

GRAMMAR

# Let's go there!

**LEVEL**

Elementary (A2)

**NUMBER**

EN\_A2\_1013G

**LANGUAGE**

English

## Learning outcomes

- I can distinguish between the use of 'in', 'on' and 'at' for places and times.
- I can describe locations using some simple adverbs and prepositions of place.



# Warm-up

**Do you know** which preposition of place to use?

I am \_\_\_\_\_ the railway station and I am  
getting \_\_\_\_\_ the train. I will meet you  
\_\_\_\_\_ the shopping centre, between the  
butcher's and the restaurant.



on

in

at



# Prepositions

at

in

on



The people are **at** work.

The food is **in** the fridge.

The clock is **on** the table.



”  
**at**

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

### Examples

**at** home

**at** work

**at** the shop

**at** the end of the street

**at** the window

**at** the bus stop



in

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

### Examples

in the fridge

in my rucksack

in the back garden

in Australia

in Stockholm

in the car



**on**

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

### Examples

**on** the floor

**on** the kitchen table

**on** the wall

**on** the grass

**on** the chair

**on** the first page



# Places: *at, in, on*

Here are some examples and commonly-used expressions with these prepositions.

at	on	in
He works <b>at</b> Google.	I live <b>on</b> the second floor.	I am <b>in</b> the town square.
She's <b>at</b> school.	I am <b>on</b> the train.	John is working <b>in</b> the garden.
I am <b>at</b> home.	He is <b>on</b> his way.	You arrived just <b>in</b> time.
She is <b>at</b> the exit.	I am <b>on</b> my own.	<b>In</b> my opinion...
I feel good <b>at</b> the moment.	We are <b>on</b> holiday.	Four days <b>in</b> a row.





# Choose the correct option

1 She is waiting \_\_\_\_\_ the bus station.

a. in

b. at

2 He is going \_\_\_\_\_ a cruise.

a. on

b. in

3 My new girlfriend comes from a small town \_\_\_\_\_ Austria.

a. in

b. on



# Choose the correct option

1 Ben is \_\_\_\_\_ work.

a. in

b. at

2 I left my phone \_\_\_\_\_ the table.

a. on

b. in

3 He lives \_\_\_\_\_ Los Angeles.

a. in

b. on



# Choose the correct option

1 My favourite beach is \_\_\_\_\_ the south coast of Spain.

a. in

b. on

2 I waited for nearly an hour \_\_\_\_\_ the bus stop.

a. at

b. in

3 When I was \_\_\_\_\_ the train I listened to music.

a. in

b. on



## Which doesn't use *at*?

the train

college

the airport

the  
supermarket

# Put the words into the correct category



Paris



the bus



the railway  
station



the river Seine



the post office



France



the first floor



university



the doctor's



home



the kitchen



my own

in

at

on



Some words/phrases can go with more than one category, depending on the sentence.





# Time: *at*, *on*, *in*

- **at**: for specific times and holiday periods.
- **on**: for days of the week and specific dates.
- **in**: for months, years, seasons, durations of time and centuries.

at	on	in
<b>at</b> 8 o'clock	<b>on</b> Thursday	<b>in</b> August
<b>at</b> 12.30 am	<b>on</b> the 30 <sup>th</sup> of June	<b>in</b> 2010
<b>at</b> the weekend	<b>on</b> holiday	<b>in</b> the evening
<b>at</b> night	<b>on</b> Christmas Day	<b>in</b> winter

# Choose the correct preposition

Fill in the gaps and **answer** the questions.

*Sarah, 23, language exchange student*

I moved to Germany \_\_\_\_ 2010. \_\_\_\_ that time, I couldn't speak much German. When I was \_\_\_\_ the plane I was quite scared. I was scared to live \_\_\_\_ a country where I didn't speak the language.

I learned a lot of German \_\_\_\_ school and I also studied a lot \_\_\_\_ my own. \_\_\_\_ the beginning it was really difficult but after some time it got easier.

I was \_\_\_\_ the library every day; even \_\_\_\_ summer!

1. When did Sarah move to Germany?
2. Where did Sarah learn German?
3. Was it easy or difficult for Sarah to learn German?





# Fill in the gaps

1. **Fill in the gaps** with *at*, *on* or *in*.

2. **Ask and answer** the questions with your classmates. You can do this part in breakout rooms. Share one thing you learned about your classmate afterwards.

