

# Prepositions: In, On & At





At the end of this presentation there is a link to a Google Form quiz. You must score an 80% or higher to pass the quiz.

Please take your time viewing and studying this material before you proceed with the quiz.





- Define the concept of a preposition and its usage
- Identify the usages of the prepositions in, on and at
- Use the prepositions in, on and at correctly

## Prepositions



Prepositions are one of the most important parts of language. They allow us to express our ideas in a clearer way. They demonstrate the relationships between two words or phrases (Douglas & Strumpf 205). A preposition can change the entire meaning of a sentence.

#### For example:

Ex. 1 Big cities are lively <u>at</u> night. ≠ Big cities are lively <u>until</u> night.

The most commonly used prepositions in English are in, on and at.



### Prepositions: In



		EXAMPLES
Time	<ul> <li>Morning, afternoon, and evening</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>My father jogs <u>in</u> the mornings because the temperature is cooler.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Months, weeks, years, decades and centuries</li> <li>Seasons</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>I have not seen my brother <u>in</u> six months.</li> <li>He was born <u>in</u> the 90s.</li> </ul>
	Seasons	<ul> <li>Cherry blossom trees bloom <u>in</u> the spring.</li> </ul>
Places	<ul> <li>A city, a country or a neighborhood</li> </ul>	– He lives <u>in</u> Jayuya.
	<ul> <li>A complete or partial enclosure (enclosed space)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Our group is meeting <u>in</u> one of the gazeboes.</li> <li>The photo albums are <u>in</u> that box.</li> </ul>
Modes of Transportation	Cars, trucks, vans, helicopters, submarines, taxis	<ul> <li>Living <u>in</u> a submarine requires great mental stability.</li> </ul>



### Prepositions: On



		EXAMPLES
Time	Dates and days (of the week)	<ul> <li>She was born <u>on</u> April 24, 1999.</li> <li>I take 3 classes <u>on</u> Mondays.</li> </ul>
	• Holidays	<ul> <li>He arrives <u>on</u> New Year's Eve.</li> </ul>
Places	Streets and avenues	<ul> <li>Meet me <u>on</u> Juan Ponce De León Street.</li> <li>He lives <u>on</u> this avenue.</li> </ul>
	A surface	<ul> <li>Please do not walk <u>on</u> the lawn.</li> </ul>
Modes of Transportation	<ul> <li>Trains, boats, animals, planes, skateboards, buses</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>I often see people <u>on</u> horseback around my neighborhood.</li> </ul>



#### Prepositions: At



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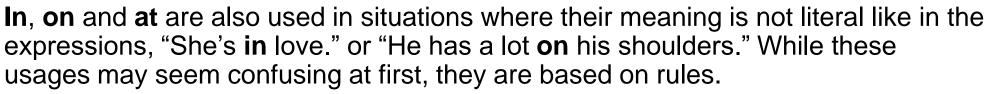
		EXAMPLES
Time	A specific time of day	– I will see you <u>at</u> 3 o'clock.
	• Night	<ul> <li>The Christmas decorations look prettier <u>at</u> night.</li> </ul>
Places	A complete address	<ul> <li>The University of Puerto Rico Río Piedras campus is located <u>at</u> 14 Ave. Universidad Ste. 1401.</li> </ul>
	Showing a specific point or location	<ul> <li>Look <u>at</u> that cloud!</li> <li>We are <u>at</u> Cantón Mall.</li> </ul>
	A general area	<ul> <li>We are <u>at</u> the park.</li> </ul>

Modes of Transportation

N/A

N/A

#### Prepositions





Consider the following usages and examples:

- She's in love.
- She's **in** pain
- They vowed to love each other in sickness or in health.
- He has a lot on his shoulders/mind.

- Her research is in Nuclear Physics.
- Her research paper was on nuclear fusion.

Here the preposition **in** is being used to describe a state of being.

Here the preposition **on** is being used to describe something on a surface however its usage is *metaphorical* as the person does not literally have anything resting on their shoulders or mind.

In the first example the preposition **in** is used to describe the field of study her research is a part of while in the second example the preposition **on** is used to describe the topic her research paper discusses.

#### References



Strumpf, Michael, and Auriel Douglas. The Grammar Bible:

Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Grammar

but Didn't Know Whom to Ask. Henry Holt and Company,

2004.

Beare, Kenneth. "Basic English Prepositions of Time and Place: At, In, On, and To."

ThoughtCo. 23 Sept. 2018,

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Para finalizar, haga clic sobre el enlace para tomar la prueba y enviar el informe a su profesor(a):

https://forms.gle/Nz95YWExJ4QcdLbE8

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