

# at 8 o'clock on Monday in April

**A**

at



at	8 o'clock 10.30 midnight <i>etc.</i>
----	--

- I start work **at 8 o'clock**.
- The shops close **at 5.30**.

on



on	Sunday(s) / Monday(s) <i>etc.</i> 25 April / 6 June <i>etc.</i> New Year's Day <i>etc.</i>
----	--

- Goodbye! See you **on Friday**.
- I don't work **on Sundays**.
- The concert is **on 22 November**.

in



in	April/June <i>etc.</i> 1985/1750 <i>etc.</i> summer/spring <i>etc.</i>
----	--

- I'm going on holiday **in October**.
- Emma left school **in 1993**.
- The garden is lovely **in spring**.

**B**

We say:

at the weekend  
at night  
at Christmas / at Easter  
at the end of ...  
at the moment

- Are you going away **at the weekend**?
- I can't sleep **at night**.
- Where will you be **at Christmas**? (*but on Christmas Day*)
- I'm going on holiday **at the end of** October.
- Are you busy **at the moment**?

**C**

in the morning / in the afternoon / in the evening

- I always feel good **in the morning**.
- Do you often go out **in the evening**?

but

on Monday morning / on Tuesday afternoon / on Friday evening / on Saturday night *etc.*:

- I'm meeting Jill **on Monday morning**.
- Are you doing anything **on Saturday evening**?

**D**

We do *not* use **at/on/in** before:

this ... (this morning / this week *etc.*)  
last ... (last August / last week *etc.*)  
next ... (next Monday / next week *etc.*)  
every ... (every day / every week *etc.*)

- Are you going out **this evening**?
- The garden was lovely **last summer**.
- I'm going on holiday **next Monday**.  
(*not 'on next Monday'*)

**E**

in five minutes / in a few days / in six weeks / in two years *etc.*



now



in five minutes

- Hurry! The train leaves **in five minutes**.  
(= it leaves five minutes from now)
- Goodbye! I'll see you **in a few days**.  
(= a few days from now)

EXERCISES

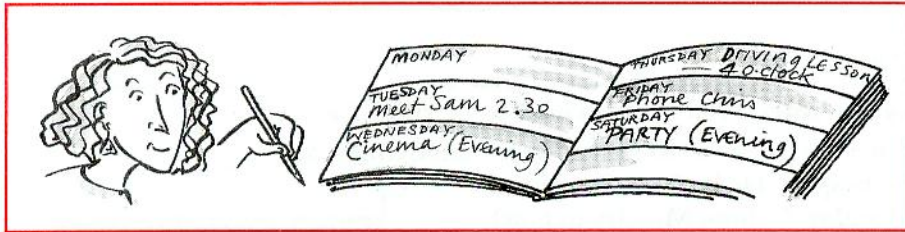
96.1 Write at/on/in.

- |                               |                        |                             |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 <u>on</u> ..... 6 June      | 7 ..... 24 September   | 13 ..... Friday morning     |
| 2 <u>in</u> ..... the evening | 8 ..... Thursday       | 14 ..... Saturday night     |
| 3 ..... half past two         | 9 ..... 11.45          | 15 ..... night              |
| 4 ..... Wednesday             | 10 ..... Christmas Day | 16 ..... the end of the day |
| 5 ..... 1987                  | 11 ..... Christmas     | 17 ..... the weekend        |
| 6 ..... September             | 12 ..... the morning   | 18 ..... winter             |

96.2 Write at/on/in.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Goodbye! See you <u>on</u> ..... Friday.   | 11 I often go away ..... the weekend.                  |
| 2 Where were you ..... 28 February?          | 12 I'm starting my new job ..... 3 July.               |
| 3 I got up ..... 8 o'clock this morning.     | 13 We often go to the beach ..... summer.              |
| 4 I like getting up early ..... the morning. | 14 George isn't here ..... the moment.                 |
| 5 My sister got married ..... May.           | 15 Julia's birthday is ..... January.                  |
| 6 Diane and I first met ..... 1979.          | 16 Do you work ..... Saturdays?                        |
| 7 Did you go out ..... Tuesday?              | 17 The company started ..... 1969.                     |
| 8 Did you go out ..... Tuesday evening?      | 18 I like to look at the stars ..... night.            |
| 9 Do you often go out ..... the evening?     | 19 I'll send you the money ..... the end of the month. |
| 10 Let's meet ..... 7.30 tomorrow evening.   |  |

