

ENGLISH WITH SHARON

PREPOSITIONS OF TIME

PREPOSIZIONI DI TEMPO

Prepositions of time are used a lot in everyday English and also in more formal situations. If you want to meet your friends for dinner or your boss wants you to organise a business meeting, you need to understand how to use them. But prepositions of time are often confusing for English learners. This is your chance to understand them better!

Le preposizioni di tempo sono molto usate nell'inglese di tutti i giorni ed anche in molte situazioni formali. Se vuoi incontrare i tuoi amici per cena o il tuo capo ti chiede di organizzare una riunione di lavoro, hai bisogno di capire come usarle. Le preposizioni di tempo, però, tendono spesso a confondere chi sta imparando l'inglese. Ecco la tua occasione per capirle meglio!



AT, IN, ON

The main prepositions of time we use in English are at, in and on. The following table explains where they are used, with simple examples. This is followed by some exercises where YOU decide which preposition to use. Then you can look at the answers!

Le preposizioni di tempo principali che usiamo in inglese sono at, in e on. La seguente tabella spiega quando sono usate con alcuni esempi. Ad essa seguono alcuni esercizi nei quali devi scegliere quale preposizione usare. Alla fine, puoi controllare le risposte.

AT



Use AT for ...

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Clock time <i>Orario preciso</i></p> | <p>I'm meeting John at 4.30.</p> <p>The train departs at 7 o'clock.</p> <p>The train departs at approximately 7 o'clock.</p> <p>I go to bed at midnight.</p> |
| <p>Specific times of day <i>Specifici momenti della giornata</i></p> <p>Other general points of time <i>Altri punti del tempo generali</i></p> | <p>He usually wakes up at dawn.</p> <p>We will go for a long walk at the weekend.</p> <p>I'm not working at the moment.</p> <p>Sorry, he isn't in the office at present.</p> <p>She will leave her job at the end of the year.</p> |
| <p>Mealtimes <i>Pasti</i></p> | <p>I like the children to eat with the adults at dinner.</p> |
| <p>Festivals / general religious holiday periods <i>Festival/periodi generali di feste religiose</i></p> | <p>We'll see our grandparents at Christmas.</p> <p>We'll have fireworks at New Year.</p> |

IN

Use IN for ...



| | |
|---|--|
| Parts of the day <i>Parti della giornata</i> | I always have a coffee and toast in the morning. |
| Months <i>Mesi</i> | Our wedding anniversary is in June. |
| Years <i>Anni</i> | We moved to Milan in 2012. |
| Centuries <i>Secoli</i> | Shakespeare died in the seventeenth century. |
| Seasons <i>Stagioni</i> | It often snows in winter. |
| Periods of historical time <i>Periodi di tempo storico</i> | The Beatles were very popular in the 1960's. My grandparents say life was hard in the past. |
| Duration: how much time it takes to do something <i>Per indicare quanto tempo occorre per fare qualcosa</i> | You can get to Paris in one hour from here. Mr Jones will be back in a few moments. Mr Jones will be back in two days. |

ON

Use ON for ...



| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Days of the week <i>Giorni della settimana</i></p> | <p>I play football on Saturdays He takes the train to work on week days.</p> |
| <p>Dates <i>Date</i></p> | <p>Our wedding anniversary is on 7th June.</p> |
| <p>Specific festival days or feast days or dates <i>Specifici giorni di festival o giorni festivi o date festive</i></p> | <p>We will see our grandparents on Christmas Day. We will have fireworks on New Year's Eve. We will have a romantic dinner on Valentine's Day.</p> |
| <p>Particular unspecified occasions <i>Occasioni particolari ma non specifici</i></p> | <p>The police wanted to find out what the suspect was doing on that morning She was very anxious on the day of her job interview.</p> <p>He always gives her roses on their wedding anniversary. I hope I receive lots of presents on my birthday.</p> |
| <p>Anniversaries and birthdays <i>Anniversari e compleanni</i></p> | <p>He always gives her roses on their wedding anniversary. I hope I receive lots of presents on my birthday.</p> |

EXERCISES

Now try these exercises. You can look at the explanations above to help you. The answers are on the last page, but don't look at these until you have finished the exercises!

Ora prova questi esercizi. Puoi dare un'occhiata alle spiegazioni elencate qui sopra per aiutarti. le risposte sono nell'ultima pagina, ma non le guardare finchè non avrai finito gli esercizi.

1. She flew to New York _____Tuesday.
2. _____September, my son begins university law studies.
3. If John is free, we'll drive to the lake _____the beginning of the week.
4. The leaves in the park turn brown _____the autumn.
5. They visited their mother _____Easter Sunday.
6. Why do we give presents _____Christmas?
7. I have my piano lesson _____Thursdays.
8. The train network system developed _____the nineteenth century.
9. We will organise a surprise for my dad _____Father's Day.
- 10.The boat arrives _____4.30pm.
- 11.The football match is _____the afternoon.
12. I rarely eat a hot meal _____lunchtime, because I have no time.

ANSWERS

1. She flew to New York **ON** Tuesday.
2. **IN** September, my son begins university law studies.
3. If John is free, we'll drive to the lake **AT** the beginning of the week.
4. The leaves in the park turn brown **IN** the autumn.
5. They visited their mother **ON** Easter Sunday.
6. Why do we give presents **AT** Christmas?
7. I have my piano lesson **ON** Thursdays.
8. The train network system developed **IN** the nineteenth century.
9. We will organise a surprise for my dad **ON** Father's Day.
10. The boat arrives **AT** 4.30pm.
11. The football match is **IN** the afternoon.
12. I rarely eat a hot meal **AT** lunchtime, because I have no time.

WHAT NEXT?

Have you completed the exercises and checked the answers?

Do you want to improve your English some more? Then book up now for your FREE trial lesson. Remember this offer is limited to the first 20 people who contact English with Sharon.

E adesso?

Hai completato gli esercizi e controllato le risposte? Vuoi migliorare il tuo inglese un po' di più? Allora prenota la tua lezione di prova gratis. Ricorda che questa offerta è limitata alle prime 20 persone che contatteranno English with Sharon.

Email: info@englishwithsharon.com