On time and in time
At the end and in the end

On time and in time

On time = punctual, not late. If something happens **on time**, it happens at the time which was planned:

- The 11.45 train left **on time.** (= it left at 11.45)
- 'I'll meet you at 7.30.' 'OK, but please be **on time.**' (= don't be late, be there at 7.30)
- The conference was well-organised. Everything began and finished **on time.**

The opposite of **on time** is **late:**

- Be **on time.** Don't be **late.**

In time (for something / to do something) = soon enough:

- Will you be home **in time for dinner?** (= soon enough for dinner)
- I've sent Emma a birthday present. I hope it arrives **in time** (for her birthday). (= on or before her birthday)
- I'm in a hurry. I want to be home **in time to see** the game on television. (= soon enough to see the game)

The opposite of **in time** is **too late**:

- I got home **too late** to see the game on television.

You can say **just in time** (= almost too late):

- We got to the station **just in time** for our train.
- A child ran into the road in front of the car – I managed to stop **just in time.**

At the end and in the end

At the end (of something) = at the time when something ends. For example:

at the end of the month	**at the end of January**	**at the end of the game**
at the end of the film	**at the end of the course**	**at the end of the concert**

- I'm going away **at the end of January / at the end of the month.**
- **At the end of the concert,** there was great applause.
- The players shook hands **at the end of the game.**

You cannot say '**in** the end of ...'. So you cannot say 'in the end of January' or 'in the end of the concert'.

The opposite of **at the end** (of ...) is **at the beginning** (of ...):

- I'm going away **at the beginning of January.** (*not* in the beginning)

In the end = finally.

We use **in the end** when we say what the final result of a situation was:

- We had a lot of problems with our car. We sold it **in the end.** (= finally we sold it)
- He got more and more angry. **In the end** he just walked out of the room.
- Alan couldn't decide where to go for his holidays. He didn't go anywhere **in the end.** (*not* at the end)

The opposite of **in the end** is usually **at first:**

- **At first** we didn't get on very well, but **in the end** we became good friends.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

122.1 Complete the sentences with on time or in time.

1 The bus was late this morning, but it's usually ...on time... .
2 The film was supposed to start at 8.30, but it didn't begin ..... .
3 I like to get up ..... to have a big breakfast before going to work.
4 We want to start the meeting ..... , so please don't be late.
5 I've just washed this shirt. I want to wear it this evening, so I hope it will be dry ..... .
6 The train service isn't very good. The trains are rarely ..... .
7 I nearly missed my flight this morning. I got to the airport just ..... .
8 I nearly forgot that it was Joe's birthday. Fortunately I remembered ..... .
9 Why are you never ..... ? You always keep everybody waiting.

122.2 Read the situations and make sentences using just in time.

1 A child ran into the road in front of your car. You saw the child at the last moment.
(manage / stop) ...I managed to stop just in time.....
2 You were walking home. Just after you got home, it started to rain very heavily.
(get / home) I .....
3 Tim was going to sit on the chair you had just painted. You said, 'Don't sit on that chair!', so he didn't. (stop / him) I .....
4 You and a friend went to the cinema. You were late and you thought you would miss the beginning of the film. But the film began just as you sat down in the cinema.
(get / cinema / beginning of the film)
We .....

122.3 Complete the sentences using at the end + the following:

the course ~~the game~~ the interview the month the race

1 The players shook hands ...at the end of the game..... .
2 I usually get paid ..... .
3 The students had a party ..... .
4 Two of the runners collapsed ..... .
5 To my surprise, I was offered the job ..... .

122.4 Write sentences with In the end. Use the verb in brackets.

1 We had a lot of problems with our car. (sell) ...In the end we sold it.....
2 Judy got more and more fed up with her job.
(resign) .....
3 I tried to learn German, but I found it too difficult.
(give up) .....
4 We couldn't decide whether to go to the party or not.
(not / go) .....

122.5 Put in at or in.

1 I'm going away ...at... the end of the month.
2 It took me a long time to find a job. ..... the end I got a job in a hotel.
3 Are you going away ..... the beginning of August or ..... the end?
4 I couldn't decide what to buy Laura for her birthday. I didn't buy her anything ..... the end.
5 We waited ages for a taxi. We gave up ..... the end and walked home.
6 I'll be moving to a new address ..... the end of September.
7 We had a few problems at first, but ..... the end everything was OK.
8 I'm going away ..... the end of this week.
9 A: I didn't know what to do.
B: Yes, you were in a difficult position. What did you do ..... the end?

LIVEWORKSHEETS