96.3 Look at Lisa's diary for next week and complete the sentences.



- |   |
|---|
| 1 Lisa is going to the cinema <u>on Wednesday evening</u> ..... |
| 2 She has to phone Chris .....                                  |
| 3 She isn't doing anything special .....                        |
| 4 She's got a driving lesson .....                              |
| 5 She's going to a party .....                                  |
| 6 She's meeting Sam .....                                       |

96.4 Write sentences with in ...

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 It's 17.25 now. The train leaves at 17.30.     | <u>The train leaves in five minutes</u> ..... |
| 2 It's Monday today. I'll phone you on Thursday. | I'll ..... days.                              |
| 3 Today is 14 June. My exam is on 28 June.       | My .....                                      |
| 4 It's 3 o'clock now. Tom will be here at 3.30.  | Tom .....                                     |

96.5 Write at/on/in if necessary. Sometimes there is no preposition.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 I'm leaving <u>on</u> ..... Friday.             | 7 What are you doing ..... the weekend?       |
| 2 I'm leaving ..... next Friday. (no preposition) | 8 I phone Robert ..... every Sunday.          |
| 3 I always feel tired ..... the evening.          | 9 Shall we play tennis .....next Sunday?      |
| 4 Will you be at home ..... this evening?         | 10 I can't go to the party ..... Sunday.      |
| 5 We went to France ..... last summer.            | 11 I'm going out. I'll be back ..... an hour. |
| 6 Laura was born ..... 1975.                      | 12 I don't often go out ..... night.          |

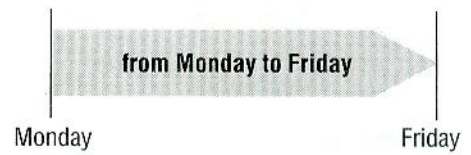
# from ... to    until    since    for

## A from ... to ...

- We lived in Canada **from** 1982 **to** 1990.
- I work **from** Monday **to** Friday.

You can also say **from ... until ...** :

- We lived in Canada **from** 1982 **until** 1990.



## B until + the end of a period

**until Friday    until December    until 3 o'clock    until I come back**

- They're going away tomorrow. They'll be away **until Friday**.
- I went to bed early but I wasn't tired. I read a book **until 3 o'clock**.
- Wait here **until I come back**.

You can also say **till** (= **until**):

- Wait here **till** I come back.

Compare:

- 'How long will you be away?' 'Until Monday.'
- 'When are you coming back?' 'On Monday.'



## C since + a time in the past (to now)

**since Monday    since 1968    since 2.30    since I arrived**

We use **since** after the *present perfect* (**have been / have done etc.**):

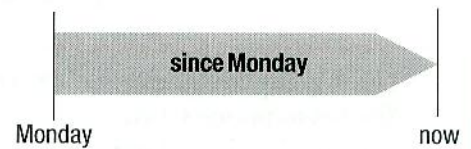
- John is in hospital. He has been in hospital **since Monday**. (= from Monday to now)
- Mr and Mrs Kelly have been married **since 1968**. (from 1968 to now)
- It has been raining **since I arrived**.

Compare:

- We lived in Canada **from** 1982 **to** 1990.  
We lived in Canada **until** 1990.
- Now we live in France. We came to France **in** 1990.  
We have lived in France **since** 1990. (= from 1990 until now)

We use **for** (*not since*) + a *period of time* (**three days / ten years etc.**):

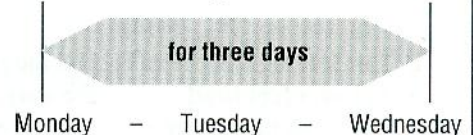
- John has been in hospital **for three days**. (*not* 'since three days')



## D for + a period of time

**for three days    for ten years    for ten minutes    for a long time**

- George stayed with us **for three days**.
- I'm going away **for a few weeks**.
- I'm going away **for the weekend**.
- They've been married **for ten years**.



