

Prepositions of time (1)

THEATRE! DANCE! MUSIC! COMEDY!

England's biggest, busiest festival is back – it starts **on** 5 May and continues **until** 27 May.

Events **at** lunchtime **on** most days and **in** the evening every day.

The ticket office is open **from** 10.00 a.m. **to** 6.00 p.m. every day.

Brighton
festival

1 at, in, on

| | | |
|------|-----------------------------------|--|
| at + | an exact time | The train arrives at 6.00. The film starts at 9.00. |
| | special days or occasions | Lucy met an old friend at her sister's wedding. |
| | times of meals and the weekend | The concert is at lunchtime. What are you doing at the weekend? |
| in + | parts of the day | There are events in the evening every day. It gets cooler in the afternoon. |
| | months, seasons, years, centuries | The festival is in May. He was born in 1994. They built the castle in the eleventh century. |
| on + | dates and days | The festival starts on 5 May. My interview is on Thursday afternoon. |



We say **at night**, NOT **in the night**:

✗ *The supermarket is open in the night.* ✓ *The supermarket is open at night.*

2 No preposition

We don't use a preposition with

- **this** (morning, week, etc.):
*What time did you have breakfast **this morning**?*
- **last** (month, year, etc.):
*The new theatre opened **last month**.*
- **next** (week, year, etc.):
*My English course starts **next week**.*
- **every** (day, weekend, etc.):
*There are special events **every day**.*



✗ *Kevin's exam was on last Tuesday.* ✓ *Kevin's exam was **last Tuesday**.*

✗ *There's a festival here in every February.* ✓ *There's a festival here **every February**.*

3 in, until, from ... to/until

*My birthday is **in** five days.* (five days from now)

*The festival continues **until** 12 May.* (it ends on this date)

*The festival lasts **from** 9 May **to/until** 12 May.*
(from the beginning to the end of this time)

Use of prepositions in American English ➤ page 317



Practice

1 Match the two parts of the sentences. 2.44 Listen and check.

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 0 The first men walked on the moon in | A 9 June, 1963. |
| 1 Americans usually have family parties in | B Saturdays. |
| 2 World War Two lasted from | C the morning. |
| 3 People usually do their best work in | D 1969. |
| 4 Johnny Depp was born on | E November. |
| 5 Children don't usually go to school on | F 1939 until 1945. |

2 Look at the notices. Complete the sentences below them. Use the correct prepositions.



- 0 Knightley Manor is only open to the public *at the weekend*...



- 1 The train to Winchester arrives and leaves



- 2 The shop is closed



- 3 The next term starts



- 4 The cinema tickets are half price



- 5 The next performance of the play will be

3 Complete/write the second sentence so it means the same as the first. Use the words in brackets (). 2.45 Listen and check.

- 0 I usually go to the gym at 10.00. (in) *I usually go to the gym in the morning.*
- 1 I went to the gym at 10.30 today. (this)
I went
- 2 It's Monday 15 June now. I have a doctor's appointment for Monday 22 June. (next)
I'm going
- 3 At the moment I'm working from Monday to Sunday. (every)
.....
- 4 It's Monday. The report will be ready on Thursday. (in)
.....
- 5 The builders are starting on Wednesday and working until Saturday. (from ... to)
.....

4 Complete the sentences about you. Use the information in brackets ().

- 0 (year) I was born *in 1986*
- 1 (year) I was born
- 2 (day, month) My birthday is
- 3 (time) I usually get up and go to bed
- 4 (period) I usually work / study from
- 5 (day) I often take exercise / play a sport

Prepositions of time (2)



London **FILM**FESTIVAL

Classic films of the 1920s:

The Hunchback of Notre Dame

Wednesday 10 March at 7 p.m.

- Drinks **before** the film
- Neil Brand plays the piano **during** the film
- Talk **after** the show by the Director of the National Film Theatre

1 *before, after*

We use *before* and *after* with

- times:

Let's meet **before** 7.00. The film starts then.

