

Writing

► A biography

PAST SIMPLE

1 Complete the table with the time expressions below.

Monday • 2001 • six o'clock • August • May 1997 •
17th January 1848 • 3.30 pm • 3rd June

on	at	in

2 Complete the biography with on, at and in.

Achievements

NURSE

events in
her life
studies
job

I think one of the most interesting people in history was Florence Nightingale. She started the first nursing school in London.

She was born (1) 12th May 1820. (2) 1844, she decided to become a nurse. (3) October 1853, the Crimean War started. Florence travelled across Europe to the Barrack Hospital to help the wounded soldiers. There were thousands of patients in the hospital. But the hospital was dirty, full of rats and the soldiers didn't have beds. Florence and the other nurses cleaned the hospital and helped the soldiers. Everybody thought she was great. She died (4) 12.00 pm (5) 13th August 1910.

I like Florence Nightingale because she wanted better hospitals and training for nurses.

Nina



LOOK!

Time prepositions:

- Use on before days and dates:
Leonardo was born on 15th April.
- Use at before times:
He was born at 10.30 pm.
- Use in before months and years:
Leonardo died in May 1519.

Complete the sentences with on, at or in.

- The British explorer Captain James Cook was born ... 1728.
- He married Elizabeth Batts ... 21st December 1762.
- His first expedition began ... 1768. He sailed from England to Australia.
- He first saw Australia ... 19th April ... 6 am.
- He died ... St Valentine's Day 1779 in Hawaii.

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5 Read and choose the correct words.



Leonardo da Vinci (1) is / was a painter, a sculptor and an inventor. He was born in Vinci, near Florence, on 15th April 1452.

He didn't go to school, (2) but / because he studied maths, Latin and geometry at home. He was also interested (3) in / on science and anatomy. He was very good at art. When he (4) had / was 14, he started to work for a famous painter and learned techniques with him.

In 1482, he moved to Milan. From this time on, Leonardo painted (5) its / his most famous works, for example, The Last Supper. He painted the Mona Lisa between 1503-1519. He also invented things. For example, he designed a flying machine similar to the modern helicopter.

6 Read again and answer the questions.

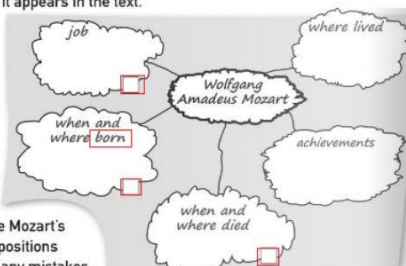
- What was Leonardo da Vinci's job?
- Where was he born?
- What famous works did he paint?
- What did he design?

achievements

3 Write a biography. Follow these steps:

- Look at the information below about Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Write the information in the correct place on the mind map. Then look back at the text about Florence Nightingale in exercise 2. Number the information about Mozart in the order it appears in the text.

Salzburg, Austria, 27th January 1756
1.00 am, 5th December, 1791, Austria a
classical composer and musician as a child,
lived in Salzburg, later in Vienna a brilliant
composer, spoke 17 languages 1762-1773
travelled to many European cities composed
more than 600 operas, concertos and
symphonies



- Use your notes and the model in exercise 2 to write Mozart's biography. Make sure you use the correct time prepositions and linkers. Read your writing carefully and correct any mistakes.
- Check your work and write your final copy.