EXERCISES

97.1 Read the information about these people and complete the sentences. Use **from ... to / until / since**.

ALEX



I live in England now.  
I lived in Canada before.  
I came to England in 1990.

ALICE



I live in Switzerland now.  
I lived in France before.  
I came to Switzerland in 1991.

CAROL



I work in a restaurant now.  
I worked in a hotel before.  
I started work in the restaurant in 1993.

GERRY



I'm a salesman now.  
I was a teacher before.  
I started work as a salesman in 1989.

- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1 (Alex / Canada / 1982–1990)     | Alex lived <u>in Canada from 1982 to 1990</u> . |
| 2 (Alex / Canada / → 1990)        | Alex lived in Canada ..... 1990.                |
| 3 (Alex / England / 1990 →)       | Alex has lived in England .....                 |
| 4 (Alice / France / → 1991)       | Alice lived in .....                            |
| 5 (Alice / Switzerland / 1991 →)  | Alice has lived in .....                        |
| 6 (Carol / a hotel / 1990–1993)   | Carol worked ..... 1990 .....                   |
| 7 (Carol / a restaurant / 1993 →) | Carol has worked .....                          |
| 8 (Gerry / a teacher / 1983–1989) | Gerry was a .....                               |
| 9 (Gerry / a salesman / 1989 →)   | Gerry has been .....                            |

Now write sentences with **for**.




- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| 10 (Alex / Canada)       | <u>Alex lived in Canada for eight years.</u> |
| 11 (Alex / England)      | Alex has lived in England .....              |
| 12 (Alice / Switzerland) | Alice has .....                              |
| 13 (Carol / a hotel)     | Carol worked .....                           |
| 14 (Carol / restaurant)  | Carol .....                                  |
| 15 (Gerry / a teacher)   | Gerry .....                                  |
| 16 (Gerry / a salesman)  | Gerry .....                                  |

97.2 Put in **until/since/for**.

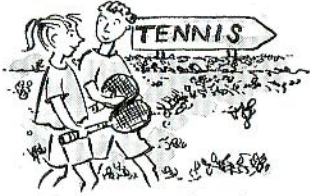
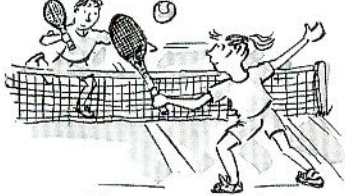

- Mr and Mrs Kelly have been married since 1968.
- I was tired this morning. I stayed in bed ..... 10 o'clock.
- We waited for Sue ..... half an hour but she didn't come.
- 'Have you just arrived?' 'No, I've been here ..... half past seven.'
- 'How long did you stay at the party last night?' '..... midnight.'
- David and I are good friends. We have known each other ..... ten years.
- I'm tired. I'm going to lie down ..... a few minutes.
- Don't open the door of the train ..... the train stops.
- This is my house. I've lived here ..... I was seven years old.
- Jack has gone away. He'll be away ..... Wednesday.
- Next week I'm going to Paris ..... three days.
- I usually finish work at 5.30, but sometimes I work ..... six.
- 'How long have you known Ann?' '..... we were at school together.'
- Where have you been? I've been waiting for you ..... twenty minutes.

before after during while

A

<p>before</p>  <p>before the film</p>	<p>during</p>  <p>during the film</p>	<p>after</p>  <p>after the film</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everybody is nervous <b>before</b> exams.</li> <li>• I went to sleep <b>during</b> the film.</li> <li>• We were tired <b>after</b> our visit to the museum.</li> </ul>		

B

<p>before</p>  <p>before we played</p>	<p>while</p>  <p>while we were playing</p>	<p>after</p>  <p>after we played</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Don't forget to close the window <b>before</b> you go out.</li> <li>• I often go to sleep <b>while</b> I'm watching television.</li> <li>• They went home <b>after</b> they did the shopping.</li> </ul>		

C

during, while and for

We use **during** + *noun* (during the film). We use **while** + *verb* (while I'm watching):

- We didn't speak **during** the meal.
- but • We didn't speak **while** we were eating. (*not* 'during we were eating')

Use **for** (*not* 'during') + *a period of time* (three days / two hours / a year *etc.*):

- We played tennis **for** two hours. (*not* 'during two hours')
- I lived in London **for** a year. (*not* 'during a year')

