

HOW TO USE PROPOSITIONS IN ENGLISH

As you may know, we use IN, ON & AT when discussing places, locations, and times.

AT

AT: We will use AT to describe our location as being in front of, or up to something, but not in it. AT is used for a specified time (at midday, for example).

Examples:

- Lucia arrived at my house at 6 pm. Compare this with: She went into my house after she arrived.
- Lucia starts work at 8 am.
- Lucia works at a school.

IN ENGLISH

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IN

IN: Use **IN** to talk about your location within a city, country, or suburbs. Also, when you are talking about a longer period.

Examples:

- Margo will be in Australia in July.
- Lucia was in her car when she drove to my house.
She was in the car for 2 hours.
- My family was in Europe in 2019.
- She is in the library studying for her test.
- Jennifer is unwell; she is in bed.
- Sophia is sitting in her chair at her desk.
- In + month: In July
- In + year: in 2019

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ON

ON: We use ON to talk about something in contact with or over a surface. We also use ON to talk about dates and days of the week.

Examples:

- The painting is on the wall.
- Your computer is on my desk.
- The chandelier is on the ceiling.
- Your clothes are on your bed.
- They are sitting outside our building on a bench.
- The pub is on the corner of this street.
- On + day of the week: Our meeting is always on Fridays.
- On + date: He was born on 15 January.

IN ENGLISH

Text: Using prepositions when talking about a place, location, and times.

Ms. Smith is still in bed. She is not feeling very well. There is a bottle of water and a lampshade on her bedside table. In the drawer, she has some medicine for her headache. She is resting her head on her pillow because she needs it in an upright position.

On Monday at 10 am, she has a very important meeting. These clients contacted her in February, and the meeting will be held in the conference room. On February 22, the clients will arrive at the airport and need to catch the airport bus. They will be on the bus for 20 minutes, but this trip would be much faster if they were in a car. Ms Smith will be meeting her clients at the hotel at 6 pm. There is a lovely restaurant on the corner of Brown Street and Park Avenue; she will take her clients out for dinner in this restaurant. There are many excellent dishes on the menu, and she is sure her clients will be impressed.