Prepositions

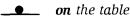
25 at, on, in as prepositions of place

I saw her at the bus stop. Can I meet you at the cinema?

- at a place:
 - at the bus stop/cinema • X

Your books are on the table. The painting looks nice **on** this wall.

• on a line or surface:





on the wall

Philip's **in** the kitchen. Your bag's in the car.

• in a place = inside. The place is not a line or surface: it has walls or sides: in the kitchen/car



 \sqrt{ullet} in the garden/park/town

And we use *in* with names of towns and countries; *in Britain*, *in Paris*.

Note: We say: *in* a car, *on* a bus, *on* a train.

Practice

25 Complete these sentences with *at*, *on* or *in*.

- 1 Do you live ..in.. Manchester?
- 2 He was .at. the bus stop for half an hour.
- 3 Are the plates the cupboard?
- Look at the example the board.
- I met my girlfriend a party.
- Kathy's not here she's work at the moment.
- Are my books that shelf?
- My toothbrush isn't the bathroom. Where is it?
- She usually sits the floor.
- 10 Is your daughter happy school?
- 12 There are too many cars the road.

27 at, on, in as prepositions of time

They finish school **at** 4 o'clock. The children usually have a story **at** bedtime.

at a point in time:
 at one o'clock, half-past five, midnight;
 at lunchtime, dinner-time;
 at the end of the lesson.

I saw her **on** Monday. My birthday's **on** 4th September.

on a day or date:
 on Tuesday, Thursday;
 on 1st April, 4th June;
 on the first day of spring.

I usually work **in** the mornings. The weather's very nice here **in** the summer.

in a period of time:
 in the morning, afternoon, evening;
 in April, May, June;
 in the summer, winter;
 in 1992.

Notes

- on Wednesday, in the afternoon, on Wednesday afternoon.
- in the morning, afternoon, evening, but at night.
- on Christmas Eve, Independence Day, Easter Sunday, but at Christmas, at New Year.

Practice

- **27** Complete the sentences with *at*, *on* or *in*.
 - 1 College starts .at. 9 o'clock in the morning.
 - 2 I usually go swimming .o.n.. Tuesdays.
 - 3 I got up 7 o'clock this morning.
 - 4 Jim came round Saturday afternoon.
 - 5 The children get too many presents Christmas.
 - 6 We usually take our holiday September.
 - 7 They don't go out very often the evenings.
 - 8 She was born in Australia 1952.
 - 9 I always go and see her her birthday.
 - 10 She phoned up the beginning of the match on TV.
 - 11 They usually come and stay with us the summer holidays.
 - 12 We moved here 20th October.

ANSWERS

Key

- 24 1 to ... cinema 2 for ... run 3 fishing 4 riding 5 to Paris 6 for ... swim 7 skiing 8 to ... disco
- 25 1 in 2 at 3 in 4 on 5 at 6 at 7 on 8 in 9 on 10 at 11 in 12 on
- 27 1 at ... in 2 on 3 at 4 on 5 at 6 in 7 in 8 in 9 on 10 at 11 in 12 on

28a	be	being
	clean	cleaning
	come	coming
	do	doing
	fly	flying
	get (up)	getting (up)
	give	giving
	listen	listening
	live	living
	play	playing
	smoke	smoking
	stay	staying
	study	studying
	swim	swimming
	teach	teaching
	watch	watching
	work	working
	write	writing

- 28b 1 listening 2 coming 3 cleaning
 4 swimming 5 giving 6 writing 7 being
 8 smoking 9 flying 10 playing
 11 watching 12 getting up 13 teaching
 14 studying 15 doing 16 working
 17 living 18 staying
- **29a** 1 have 2 buy 3 sit 4 be 5 play 6 stay 7 ask 8 pay 9 come 10 see
- 29b 1 cooking 2 to go 3 to see 4 going 5 living 6 to travel 7 to speak 8 to buy 9 bringing 10 playing
- 1 We never go to the mountains.2 She doesn't often write to me.3 The boys always play football on Saturday afternoons.
 - 4 The bus usually arrives late.

- 5 I often go to bed before 11.
- 6 She never drinks coffee in the evening.
- 7 It doesn't often rain in the summer.
- 8 I always read books slowly
- 9 My father usually goes to work by bus. 10 We always go to the beach at the weekend.

TEST 1 Part A

1 very 2 my 3 in 4 got 5 go 6 goes/travels 7 on 8 at 9 swimming 10 There

Part B

1 Do 2 at 3 Those 4 did you do 5 Have you got 6 reading 7 older than 8 There are 9 were 10 at

Part C

- A: Did you have a nice time in London at the weekend?
- B: Yes, I did. I stayed with an old friend from school and we had a wonderful time together. On Saturday we went to an art gallery in the morning, a concert in the afternoon and an Italian restaurant in the evening. It was a great weekend. What about you? Did you have a nice weekend?
- A: It wasn't very interesting. I stayed at home all weekend.
- B: Why didn't you go out?
- A: I didn't feel very well.
- B: Oh. I'm sorry about that.
- A: That's all right. I'm better now.

Part D

- 1 Has your brother got a job?
- 2 There are some beautiful buildings in this town.
- 3 Their mother teaches history at the college.
- 4 I like listening to music in the evenings.
- 5 Angela is taller than all her sisters.
- 6 What are those lights in the sky?
- 7 What time do you finish work?
- 8 They were not at school yesterday.
- 9 She did not phone me at the weekend.
- 10 I sometimes go skiing in the winter.