D

You can use **before/after** + *-ing* (before going / after eating *etc.*):

- I always have breakfast **before** going to work. (= before I go to work)
- **After** doing the shopping, they went home. (= after they did)

Do *not* say 'before to go', 'after to do' *etc.*:

- **Before** eating the apple, I washed it carefully. (*not* 'before to eat')
- I started work **after** reading the newspaper. (*not* 'after to read')

EXERCISES

98.1 Complete the sentences. Choose from the boxes.

before	during	+	the concert	<del>the exam</del>	they went to Australia
after	while		the course	lunch	you are waiting
			the end	the night	

- Everybody was nervous before the exam.
- I usually work four hours in the morning, and another two hours .....
- The film was very boring. We left .....
- Ann went to evening classes to learn German. She learnt a lot .....
- My aunt and uncle lived in London .....
- A: Somebody broke a window ..... Did you hear anything?  
B: No. I was asleep all the time.
- Would you like to sit down ..... ?
- 'Are you going home ..... ?' 'No, we're going to a restaurant.'

98.2 Put in **during/while/for**.

- We didn't speak while we were eating.
- We didn't speak during the meal.
- George phoned ..... you were out.
- I stayed in Rome ..... five days.
- Sally wrote a lot of letters ..... she was on holiday.
- The students looked very bored ..... the lesson.
- I fell out of bed ..... I was asleep.
- Yesterday evening I watched TV ..... three hours.
- I don't usually watch TV ..... the day.
- Do you ever watch TV ..... you are having dinner?

98.3 Complete the sentences. Use **-ing (doing etc.)**.

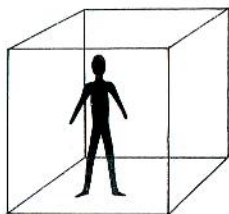
- After doing the shopping, they went home.
- I felt sick after ..... too much chocolate.
- I'm going to ask you a question. Think carefully before ..... it.
- I felt awful when I got up this morning. I felt better after ..... a shower.
- After ..... my work, I left the office and went home.
- Before ..... to a foreign country, it's a good idea to learn a few words of the language.

98.4 Write sentences with **before + -ing** and **after + -ing**.

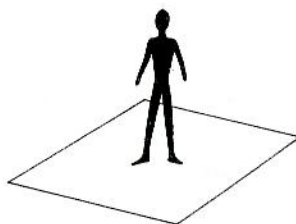
- They did the shopping. Then they went home.  
After doing the shopping, they went home.
- John left school. Then he worked in a bookshop for two years.  
John worked .....
- I read a few pages of my book. Then I went to sleep.  
Before .....
- We walked for three hours. We were very tired.  
After .....
- Let's have a cup of coffee. Then we'll go out.  
Let's .....

# in at on (places 1)

## A in



in a room  
in a shop  
in a car  
in the water



in a garden  
in a town  
in the city centre  
in France

- 'Where's David?' 'In the kitchen. / In the garden. / In London.'
- What's in that box / in that bag / in that cupboard?
- Angela works in a shop / in a bank / in a factory.
- I had a swim in the river / in the sea.
- Milan is in the north of Italy.
- I live in a town but I want to live in the country.

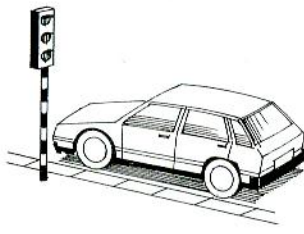
## B at



at the bus stop



at the door



at the traffic lights



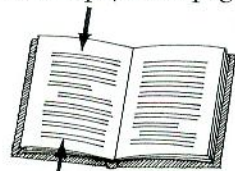
at her desk

- There's somebody at the bus stop / at the door.
- The car is waiting at the traffic lights.
- Julia is working at her desk.

at the top / at the bottom / at the end (of ...):

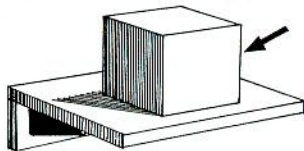
- Write your name at the top of the page.
- My house is at the end of the street.

at the top (of the page)

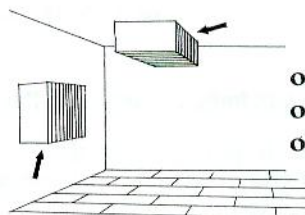


at the bottom (of the page)

## C on



on a shelf  
on a plate  
on a balcony  
on the floor etc.

