

Independent Study Guide:

Prepositions Focusing On “in”, “on” and “at”

Abstract

Prepositions is used to describe the relationship between a noun or pronoun and other words in the sentence, and they don't stand alone. It always appear as a part of the phrases. Because the total of prepositions is broad, I focused on only some of them following: “in”, “on” and “at”. These three prepositions' common types are mainly two:

- Describing **location**
 - During next spring break, I will stay in a hotel because I have a plan to travel to Spain.
 - The telephone on the table started ringing.
 - The party will be held at the professor's house.
- Describing **time**
 - She will start working in April.
 - The restaurant closes on Wednesdays.
 - I went to Walmart at 2pm.

Prepositions (“in”, “on”, “at”) For Location

Prepositions have a role to tell the information about location. Many students especially got confused the difference between “in” and “at.”

Preposition	Explanation
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in	<p>“in” means “inside.” Usually it is supposed an enclose space such as buildings. Plus, “in” is used to represent a territory or organization such as countries and city.</p> <p>Usage : in + location</p> <p>e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He is <u>in the garden</u>. (“garden” is surrounded place by a fence) • I’m living <u>in Terre Haute</u>.
on	<p>“on” is used to tell the something is touching another thing. This means not only upon something but also touching the surface like a wall and a ceiling.</p> <p>Usage: on + thing’s name</p> <p>e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The book which you’re looking for is <u>on the top of shelf</u>. • I hanged a beautiful picture <u>on the wall</u>.
at	<p>The usage of “at” is similar to “in,” but “at” is often used narrower space compared with “in”. The noun after “at” is mainly a location recognized as a point.</p> <p>Usage: at + location</p> <p>e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He stood <u>at the bus stop</u>. • The mail box is located <u>at the end of the hall</u>.

Prepositions (“in”, “on”, “at”) For Time

Prepositions have a role to tell the information about location. Many students especially got confused the difference between “in” and “at.”

Preposition	Explanation
in	<p>“in” is used to tell relatively a long period: year, month. Usage : in + time expression</p> <p>e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The summit is going to be held <u>in August</u>. • The Hundred Years’ War broke out <u>in 1337</u>. <p>Note: “morning”, “afternoon” and “evening” uses “in”, but “night”, “noon”, and “midnight” needs “at.”</p>
on	<p>“on” expresses the day of the week and a specific day including holiday. Usage: on + time expression</p> <p>e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American family usually eat dinner together <u>on Christmas Day</u>. • We have a meeting <u>on April 19</u>.
at	<p>“at” states specific time and “night”, “noon” and “midnight” as I wrote above. Usage: at + time expression</p> <p>e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ceremony will start at 1pm. • It’s stupid for me to read a horror novel at midnight.

Sources:

EnglishClub.com

<https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/prepositions-place-at-in-on.htm>

<https://www.englishclub.com/grammar/prepositions-at-in-on-time.htm>

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http://www.myenglishpages.com/site_php_files/grammar-lesson-prepositions-place.php