly use adverbs of place.



I am **at** the office and I am working **in** a meeting room. There are lots of laptops **on** the table.





Preview and warm-up

In this lesson, you are going to learn about **prepositions** and **adverbs of place**.



The mobile phone is **on** the laptop.

at



Today all the managers are **at** work.

in



The marketing team works **in** a large room.

on



The sales team are sitting **on** chairs.



Uses of *at*

We use **at** to talk about **specific points** in space, like an address or a specific location.

at

at home

at the shop

at the end of the street

at the reception



He's working **at** a co-working space today,



Uses of *in*

We use *in* to talk about things that are in an **enclosed space** or generally bigger (countries, cities, a neighbourhood).

in
in the office
in Berlin
in the car
in my bag



He's living *in* Paris at the moment.



Uses of *on*

We use ***on*** to talk about things that are on a **surface**.

on

on the floor

on the document

on the desk

on the first page



He signed **on** all pages.



To work *in* or *at*?



- The verb **to work** can be used with both **in** and **at**:
- We use **to work** + **in** when we are talking about an **industry** or area of work.
- Whereas we use **to work** + **at** when we name a **specific firm** or company.

in + an industry	at + a company
I work in finance	We both work at Google
We work in entertainment	He works at Lufthansa as a pilot
She loves working in education	They all work at Microsoft



- You can also use **for** instead of **at**:
 - I work **for/at** a small company called Global Financial Solutions.



At, on, in: places

Here are some examples and commonly used expressions that use the prepositions ***at, on*** and ***in***.

at	on	in
He works at Facebook.	I live on the second floor.	I am in the shop.
She is at school.	We are driving on the motorway.	John is working in the garden.
I am at home.	He is on his bike.	You are in the swimming pool.
She is waiting at the exit.	I'm sitting on the train.	In Germany, they drink beer.



Choose the right option

1. Please meet my colleague _____ the reception desk.

a. in

b. at

2. He is sitting _____ the car fixing the radio.

a. on

b. in

3. My boss comes from a small town _____ Austria.

a. in

b. on



Choose the right option

4. Who's _____ the office today?

a. in

b. on

5. I left my work phone _____ the table.

a. on

b. in

6. He lives _____ Los Angeles.

a. on

b. in



Choose the right option

7. My favourite beach is _____ the south coast of Spain.

a. in

b. on

8. I waited almost an hour _____ the end of the road.

a. at

b. in

9. She sent the email when she was _____ the train.

a. at

b. on



Which doesn't use *at*?

the bike

college

the airport

the supermarket



Categories

**Divide the words into the correct categories. Some words may go with more than one preposition – it depends on the sentence.
Discuss this change of meaning with your teacher**