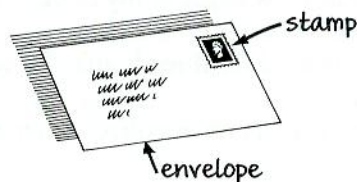


on a wall  
on a door  
on the ceiling etc.

- There are some books on the shelf and some pictures on the wall.
- There are a lot of apples on those trees.
- Don't sit on the grass. It's wet.
- There is a stamp on the envelope.

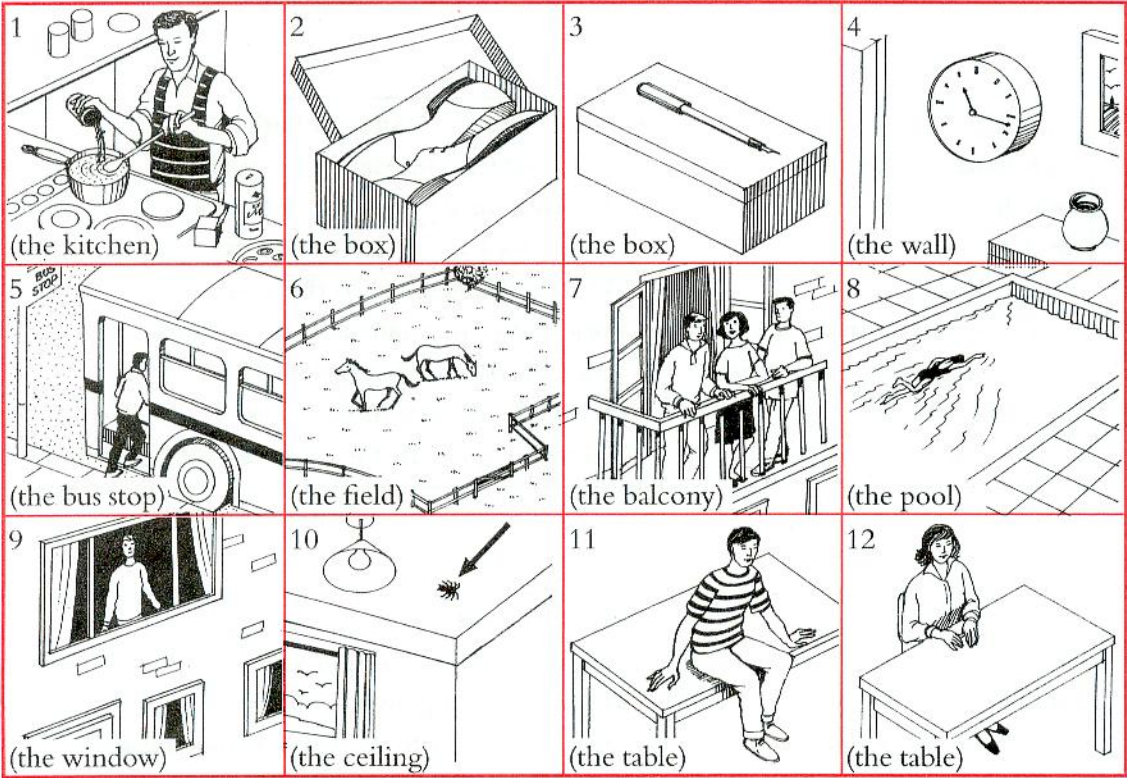
also on a horse / on a bicycle / on a motor-bike:

- Who is that man on the motor-bike?