Train tickets are cheaper **after** 9.30 in the morning.

- events/situations:

There will be drinks **before the film**. Let's watch TV **after dinner**.

My grandmother was born **before the war**. I can meet you **after work**.

before and *after* + *-ing* form ► Unit 95.1

2 *by, for, during*

We use *by* to mean 'not later than':

Please give me your homework **by Friday**. (on or before Friday)

The holiday will be cheaper if we book it **by 30 April**. (on or before 30 April)

The meeting is on Wednesday so I'll finish the report **by then**.

We use *for* + a period of time:

for an hour, two days, three weeks

It means 'the whole time':

We waited **for the bus for an hour**.



We use *during* + an event or situation:

during the flight, the winter, the war

Neil Brand plays the piano **during the film**.

Uncle Andy called us **during supper** with some bad news.

Compare *during* and *for*:

I only slept **for half an hour during** the flight.

It rained **for two days during** our holiday.



✗ I go to classes **during three hours** in the afternoon.

✓ I go to classes **for three hours** in the afternoon.

for with present perfect ► Unit 53.1

Practice

- 1** **GRAMMAR IN USE** Look at the flight information board. Use the information below to complete it.

| DEPARTURES | ARRIVALS |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 08.55 (0) <i>BC218 Edinburgh</i> | 09.05 LT079 FRANKFURT |
| 09.10 AC1525 MONTREAL | (5) AF1062 PARIS |
| 09.15 DA729 MADRID | 09.15 (6) |
| 09.25 PA1921 (1) | 09.30 BA9193 JOHANNESBURG |
| 09.35 LT200 FRANKFURT | 09.35 DA738 MUNICH |
| 09.45 DA1910 MILAN | 09.55 AA0107 TANGIER |
| 09.50 PA8310 MONTEVIDEO | 10.10 (7) |
| (2) (3) | 10.25 (8) |
| 10.20 (4) | 10.35 DA661 ATHENS |

Only one flight leaves the airport before 9 o'clock in the morning, the BC218 to Edinburgh.

There are two flights for North America before 9.30, for Montreal and New York.

Only two flights leave between 10.00 and 10.30, the AF1063 to Paris, and ten minutes before that the SAS202 to Stockholm.

Two flights arrive from Paris after 9.00: BA5634 arrives five minutes after the Air France flight.

There are two arrivals from the United States: BA4242 from Miami first at 10.10, then PA2190 from Dallas fifteen minutes after that.

- 2** Choose the correct words in *italics*. **2.46** Listen and check.

- If you aren't doing anything this evening, let's go to the cinema *during* / *after* work.
- The flight's at 8.00 a.m. so we'll have to get up *after* / *before* 6.00 to get to the airport.
- The last date for your project is 25 March. Please give it to your teacher *by* / *after* then.
- Mike had a bad accident *during* / *for* his holiday and was in hospital *during* / *for* two weeks.
- Everything smells very fresh *before* / *after* rain.
- Please don't talk *for* / *during* the exam.
- We'll send out the interview letters *by* / *after* the weekend, so you'll hear early next week.

- 3** **GRAMMAR IN USE** Complete the text with the correct words from the box. **2.47** Listen and check.

after before by during during for for

The Rocks Hotel

has welcomed visitors (0) *for* 25 years.

The following information will help you to have an enjoyable stay:

- The restaurant is open from 6.30 until 9.30 p.m. If you would like an evening meal (1) this time, please call 135.
- Breakfast is served between 6.30 and 9.00 a.m. If you would like breakfast in your room, please hang the menu card on your door (2) 2.00 a.m.
- Reception is closed from 11.30 p.m. to 6.00 a.m. If you need a doctor (3) the night, please call 100.
- We ask guests to leave their rooms by 11.00 a.m. If you wish to keep your room later than this, please let us know (4) 9.00 a.m.

**** SPECIAL SPRING OFFER**** (5) the months of March and April, stay (6) two nights and have dinner here, get the third night FREE!