

## English Grammar – Prepositions of Time

<u>Prep.</u>	<u>Use</u>	<u>Examples</u>
<b>in:</b>	<b>period:</b> month season year decade century part-day middle future	in January in the summer/winter/spring/autumn in 1995 in the 1970s in the 20 <sup>th</sup> century in the morning, in the afternoon, in the evening in the middle of the meeting in two weeks/three months/ten years
<b>on:</b>	date specific day  specific part-day	on June 29 <sup>th</sup> on Monday on my birthday on Christmas Day on Monday morning on Tuesday afternoon on Wednesday evening
<b>at:</b>	time the weekend night the moment the beginning/end of  the start/finish holidays	at 2 o'clock, at 4:30, at midday, at lunchtime at the weekend at night at the moment at the beginning of the year at the end of the day I arrived at the start/at the finish at Christmas, at Easter, at New Year
<b>from/to:</b>	a period of time	I work <b>from</b> 6am <b>to</b> 7pm.
<b>until:</b>	the end of a continuous event	We stayed in the restaurant <b>until</b> it closed. Yesterday, I worked <b>until</b> 6pm.
<b>by:</b>	a deadline	We must finish the project <b>by</b> Friday 6pm. I usually leave work <b>by</b> 5pm. (similar to "before")
<b>for:</b>	a period of time	I have lived in Curitiba <b>for</b> five years.
<b>since:</b>	the start of a period of time	I have lived in Fortaleza <b>since</b> 2002.
(no prep):	tomorrow/yesterday ago next/last this/every/each/all	I saw him yesterday. I'll see you tomorrow. I saw him six weeks ago. See you next Tuesday. I saw him last week. this year, every Saturday, each week, all day

**Exercise 1.** Complete the following with a preposition or leave blank.

1. Jane is arriving \_\_\_\_\_ January 26<sup>th</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ 2 o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ the afternoon.
2. It snows here every year \_\_\_\_\_ December. We always go outside and play in the snow \_\_\_\_\_ Christmas day.
3. Michael is going to leave \_\_\_\_\_ Friday \_\_\_\_\_ noon.
4. The students had to return their applications \_\_\_\_\_ 6 o'clock to be eligible for selection.
5.
  - a) John started working for the company \_\_\_\_\_ 1995.
  - b) John has been working for the company \_\_\_\_\_ 1995.
  - c) John has been working for the company \_\_\_\_\_ 25 years.
  - d) John worked for the company \_\_\_\_\_ 1995 \_\_\_\_\_ 2006.
6. Peter began working on the project \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday.
7. After the accident, the couple were trapped in their car \_\_\_\_\_ 6 hours.
8. Normally, \_\_\_\_\_ New Year's Eve, it's tradition to kiss the one you love \_\_\_\_\_ midnight.
9. There were no telephones \_\_\_\_\_ the eighteenth century. The telephone was only invented \_\_\_\_\_ the 1870s.
10. The plane leaves \_\_\_\_\_ tomorrow morning \_\_\_\_\_ 8:00 AM.
11. The gardens are full of flowers \_\_\_\_\_ the spring.
12. We met at the restaurant \_\_\_\_\_ 6:30 and stayed \_\_\_\_\_ 10:30.
13. I'm out of work \_\_\_\_\_ the moment.
14. My driving license will expire \_\_\_\_\_ five years.
15. Please give me your homework \_\_\_\_\_ next Monday.

**Exercise 2.** Complete the following with a preposition or leave blank.

1. I left work \_\_\_\_\_ ten o'clock last night.
2. I saw Bob in the street \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday.
3. I didn't get time to come and visit you \_\_\_\_\_ last Tuesday.
4. He used to be a regular visitor \_\_\_\_\_ Tuesdays.
5. I called her and spoke to her \_\_\_\_\_ Wednesday morning.
6. The last time I saw him was \_\_\_\_\_ the beginning of September.
7. I saw him sometime \_\_\_\_\_ June.
8. Were you at the last meeting \_\_\_\_\_ July 13th?
9. We bought the company \_\_\_\_\_ Thursday, May 22nd.
10. I spoke to her \_\_\_\_\_ three weeks ago.
11. I bought this computer \_\_\_\_\_ the start of the summer.
12. I bought this computer \_\_\_\_\_ the summer.
13. I bought this computer \_\_\_\_\_ last summer.
14. This style was very popular \_\_\_\_\_ the 1950s.
15. They were very popular \_\_\_\_\_ the middle of the 19th Century.
16. I was still at school \_\_\_\_\_ 1993.
17. I met him \_\_\_\_\_ January, last year.
18. Let's order pizza \_\_\_\_\_ Friday evening!
19. I accepted this job \_\_\_\_\_ the middle of last year.
20. I was in a meeting \_\_\_\_\_ all day yesterday.

Recommended videos: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=92XBCRYZ1S8> (14 mins)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xZ0cdZG1Pfl> (10 mins)