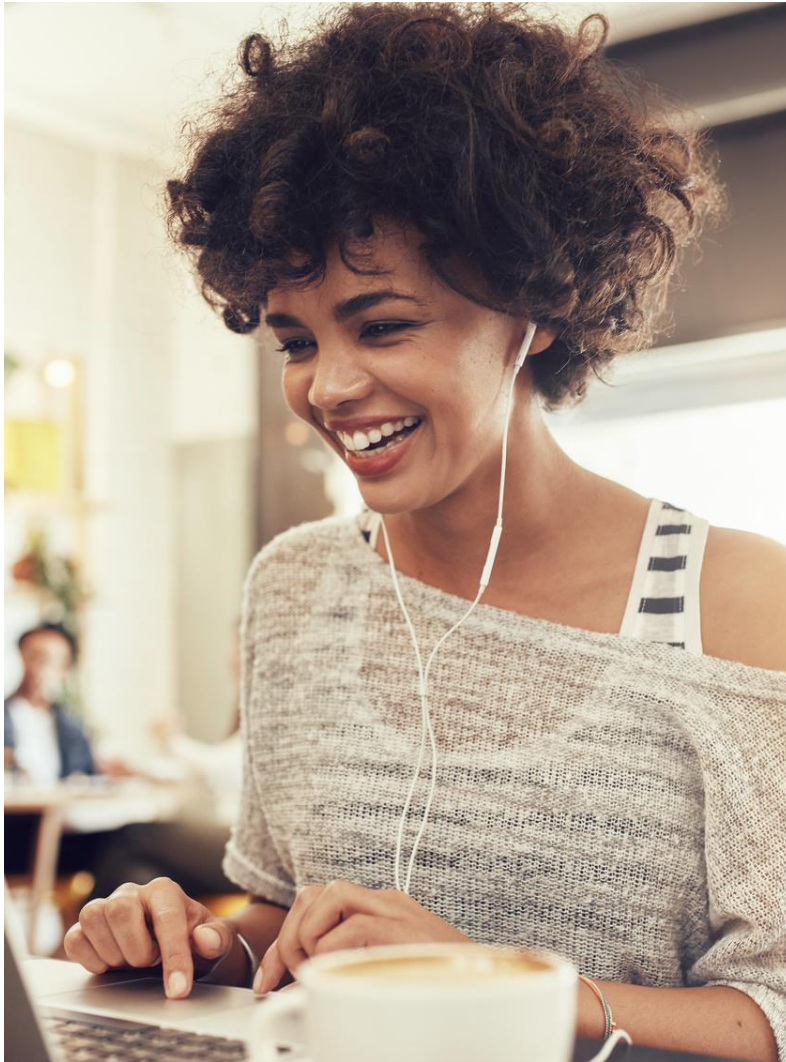
1 Where did you live \_\_\_\_\_ 2010?

2 What was your favourite subject \_\_\_\_\_ school?

3 What things do you like doing \_\_\_\_\_ your own?

4 What do you normally do \_\_\_\_\_ Saturdays?

5 What do you usually do \_\_\_\_\_ 8pm?



**At long last, we got a new coffee machine at the office!**

*At long last = finally*

Read the example sentence again.

Did it take **a long time** or **a short time** to get a new coffee machine at the office?

# Place: *in front of, behind, between*

in front of



The customer always sits **in front of** the barber.

behind



Milk and sugar are **behind** the counter.

between



I moved my bed. It's **between** the window and the desk now.



# Place: *in front of, behind, between*

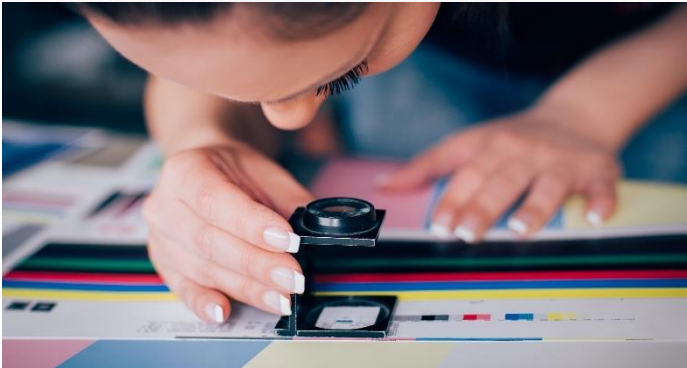
- ***in front of*** is used for something near the front of something or someone.
- ***behind*** is the opposite of ***in front of***.
- ***between*** is used for something in the middle of two things.

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



## *Here and there*

Can you come over **here** and show me how it works?



**Here** is used for something close to us.

Let's sit over **there** in the shade.



