

18 Prepositions: time

at	a time at six o'clock at midday/midnight	a mealtime at breakfast at lunch / lunchtime at dinner / dinner time
on	a day on Tuesday on Friday evening on Tuesdays = every Tuesday on my birthday on Christmas Day	a date on September 10 on 6 th May
in	a part of a day in the morning in the afternoon in the evening	a season in (the) spring/summer/ autumn/winter a month, year or century in July/December in 1990/2050 in the 21 st century (= 2000–2099)

SPOTLIGHT *at*

We also use **at** in these time phrases:

- I relax **at the weekend**.
- Some doctors work **at night**. (NOT *in the night*)
- What are you doing **at Christmas / at New Year?**
- He's not here **at the moment** (= now).

1 Cross out the word or phrase which is not correct.

- ▶ in the spring / ~~February 15th~~ / the evening
- 1 at lunchtime / 2020 / the weekend
- 2 in August / summer / Friday
- 3 on April / your birthday / Saturdays
- 4 at night / the morning / half past seven
- 5 in autumn / the 20th century / 4.00
- 6 on midnight / June 2nd / Sunday afternoon
- 7 at breakfast / midday / the autumn
- 8 on winter / Christmas Day / 5th May
- 9 in the afternoon / lunchtime / 2018
- 10 at New Year / the evening / six o'clock

2 Write the correct preposition.

We went to Brighton for a few days last week. We left ▶ on Thursday morning (1) _____ about nine o'clock and got there (2) _____ lunchtime. We found a nice hotel, and then (3) _____ the afternoon we went to the beach. The weather can be quite cold (4) _____ spring, but it was great – really sunny. (5) _____ Friday, we had lunch with an old friend. I first met her at university (6) _____ 2007. Then (7) _____ the evening, we went to a restaurant and got home (8) _____ midnight. (9) _____ the weekend, we went shopping and then went back to the beach. We'd like to go back for the Brighton Festival, which starts (10) _____ May 6th.

3 ABOUT YOU Write answers using a preposition and a time phrase from the table, or ask another student.

When do you ...

- get up? _____
- study English? _____
- go swimming? _____
- usually go out with friends? _____
- watch TV? _____
- go to bed? _____

When ...

- is your birthday? _____
- were you born? _____
- are there public holidays _____
- in your country? _____



TEST YOURSELF