

05 Prepositions in expressions of time and place

1 Special days ▶ 31.1 31.2

Choose the correct prepositions.

in

at

on

1. Small children are always very excited _____ Christmas time. In Britain, they don't get their presents _____ Christmas Eve, but _____ Christmas Day. When they go to bed _____ the evening of Christmas Eve, a lot of children try to stay awake. They know that Santa Claus always comes down the chimney late _____ night with their presents, but when? Will he come _____ midnight this year? Or _____ one o'clock _____ the morning? Then, _____ the morning of December 25th, when they wake up and find their presents at the foot of the bed, they realize they must have fallen asleep before he came, like the year before!
2. Easter is _____ March this year. _____ Good Friday we sometimes go to church. There is a special service that starts _____ noon and finishes _____ 3 o'clock _____ the afternoon.
3. My birthday is _____ July. It's nice to have it _____ the summer. I usually have a party _____ my birthday, and we sometimes have a barbecue. It stays light nice and long _____ the evenings _____ that time of the year.

2 What's that in English? ▶ 30 31

Translate these sentences.

1. My train leaves _____ (*um halb zehn*).
2. I'll only be away _____ (*drei Tage lang*).
3. Please hurry up. We want to leave here _____ (*bis spätestens viertel vor acht*).
4. I haven't been to the cinema _____ (*seit Wochen*).
5. We've been living here _____ (*seit September*). We moved here _____ (*vor acht Wochen*).
6. Would you like the appointment _____ (*am Vormittag*), or would you rather come _____ (*nachmittags zwischen drei und vier*)?
7. We'd like to go skiing again _____ (*im nächsten Winter*).
8. Are you staying _____ (*bis Neujahr*)? – Yes, we're staying _____ (*vom Donnerstag bis zum Dienstag*).

3 Which preposition here? ▶ 31 32

Underline the right prepositions in these sentences.

1. The policeman ran *after/behind* the burglar.
2. The money that Robin Hood stole from the rich was shared out *among/under* the poor.
3. What's the difference *among/between* a planet and a star?
4. Steve has lived *at/with* his grandparents *at/in* Glasgow for three years now. In the summer holidays he sometimes spends a week or two *at/with* his uncle's *at/in* Wales.
5. I won't be out long. I'll be home *by/until* half past five.
6. The film starts *at/round* eight o'clock and goes on *by/until* ten thirty.