Unit 125

In/at/on (position) 3

A In hospital / at work etc.

We say that somebody is **in hospital** / **in prison** / **in jail**:

- Anna's mother is **in hospital**.

We say that somebody is **at work** / **at school** / **at university** / **at college**:

- I'll be **at work** until 5.30.
- Julia is studying chemistry **at university**.

We say that somebody **is at home** or **is home** (with or without **at**), but we say **do something at home** (with **at**):

- I'll **be at home** all evening. *or* I'll **be home** all evening.
- Shall we go to a restaurant or **eat at home**?

B At a party / at a concert etc.

We say that somebody is **at** an event (**at a party** / **at a conference** etc.):

- Were there many people **at the party** / **at the meeting** / **at the wedding**?
- I saw Steve **at a conference** / **at a concert** on Saturday.

C In and at for buildings

You can often use **in** or **at** with buildings. For example, you can eat **in a restaurant** or **at a restaurant**; you can buy something **in a supermarket** or **at a supermarket**. We usually say **at** when we say where an event takes place (for example: a concert, a film, a party, a meeting):

- We went to a concert **at the National Concert Hall**.
- The meeting took place **at the company's head office** in Frankfurt.
- There was a robbery **at the supermarket**.

We say **at the station** / **at the airport**:

- There's no need to meet me **at the station**. I can get a taxi.

We say **at** somebody's house:

- I was **at Helen's house** last night. *or* I was **at Helen's** last night.

Also **at the doctor's** / **at the hairdresser's** etc.

We use **in** when we are thinking about the building itself. Compare:

- We had dinner **at the hotel**.
  All the rooms **in the hotel** have air conditioning. (*not* at the hotel)
- I was **at Helen's** (**house**) last night.
  It's always cold **in Helen's house**. The heating doesn't work well. (*not* at Helen's house)

D In and at for towns etc.

We normally use **in** with cities, towns and villages:

- The Louvre is a famous art museum **in Paris**. (*not* at Paris)
- Sam's parents live **in a village** in the south of France. (*not* at a village)

We use **at** when we think of the place as a point or station on a journey:

- Does this train stop **at Oxford**? (= at Oxford station)

E On a bus / in a car etc.

We usually say **on a bus** / **on a train** / **on a plane** / **on a ship** *but* **in a car** / **in a taxi**:

- **The bus** was very full. There were too many people **on it**.
- Laura arrived **in a taxi**.

We say **on a bike** (= bicycle) / **on a motorbike** / **on a horse**:

- Jane passed me **on her bike**.

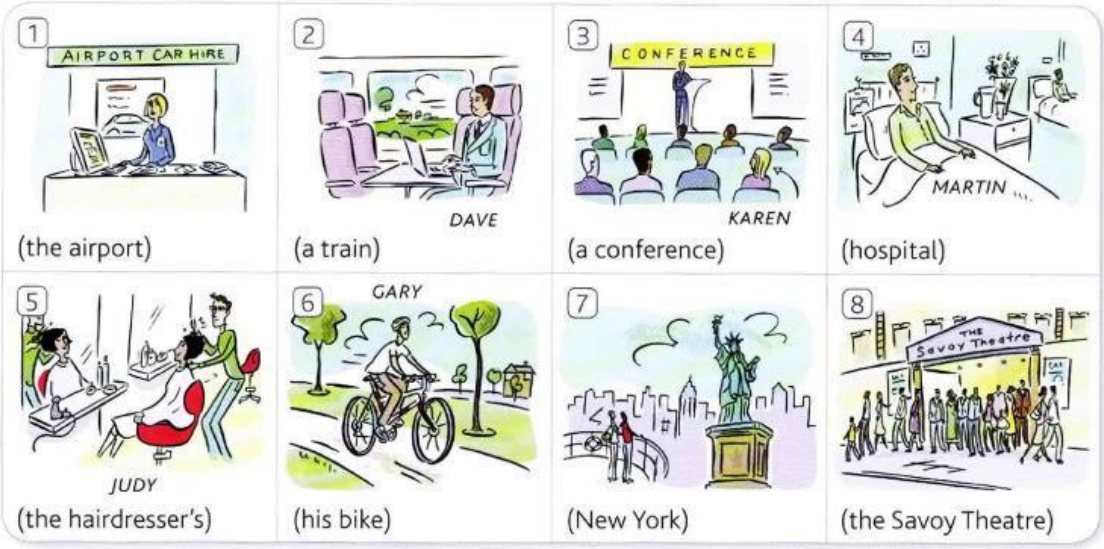
At school / **in hospital** etc. → Unit 74 **In/at/on** (position) → Units 123–24
To/at/in/into → Unit 126 **By car** / **by bike** etc. → Unit 128B

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Exercises

Unit 125

125.1 Complete the sentences about the pictures. Use **in**, **at** or **on** with the words below the pictures.



(the airport) (a train) (a conference) (hospital)

(the hairdresser's) (his bike) (New York) (the Savoy Theatre)

1 You can hire a car *at the airport*.
2 Dave is ..... .
3 Karen is ..... .
4 Martin is ..... .
5 Judy is ..... .
6 I saw Gary ..... .
7 We spent a few days ..... .
8 We went to a show ..... .