EXERCISES

99.1 Look at the pictures and answer the questions. Use **in/at/on** + the words in brackets (...).



- |                                       |                                  |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 Where is he? <u>In the kitchen.</u> | 7 Where are they standing? ..... |
| 2 Where are the shoes? .....          | 8 Where is she swimming? .....   |
| 3 Where is the pen? .....             | 9 Where is he standing? .....    |
| 4 Where is the clock? .....           | 10 Where is the spider? .....    |
| 5 Where is the bus? .....             | 11 Where is he sitting? .....    |
| 6 Where are the horses? .....         | 12 Where is she sitting? .....   |

99.2 Put in **in/at/on**.

- 1 Don't sit **on** the grass. It's wet.
- 2 What have you got ..... your bag?
- 3 Look! There's a man ..... the roof. What's he doing?
- 4 There are a lot of fish ..... this river.
- 5 Our house is number 45 – the number is ..... the door.
- 6 'Is the cinema near here?' 'Yes, turn left ..... the traffic lights.'
- 7 I usually do my shopping ..... the city centre.
- 8 My sister lives ..... Brussels.
- 9 There's a small park ..... the top of the hill.
- 10 I think I heard the doorbell. There's somebody ..... the door.
- 11 Munich is a large city ..... the south of Germany.
- 12 There are a few shops ..... the end of the street.
- 13 It's difficult to carry a lot of things ..... a bicycle.
- 14 I looked at the list of names. My name was ..... the bottom of the list.
- 15 There is a mirror ..... the wall ..... the living room.



# in at on (places 2)

## A in

<b>in</b> bed	● 'Where's Kate?' 'She's <b>in bed</b> .'
<b>in</b> hospital / <b>in</b> prison	● David's father is ill. He's <b>in hospital</b> .
<b>in</b> a street	● I live <b>in a</b> small <b>street</b> near the station.
<b>in</b> the sky	● I like to look at the stars <b>in the sky</b> at night.
<b>in</b> the world	● What's the largest city <b>in the world</b> ?
<b>in</b> a newspaper / <b>in</b> a book	● I read about the accident <b>in the newspaper</b> .
<b>in</b> a photograph / <b>in</b> a picture	● You look sad <b>in this photograph</b> .
<b>in</b> a car / <b>in</b> a taxi	● Did you come here <b>in your car</b> ?
<b>in</b> the middle (of ...)	● There's a big tree <b>in the middle</b> of the garden.

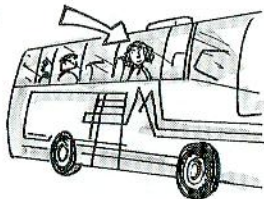
## B at

<b>at</b> home	● Will you be <b>at home</b> this evening?
<b>at</b> work / <b>at</b> school	● 'Where's Kate?' 'She's <b>at work</b> .'
<b>at</b> university / <b>at</b> college	● Helen is studying law <b>at university</b> .
<b>at</b> the station / <b>at</b> the airport	● Do you want me to meet you <b>at the station</b> ?
<b>at</b> Jane's (house) / <b>at</b> my sister's (house) / <b>at</b> the doctor's / <b>at</b> the hairdresser's <i>etc.</i>	● 'Where were you yesterday?' ' <b>At my sister's</b> .'
	● I saw Tom <b>at the doctor's</b> .
<b>at</b> a concert / <b>at</b> a party / <b>at</b> a football match <i>etc.</i>	● There weren't many people <b>at the party</b> .

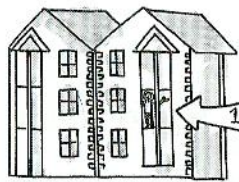
Often it is possible to use **in** or **at** for buildings (hotels, restaurants *etc.*):

- We stayed **at** a nice hotel. *or* We stayed **in** a nice hotel.

