Prepositions of Time

Table of Contents

2 QUICK AND HANDY GRAMMAR REVIEW
   Prepositions of Time

4 EXERCISE 1: Complete the Sentences
   Complete the sentences with at, on, or in.

5 EXERCISE 2: Complete the Dialogues
   Complete the dialogues with at, on, or in.

6 EXERCISE 3: Write Sentences
   Write sentences by adding at, on, or in in the right spot.

7 EXERCISE 4: Class Survey
   Ask and answer the questions.

8 EXERCISE 5: Multiple-Choice Quiz
   Choose the best answer.

9 ANSWER KEY
Quick and Handy Grammar Review

INTRODUCTION TO PREPOSITIONS

Prepositions are short words that show time, place, direction, etc. Some examples of prepositions are at, on, in, to, from, above, under, of, and between.

A. Common Prepositions of Time

Let’s learn about these common prepositions of time: at, in, and on.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>At</th>
<th>Pattern</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Clock Time</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>at + clock time</td>
<td>• The meeting starts at 9:00.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Come to my house at 7:30 pm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>at + noon</td>
<td>• We eat lunch at noon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>at + midnight</td>
<td>• I am usually asleep at midnight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other Times</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>at + night</td>
<td>• We watch TV at night.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>at + dinnertime / lunchtime</td>
<td>• Take off your hat at dinnertime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• She wants pizza at lunchtime.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>On</th>
<th>Pattern</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Days</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>on + day</td>
<td>• We have free time on Monday.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• I play baseball on Thursdays.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• They unwrap presents on Christmas Day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• My son always eats chocolate cake on his birthday.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>on + the weekend / weekends</td>
<td>• He has hockey practice on the weekend.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• I study English on (the) weekends.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>on + date</td>
<td>• She has class on September 10.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• I am going to a party on the first of July.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• He has a doctor’s appointment on Monday, December 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• They got a new car on January 10, 2014.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quick and Handy Grammar Review cont.

A. Common Prepositions of Time cont.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pattern</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Time of Day</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in + the morning</td>
<td></td>
<td>I take a shower in the morning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in + the afternoon</td>
<td></td>
<td>You have English class in the afternoon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in + the evening</td>
<td></td>
<td>We study in the evening.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Months and Years</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in + month</td>
<td></td>
<td>My birthday is in June.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in + year</td>
<td></td>
<td>She went to Europe in 2015.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Seasons</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in + season</td>
<td></td>
<td>We go camping in the summer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>They like to ski in the wintertime.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Saying the Date

We use **ordinal numbers** to say the date.

Example:

My birthday is on February 12.

• Write *February 12* or *February 12th*.
• Say *February twelfth*.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ordinal Numbers</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>first</td>
<td>second</td>
<td>third</td>
<td>fourth</td>
<td>fifth</td>
<td>sixth</td>
<td>seventh</td>
<td>eighth</td>
<td>ninth</td>
<td>tenth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>eleventh</td>
<td>twelfth</td>
<td>thirteenth</td>
<td>fourteenth</td>
<td>fifteenth</td>
<td>sixteenth</td>
<td>seventeenth</td>
<td>eighteenth</td>
<td>nineteenth</td>
<td>twentieth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>thirty-first</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Exercise 1**

**COMPLETE THE SENTENCES**

Complete the sentences with *at, on, or in*.

1. The class begins _____ 8:30 am.
2. The next school year starts _____ September.
3. I took swimming lessons _____ April 2015.
4. She plays volleyball _____ Saturdays.
5. _____ December 31, my family celebrated New Year’s Eve.
6. His birthday is _____ Monday, June 8.
7. _____ the winter, we go ice-skating.
8. They watch TV _____ night.
9. _____ 2010, my city held a big festival.
10. My wife drinks coffee _____ the morning.
11. We eat lunch _____ 12:15 pm.
12. I like to go to the beach _____ July.
13. They are getting married _____ Saturday, May 26, 2018.
14. My brother has his first karate class _____ Wednesday.
15. They like to read _____ the afternoon.
16. Flowers bloom _____ the spring.
17. The concert tickets go on sale tomorrow. _____ that day, people will line up for hours.
18. My kids thought they heard Santa Claus _____ Christmas Eve _____ midnight.
19. The meeting starts _____ Monday _____ 9:00 am.
20. Call me _____ 5:00 _____ Thursday.
Exercise 2

COMPLETE THE DIALOGUES

Complete the dialogues with at, on, or in.