Paris



the bus



the train tracks



the River Seine



the post office



France



the classroom



university

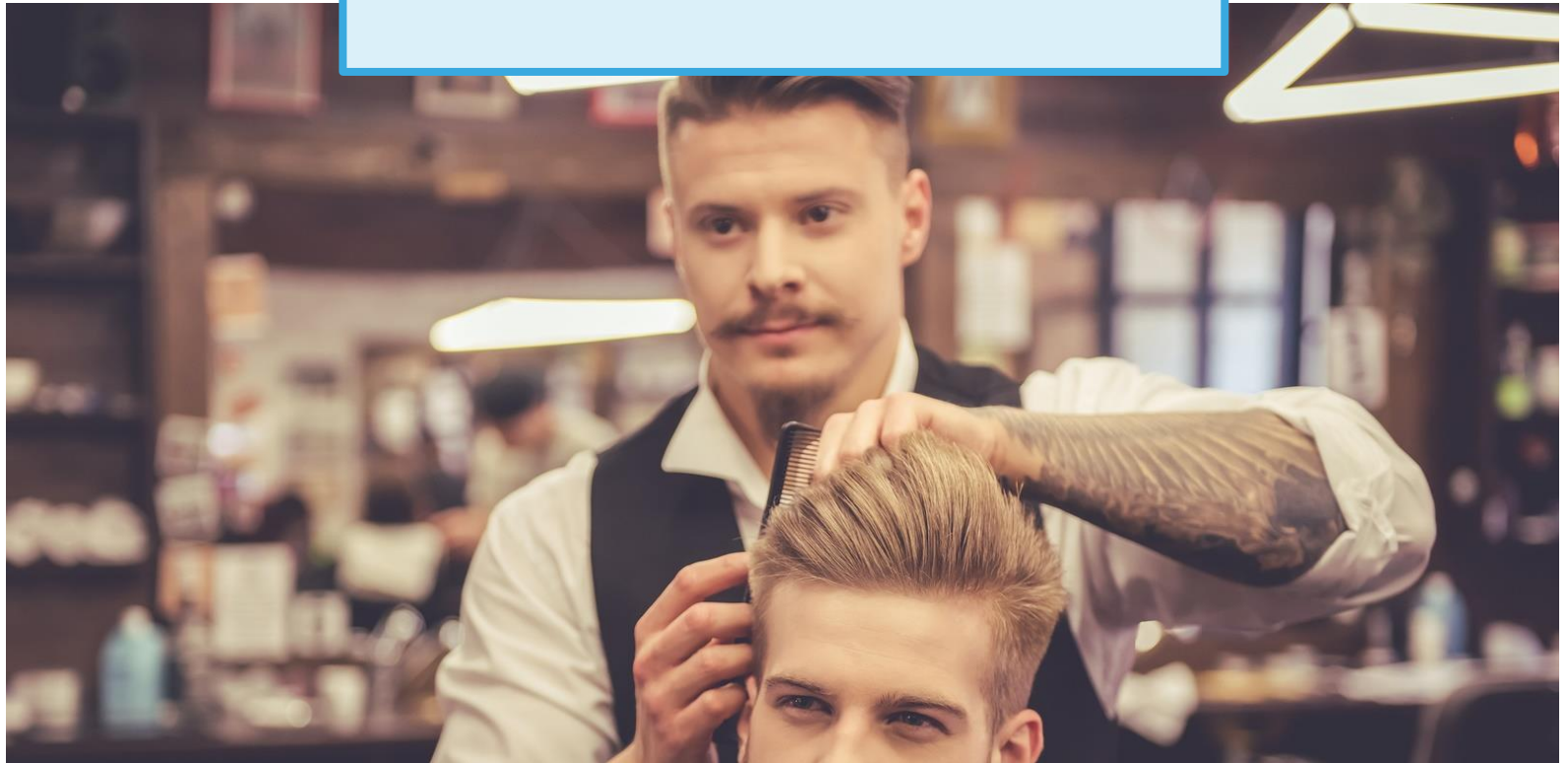


on

in

at

in front of



The customer is **in front of** the barber.

behind



The mother is **behind** her daughter.

between



Jane is wearing a pink shirt. She is sitting **between** Ruben and John.



In front of, behind and between

- **In front of** is used for something near the front of something or someone.
- **Behind** is used for something at the back of something or someone. It is the opposite of in front of.
- **Between** is used for something in the middle of two things.

in front of	behind	between
Look over here! The church is in front of us.	Be careful! A child is standing behind you.	The church is between the butcher's and the baker's.
The garden is in front of the house.	The car park is behind the school.	Germany is between France and Poland.



Match and form a sentence

A



B



C



D



1. at

2. on

3. in front of

4. behind



Writing

Choose one of your pairs from the previous activity and write a longer phrase to describe the photo

A sheet of white paper with horizontal lines and a spiral binding on the left side, intended for writing.

in front of...





Read the dialogue



Who do you sit next to in the office?

I sit **in front of** my colleague Jane. What about you?



I sit **between** other members of my team. It's nice!

Oh yes! And there is a nice big painting **behind** us on the wall.





Role-play

Now create a role-play similar to the dialogue on p.22 where two colleagues describe where they sit in their office



here

there

Here is used for something close to us.
There is used for something away from us.



Can you come **here** and help me print this document?



Go over **there** and get me the pen on the desk.

inside

outside

Inside is used to describe an enclosed location and **outside** is used to describe an external location.



If you go **inside** the building you will find the reception.



I sat **outside** during my lunch break.



Choose the correct option

1. Come _____! I want to give you some chocolate.

a. there

b. here

2. _____ the school, there is a lovely park.

a. outside

b. inside

3. Go over _____ and get me my glasses.

a. there

b. here



Correct the mistakes

1. He goes **inside** for some fresh air.



He went **outside** for some fresh air.

2. The pen is **at** the desk.



3. I'm sitting **in** the chair.



4. Come **there** so I can help you.



5. I work **on** an office.





Your office

Tell your teacher about the layout of your office



In my office...

in

on

at

behind

between

in front of



Game

- Describe where things are in the picture.
- Have your classmate or teacher draw what you describe.
- Use as many prepositions of place as possible.



next to

behind

in

on



Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

no





Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?