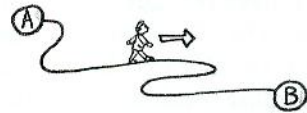
## C on



**on** a bus



**on** the first floor



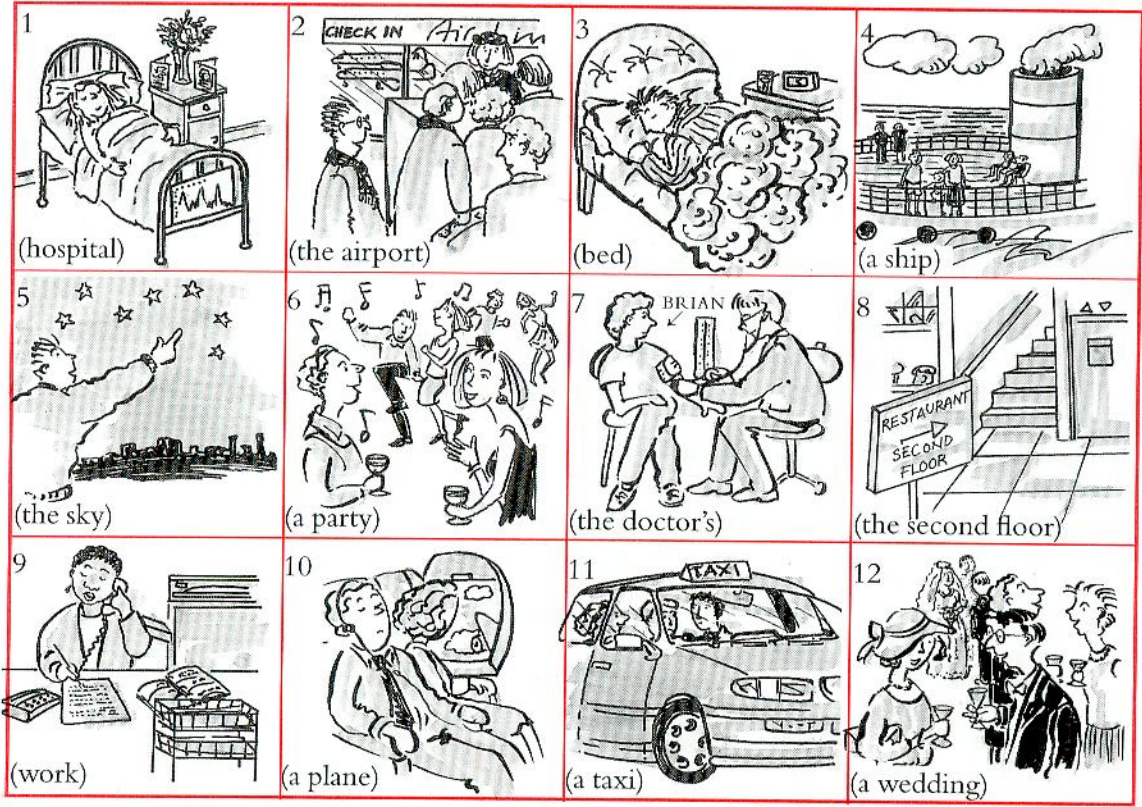
**on** the way from A to B

<b>on</b> a bus / <b>on</b> a train / <b>on</b> a plane / <b>on</b> a ship	● Did you come here <b>on the bus</b> ?
<b>on</b> the ground floor / <b>on</b> the first floor <i>etc.</i>	● The office is <b>on the first floor</b> . ( <i>not</i> 'in the first floor')
<b>on the way</b> (to ...) / <b>on the way</b> home	● I met Ann <b>on the way</b> to work / <b>on the way</b> home.

EXERCISES

100.1

Look at the pictures and answer the questions. Use **in/at/on** + the words in brackets (...).



- |                                     |                                  |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 Where is she? <u>In hospital.</u> | 7 Where is Brian? .....          |
| 2 Where are they? .....             | 8 Where is the restaurant? ..... |
| 3 Where is he? .....                | 9 Where is she? .....            |
| 4 Where are they? .....             | 10 Where are they? .....         |
| 5 Where are the stars? .....        | 11 Where are they? .....         |
| 6 Where are they? .....             | 12 Where are they? .....         |

100.2

Put in **in/at/on**.

- 1 Helen is studying law at university.
- 2 There was a big table ..... the middle of the room.
- 3 What is the longest river ..... the world?
- 4 Were there many people ..... the concert last night?
- 5 Will you be ..... home tomorrow afternoon?
- 6 Who is that man ..... this photograph? Do you know him?
- 7 Where are your children? Are they ..... school?
- 8 George is coming by train. I'm going to meet him ..... the station.
- 9 Charlie is ..... hospital. He's going to have an operation tomorrow.
- 10 How many pages are there ..... this book?
- 11 'Are you hungry after your journey?' 'No, I had a meal ..... the train.'
- 12 I'm sorry I'm late. My car broke down ..... the way here.
- 13 'Is Tom here?' 'No, he's ..... his brother's.'
- 14 Don't believe everything you see ..... the newspaper!
- 15 I walked to work but I came home ..... the bus.