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You **Speak** English Fluently.

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Episode #024

Learn some Time

Prepositions in English

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Hi, I am Georgiana, your English teacher and founder of [SpeakEnglishPodcast.com](https://speakenglishpodcast.com). My mission is to help you to speak English fluently.

Today, I am going to talk about **time prepositions in English**.

And with a point of view story, you will learn grammar in context without memorizing any boring rules.

Before we get started, go to my website [SpeakEnglishPodcast.com](https://speakenglishpodcast.com) to get the transcript. It's free!

Ok. Let's start!

Prepositions are short words (on, in, to, of) that usually stand in front of nouns, pronouns, or a group of nouns. They show **direction, time, place, location**, or **introduce an object**.

We commonly use **prepositions** to show a **relationship** in space or time or a **logical relationship between** two or more people, places, or things.

But today, we will focus on **time prepositions**. I don't recommend memorizing the examples since that method doesn't work. It's always best to learn in context by listening repeatedly.

Ok. Let's start learning some time **prepositions in English**.

We use **ON** before the days of the week:

Examples:

"I went to the doctor **on Monday**."

"Don't call me **on Sundays** because I'm resting."

"I'd like to buy you lunch **on Friday**."

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We use **IN** before months, seasons, time of the day, year, seasons, or after a certain time period.

Examples:

"I was born **in September.**"

"Many people go on vacation **in August.**"

"I like running **in the morning.**"

"My mom came back from the trip **in the evening.**"

"Her family goes to Hawaii **in winter.**"

"I love going to the beach **in summer.**"

"We visited Mexico **in 2010.**"

"My sister was born **in 1998.**"

"I'll see you **in an hour.**"

"I'll be back **in 20 minutes.**"

We use **AT** for night, for the weekend, and at a certain time.

Examples:

"We sometimes finish work **at night.**"

"Kids go to bed **at 9 pm.**"

"I visit my family **at Christmas.**"

We use **SINCE** with days or dates.

Examples:

"I haven't seen Tom **since yesterday.**"

"She hasn't eaten **since breakfast.**"

"**Since the party,** he has not spoken to me at all."

We use the preposition **FOR** to indicate the length of time.

Examples:

"I haven't seen him **for two years.**"

"She had been taking care of her mother **for a year.**"

"I've waited for the bus **for two hours.**"

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We use "**AGO**" to determine a specific time in the past.

Examples:

"She renewed her membership about two months **ago**."

"Winter seems a very long time **ago**."

"He should have gone a long while **ago**."

"BEFORE and AFTER"

We use "**before**" and "**after**" to say that something happens before or after a specific time. You can use "before" and "after" with specific times, days, years, or months.

Examples:

"They never visit us **before** the summer arrives."

"They will visit us **after** the summer arrives."

"I'm hoping we can finish work **before** 5 pm."

"I'm hoping we can finish work **after** 4 pm."

Ok, that's it for now, but before we continue...

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Okay! Now it's time for you to learn grammar in context with a point of view story.

POV-Story

(Learn grammar in context)

I'll tell you a short story more than one time. Every time, I'll change a grammar point. I can change the tense or the person. This way, you'll notice the changes in context.

Ok. Let's start!

Nick was an expert in writing business value propositions, highly appreciated among entrepreneurs. He decided to set up an academy to teach what he did best. He placed an ad in a newspaper, and soon dozens of people signed up for his course.

On the first day of the course, Nick was delighted, but when the class started, the students started asking all kinds of questions related to using prepositions in English. Nick didn't understand what was going on. Finally, a student showed him the newspaper ad. It said, "Course on prepositions of value. 50% discount only this month."

There was a typo in the ad, so it was all a misunderstanding. The English students didn't learn much about prepositions but value propositions.

What a mix-up! A value proposition is a simple statement that summarizes why a customer would choose a product or service. It communicates the clearest benefit received.

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Let's hear the same story from Nick's point of view in the future tense:

Hi, I'm Nick, an expert in writing business value propositions, highly appreciated among entrepreneurs. I'm sure that I will probably set up an academy to teach what I do best. I will place an ad in a newspaper, and soon dozens of people will sign up for my course.

On the first day of the course, I will be delighted, but the students will start asking questions about using prepositions in English. I will not understand what's going on. Finally, someone will show me the newspaper ad. It will say, "Course on prepositions of value. 50% discount only this month."

There will be a typo in the ad, so it will all be a misunderstanding. The English students won't learn much about prepositions but value propositions.

Okay! That's the end of this little exercise. Notice that the changes between grammar points are subtle but important.

My advice is not to try to memorize grammar rules. It's better to see the changes in the proper context. With a story it is much easier to remember all this.

This is one of the techniques that I use in my [premium courses](#). I recommend you to take a look at: SpeakEnglishPodcast.com/courses



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Ok, we have reached the end of this episode.
Remember to listen to it several times. It will
help with your English.

See you soon!

Bye! Bye!
Founder of SpeakEnglishPodcast.com



Georgiana

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