If you have time, go over
the most difficult slides again



Answer key

Exercise 1, p.13-15

B, B, A, A, A, B, B, A, B

Exercise 2, p.16

the bike

p.17:

on: the bus; the train tracks; the River Seine

in: Paris; the River Seine; the post office; France; the classroom; university

at: the River Seine; the post office; university

Exercise 3, p.22

B, A, C, D



Answer key

Exercise 4, p.28

B

A

A

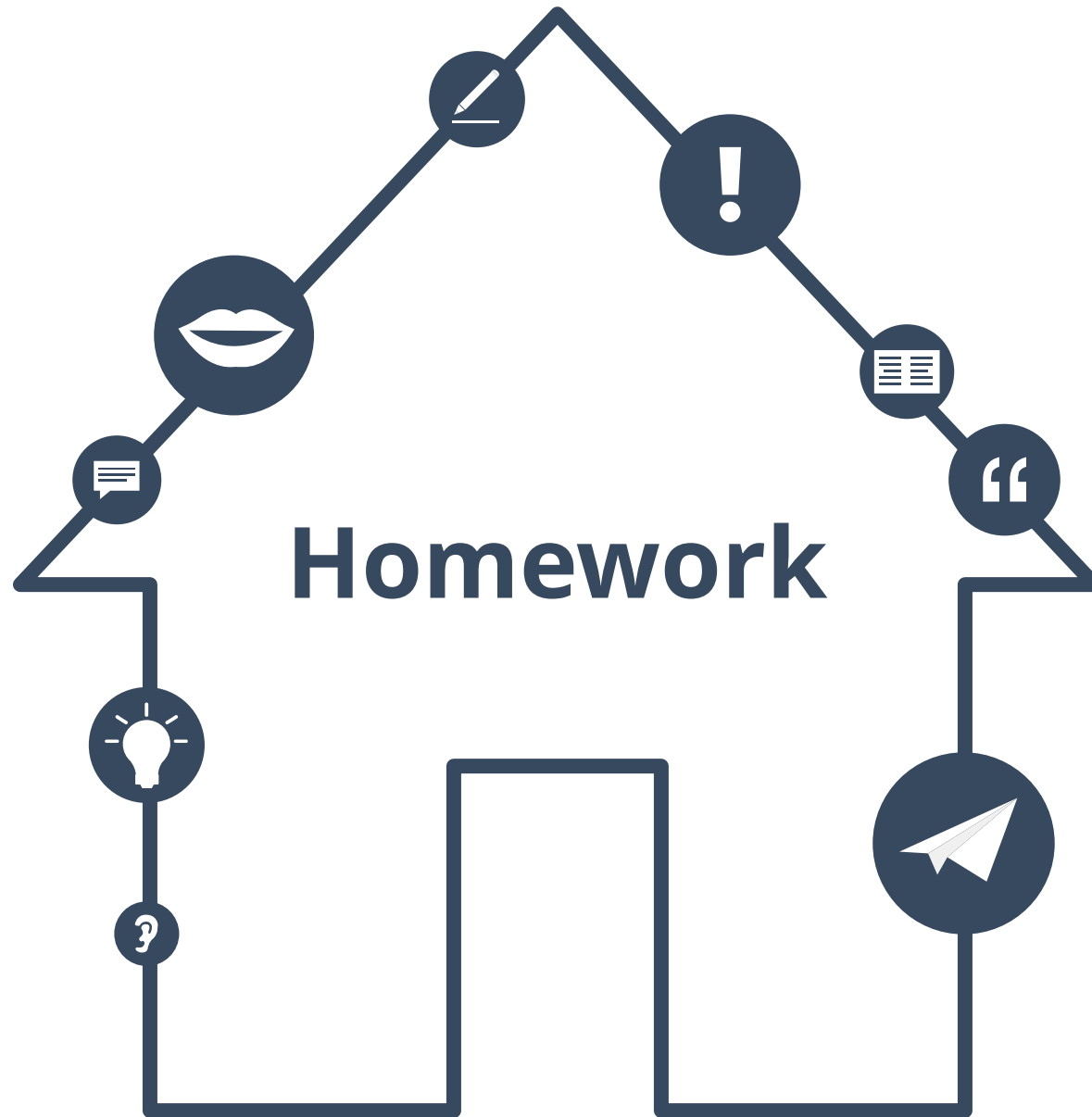
Exercise 5, p.29

The pen is on the desk.

I'm sitting on the chair.

Come here so I can help you.

I work in/at an office.





Homework

Complete the following sentences using prepositions of place.

1. I work _____ marketing.

2. We work _____ the same office.

3. His office is _____ the 3rd floor.

4. Leave your jacket _____ the door.

5. His house is _____ the end of the street.

6. Our company is based _____ China.



Writing activity

Write a 150- 200 word informal letter to a friend describing what you do at work and what your office looks like, using place adverbs and prepositions.

<input type="radio"/>	Hi, I started working in a new office this week and the inside is
<input type="radio"/>	amazing! There are computers on all of the desks, and I work
<input type="radio"/>	next to a really nice person...
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Homework answer key

Exercise 1, p.37

1. in
2. at
3. on
4. on
5. at
6. in



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