1. A: What are you doing ______ the weekend?
   B: I'm buying a present for my sister.
   A: When is her birthday?
   B: Her birthday is ______ Monday.

2. A: What do you usually do ______ the evening?
   B: I watch TV.
   A: What do you watch?
   B: I watch a cooking show. It starts ______ 7:00 pm.

3. A: What does your family do ______ the summertime?
   B: We go to our cabin ______ the summer.
   A: When do you usually go there?
   B: We usually go ______ August.

4. A: Can you come to my house tomorrow?
   B: No, I can't. I have a dentist appointment ______ 2:30.
   A: But tomorrow is Sunday!
   B: Oh, you're right! My appointment is ______ Monday. I'll come over ______ Sunday!

5. A: What are you doing ______ Saturday?
   B: I'm playing hockey ______ noon.
   A: Can you go to a movie after your game? It starts ______ 8:00.
   B: Sounds like a plan! See you ______ 8.
Exercise 3

WRITE SENTENCES

Write sentences by adding *at, on, or in* in the right spot.

1. We / eat / sandwiches / lunchtime
   
   *We eat sandwiches at lunchtime.*

2. They / do / their homework / 6:30 pm
   
   
3. I / am getting / a new car / my birthday
   
   
4. My friends / go / to the movies / the weekends
   
   
5. My sister / wakes up / 7:00 am
   
   
6. Monday, July 4 / we / are having / a party
   
   
7. She / has / a doctor’s appointment / September 2
   
   
8. Halloween / is / October
   
   
9. We / got / a dog / 2012
   
   
10. The tulip festival / is / April
   
   

## Exercise 4

### CLASS SURVEY

Ask your classmates these questions. Write their answers in the box. Try to talk to a different classmate for each question. Practice using *at*, *on*, and *in* in your answers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Classmate’s Name</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>What time does this class start?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>What time does this class end?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>What do you usually do at 6:00 pm?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>What do you usually do on the weekend?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>When is your birthday?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>When is your favorite holiday?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>What do you usually do on Christmas Day?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>What time do you usually wake up?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>What time do you usually go to bed?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>What do you like to do in the summer?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Exercise 5

MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUIZ

Choose the best preposition for each sentence.

1. I clean my apartment _____ Sundays.
   a) at  
   b) on  
   c) in  

2. We go fishing _____ the spring.
   a) at  
   b) on  
   c) in  

3. They like to travel _____ September.
   a) at  
   b) on  
   c) in  

4. He is meeting me _____ Thursday, January 15.
   a) at  
   b) on  
   c) in  

5. Do you study _____ the evening?
   a) at  
   b) on  
   c) in  

6. I have a piano lesson _____ Tuesday.
   a) at  
   b) on  
   c) in  

7. The hotel will open _____ July 2018.
   a) at  
   b) on  
   c) in  

8. I like watching movies _____ night.
   a) at  
   b) on  
   c) in  

9. I always wake up _____ midnight.
   a) at  
   b) on  
   c) in  

10. She has a doctor’s appointment _____ November 18.
    a) at  
    b) on  
    c) in  

11. I rake the leaves in my yard _____ the fall.
    a) at  
    b) on  
    c) in  

12. The party is _____ Saturday, December 10, 2016.
    a) at  
    b) on  
    c) in
Answer Key

Exercise 1

1. at 6. on 11. at 16. in
2. in 7. in 12. in 17. On
3. in 8. at 13. on 18. on, at
4. on 9. in 14. on 19. on, at
5. On 10. in 15. in 20. at, on

Exercise 2

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

Exercise 3

1. We eat sandwiches at lunchtime.
2. They do their homework at 6:30 pm.
3. I am getting a new car on my birthday.
4. My friends go to the movies on the weekends.
5. My sister wakes up at 7:00 am.
6. On Monday, July 4, we are having a party.
7. She has a doctor’s appointment on September 2.
8. Halloween is in October.
9. We got a dog in 2012.
10. The tulip festival is in April.

Exercise 4

Answers will vary. Monitor students for correct preposition use.

Exercise 5

1. b 3. c 5. c 7. c 9. a 11. c
2. c 4. b 6. b 8. a 10. b 12. b

SPELLING NOTE:

This lesson shows the American spelling of the words Favorite and Practice. Most other English-speaking countries spell these words this way: Favourite and Practise (when used as a verb; Practice when used as a noun). Make it a challenge for your students to find these words in the lesson and see if they know the alternate spellings.

EDITOR’S NOTES:

1. American and Canadian English prefer on the weekend/on weekends, while British English prefers at the weekend/at weekends.