**There** is used for something away from us.



# Choose the correct option

1 Come \_\_\_\_\_! I want to give you something.

a. there

b. here

2 The school is \_\_\_\_\_ the railway station and the supermarket.

a. between

b. here

3 Go over \_\_\_\_\_ and get me my glasses.

a. there

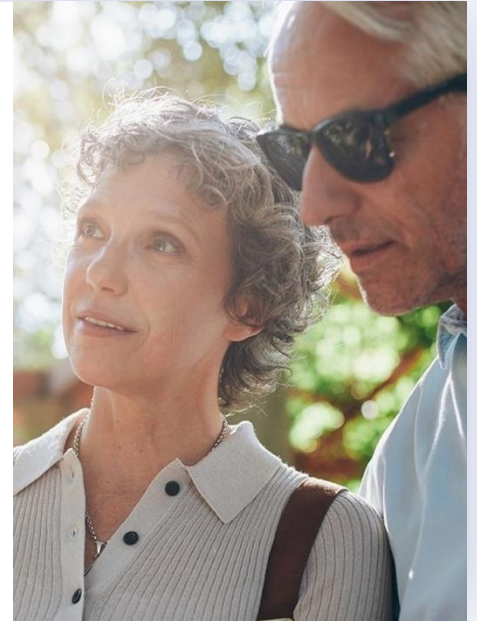
b. behind



# Find the mistakes

**Read** the text. **Find** the mistakes.

John and Lola are on the railway station. The train station is between of an Italian restaurant and a hairdresser. They get in the train and travel two stops. They get off the train and on front of them is a big supermarket. They walk 200 metres and they are on the museum.



There are **five mistakes** with the prepositions. Can you find them?

Make sentences with the following

My son is at...

they are  
working

in the garden

in front of me

train

We are on  
the...

His dog is...

bus station

We live on the...





# Fill in the gaps



They are \_\_\_\_\_ school.

There are not many people \_\_\_\_\_ the supermarket.



He has flowers \_\_\_\_\_ his back to surprise her.

I'm \_\_\_\_\_ the plane. We are about to take off.



# Fill in the gaps

## My favourite room

I want to tell you about my favourite room in my house: the living room. \_\_\_\_\_ my living room there is a sofa and two chairs. \_\_\_\_\_ the sofa I have two cushions and a blanket for when I feel cold. \_\_\_\_\_ the sofa is a coffee table and \_\_\_\_\_ the coffee table are some magazines. \_\_\_\_\_ the sofa \_\_\_\_\_ the wall are some pictures of me and my family and friends. \_\_\_\_\_ the two chairs and the sofa there is another small table. There is also a television \_\_\_\_\_ the wall in front of the sofa so I can sit and watch my favourite shows. When I am \_\_\_\_\_ home I love spending time in my living room.



on

at

between

in

in front of

behind



# Describe your favourite room

in

at

on

behind

between

in front of

Use the text on the previous slide as a guide.  
Tell the class about **your favourite room** in your house!



# Talk about places in your town

Use the correct prepositions!







# End of the lesson

Idiom

*to be in the right place at the right time*

**Meaning:** You see an opportunity and you take it

**Example:** I bought this house when it was very cheap, and now it's worth a lot of money. I was just in the right place at the right time!



# Additional practice



# Make sentences using the correct prepositions



Paris



the bus



the railway  
station



the river Seine



the post office



France



the first floor



university



the doctor's



home



the kitchen



my own

in

at

on



# Prepositions of place



Describe the positions of the people in relation to each other.

*The father is...*

*The daughter is...*



# Prepositions of place



Describe the positions of the objects in relation to each other.





# Answer key

**P.3:** at; on; in

**P.9:** 1. b 2. a 3. a

**P.10:** 1. b 2. a 3. a

**P.11:** 1. b 2. a 3. b

**P.12:** the train

**P.13:**

**P.13:**

in: Paris, the river Seine, the post office, France, the kitchen

at: the railway station, the post office, university, the doctor's, home

on: the bus, the river Seine, the first floor, my own

**P.15:**

**Gaps:** in; at; on; in; at; on; at; at/in

**Questions:**

1. in 2010

2. at school and on her own

3. It was difficult in the beginning

**P.16:**

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

**P.17:** Real life language: It took a very long time to get the coffee machine.



# Answer key

**P.21:** 1. b 2. a 3. a

**P.22:**  
**Mistakes**

1. on the train station = **at** the railway station
2. between of an = between **an** Italian restaurant and...
3. in the train = **on** the train
4. on front = **in** front
5. on the museum = **at** the museum

**P. 23:**

Potential answers/examples:

James is at the bus station. I am working in the garden. Harry is in front of me. We live on the fourth floor.

**P. 24:** 1. at 2. in 3. behind 4. on

**P. 25:** In; On; In front of; on; behind; on; between; on; at





# Summary

## Using prepositions of place:

- **at**: I am **at** home.
- **in**: The milk is **in** the fridge.
- **on**: The keys are **on** the kitchen table.

## Using prepositions for time:

- **at**: for specific times and holiday periods, e.g. *at 8 o'clock*
- **on**: for days of the week and specific dates, e.g. *on Sunday*
- **in**: for months, years, seasons, durations of time and centuries, e.g. *in March*

## Using prepositions and adverbs to talk about location:

- *in front of; behind; between; here; there*
- Don't hide **behind** the door. Come **here**!



# Vocabulary

at

in

on

in front of

behind

between

here

there