125.2 Complete the sentences. Use **in**, **at** or **on** + the following:

the plane	**hospital**	**a taxi**	~~**the station**~~	**the cinema**
Tokyo	**school**	**prison**	**the airport**	**the sports centre**

1 My train arrives at 11.30. Can you meet me *at the station* ?
2 We walked to the restaurant, but we went home ..... .
3 I'd like to see a film. What's on ..... this week?
4 Some people are ..... for crimes that they did not commit.
5 'What does your sister do? Does she have a job?' 'No, she's still ..... .'
6 I play basketball ..... on Friday evenings.
7 A friend of mine was injured in an accident a few days ago. She's still ..... .
8 Our flight was delayed. We had to wait ..... for four hours.
9 I enjoyed the flight, but the food ..... wasn't very nice.
10 Vicky has gone to Japan. She's living ..... .

125.3 Complete these sentences with **in**, **at** or **on**.

1 We went to a concert *at* the National Concert Hall.
2 It was a very slow train. It stopped ..... every station.
3 My parents live ..... a small village about 50 miles from London.
4 I haven't seen Kate for some time. I last saw her ..... David's wedding.
5 We stayed ..... a very comfortable hotel when we were ..... Amsterdam.
6 There were about fifty rooms ..... the hotel.
7 I don't know where my umbrella is. Perhaps I left it ..... the bus.
8 'Where were you on Monday evening?' 'I was ..... a friend's house.'
9 There must be somebody ..... the house. The lights are on.
10 The exhibition ..... the Museum of Modern Art finishes on Saturday.
11 Shall we travel ..... your car or mine?
12 I didn't expect you to be ..... home. I thought you'd be ..... work.
13 'Did you like the movie?' 'Yes, but it was too hot ..... the cinema.'
14 Paul lives ..... Birmingham. He's a student ..... Birmingham University.

→ Additional exercise 34 (page 322)

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Unit 126

To/at/in/into

A

We say **go/come/travel** (etc.) **to** a place or event. For example:

go to China	**go to** bed	**come to** my house
go back to Italy	**go to** the bank	**be taken to** hospital
return to London	**go to** a concert	**be sent to** prison
welcome somebody **to** a place		**drive to** the airport

TO →

- When are your friends **going back to** Italy? (*not* going back in Italy)
- Three people were injured in the accident and **taken to** hospital.
- **Welcome to** our country! (*not* Welcome in)

In the same way we say '**a journey to** / **a trip to** / **a visit to** / on **my way to** ...' etc. :

- Did you enjoy **your trip to** Paris / **your visit to** the zoo?

Compare **to** (for *movement*) and **in/at** (for *position*):

- They are **going to** France. *but* They **live in** France.
- Can you **come to** the party? *but* I'll **see you at** the party.

We say **been to** a place or an event:

- I've **been to Italy** four times, but I've never **been to Rome**.
- Amanda has never **been to a football match** in her life.

B

Get and **arrive**

We say **get to** a place:

- What time did they **get to London** / **to work** / **to the hotel**?

But we say **arrive in** ... or **arrive at** ... (*not* arrive to).
We say **arrive in** a town, city or country:

- They **arrived in London** / **in Spain** a week ago.

For other places (buildings etc.) or events, we say **arrive at**:

- When did they **arrive at the hotel** / **at the airport** / **at the party**?

C

Home

We say **go home** / **come home** / **get home** / **arrive home** / **on the way home** etc. (no preposition).
We do not say 'to home':

- I'm tired. Let's **go home** now. (*not* go to home)
- I met Lisa **on my way home**. (*not* my way to home)

D

Into

Go into, **get into** ... etc. = enter (a room / a building / a car etc.):

INTO →

- I opened the door, **went into** the room and sat down.
- A bird **flew into** the kitchen through the window.
- Every month, my salary **is paid** directly **into** my bank account.

With some verbs (especially **go**/**get**/**put**) we often use **in** (instead of **into**):

- She **got in** the car and drove away. (*or* She **got into** the car ...)
- I read the letter and **put it** back **in** the envelope.

The opposite of **into** is **out of**:

- She **got out of** the car and **went into** a shop.

We usually say '**get on**/**off** a bus / a train / a plane' (*not usually* into/out of):

- She **got on the bus** and I never saw her again.

Been to → Units 7–8 In/at/on (position) → Units 123–125 At home → Unit 125A
Into and in → Unit 138A

LIVEWORKSHEETS