Prepositions of time: at, on, in, by, until, since, for

Choose the preposition that normally goes with the whole time expression.

Use **in** with parts of the day, **at** with night and mealtimes, and **on** with a particular day plus a part of the day.

Worked example

We have a family meal **at** Christmas.

Complete each gap with at, on or in.

01. El edificio suele estar tranquilo por la noche.
The building is usually quiet _____ night.

02. El edificio suele estar tranquilo a la hora de comer.
The building is usually quiet _____ lunchtime.

03. El edificio suele estar tranquilo en Navidad.
The building is usually quiet _____ Christmas.

04. El edificio suele estar tranquilo en Semana Santa.
The building is usually quiet _____ Easter.

05. El personal a veces trabaja por la noche.
The staff sometimes work _____ night.

06. El personal a veces trabaja a la hora de comer.
The staff sometimes work _____ lunchtime.

07. El personal a veces trabaja en Navidad.
The staff sometimes work _____ Christmas.

08. El personal a veces trabaja en Semana Santa.
The staff sometimes work _____ Easter.

09. La tienda permanecerá cerrada por la noche.
The shop will be closed _____ night.

10. La tienda permanecerá cerrada a la hora de comer.
The shop will be closed _____ lunchtime.

11. La tienda permanecerá cerrada en Navidad.
The shop will be closed _____ Christmas.

12. La tienda permanecerá cerrada en Semana Santa.
The shop will be closed _____ Easter.

13. El centro suele estar muy animado por la noche.
The town centre is usually busy _____ night.

14. El centro suele estar muy animado a la hora de comer.
The town centre is usually busy _____ lunchtime.

15. El centro suele estar muy animado en Navidad.
The town centre is usually busy _____ Christmas.

16. El centro suele estar muy animado en Semana Santa.
The town centre is usually busy _____ Easter.

17. El médico tiene consulta el lunes por la mañana.
The doctor has appointments _____ Monday morning.

18. El médico tiene consulta el viernes por la tarde.
The doctor has appointments _____ Friday afternoon.

19. El médico tiene consulta el día de Navidad.
The doctor has appointments _____ Christmas Day.

20. El médico tiene consulta Nochevieja.
The doctor has appointments _____ New Year’s Eve.

At, on and in: special time expressions

Continue. Complete only the gap in English.

21. Haremos una excursión el lunes por la mañana.
We are going on a day trip _____ Monday morning.

22. Haremos una excursión el viernes por la tarde.
We are going on a day trip _____ Friday afternoon.

23. Haremos una excursión el día de Navidad.
We are going on a day trip _____ Christmas Day.

24. Haremos una excursión Nochevieja.
We are going on a day trip _____ New Year's Eve.

25. La tienda organiza una actividad especial el lunes por la mañana.
The shop is holding a special event _____ Monday morning.

26. La tienda organiza una actividad especial el viernes por la tarde.
The shop is holding a special event _____ Friday afternoon.

27. La tienda organiza una actividad especial el día de Navidad.
The shop is holding a special event _____ Christmas Day.

28. La tienda organiza una actividad especial Nochevieja.
The shop is holding a special event _____ New Year's Eve.

29. El autobús suele ir lleno por la mañana.
The bus is usually crowded _____ the morning.

30. El autobús suele ir lleno a última hora de la tarde.
The bus is usually crowded _____ the late afternoon.

31. El autobús suele ir lleno por la tarde.
The bus is usually crowded _____ the evening.

32. El autobús suele ir lleno en invierno.
The bus is usually crowded _____ winter.

33. Las temperaturas bajan por la mañana.
Temperatures drop _____ the morning.

34. Las temperaturas bajan a última hora de la tarde.
Temperatures drop _____ the late afternoon.

35. Las temperaturas bajan por la tarde.
Temperatures drop _____ the evening.

36. Las temperaturas bajan en invierno.
Temperatures drop _____ winter.

37. El siguiente tren sale por la mañana.
The next train leaves _____ the morning.

38. El siguiente tren sale a última hora de la tarde.
The next train leaves _____ the late afternoon.

39. El siguiente tren sale por la tarde.
The next train leaves _____ the evening.

40. El siguiente tren sale en invierno.
The next train leaves _____ winter.

Answer key

Complete sentences. The time preposition that completes the gap is in bold.

01. The building is usually quiet **at** night.
02. The building is usually quiet **at** lunchtime.
03. The building is usually quiet **at** Christmas.
04. The building is usually quiet **at** Easter.
05. The staff sometimes work **at** night.
06. The staff sometimes work **at** lunchtime.
07. The staff sometimes work **at** Christmas.
08. The staff sometimes work **at** Easter.
09. The shop will be closed **at** night.
10. The shop will be closed **at** lunchtime.
11. The shop will be closed **at** Christmas.
12. The shop will be closed **at** Easter.
13. The town centre is usually busy **at** night.
14. The town centre is usually busy **at** lunchtime.
15. The town centre is usually busy **at** Christmas.
16. The town centre is usually busy **at** Easter.
17. The doctor has appointments **on** Monday morning.
18. The doctor has appointments **on** Friday afternoon.
19. The doctor has appointments **on** Christmas Day.
20. The doctor has appointments **on** New Year’s Eve.
21. We are going on a day trip **on** Monday morning.
22. We are going on a day trip **on** Friday afternoon.
23. We are going on a day trip **on** Christmas Day.
24. We are going on a day trip **on** New Year’s Eve.
25. The shop is holding a special event **on** Monday morning.
26. The shop is holding a special event **on** Friday afternoon.
27. The shop is holding a special event **on** Christmas Day.
28. The shop is holding a special event **on** New Year’s Eve.
29. The bus is usually crowded **in** the morning.
30. The bus is usually crowded **in** the late afternoon.
31. The bus is usually crowded **in** the evening.
32. The bus is usually crowded **in** winter.
33. Temperatures drop **in** the morning.
34. Temperatures drop **in** the late afternoon.
35. Temperatures drop **in** the evening.
36. Temperatures drop **in** winter.
37. The next train leaves **in** the morning.
38. The next train leaves **in** the late afternoon.
39. The next train leaves **in** the evening.
40. The next train leaves **in** winter.