

“AT”, “IN” Y “ON”

A continuación explicaremos los usos de “at”, “in” y “on”. Diferenciaremos si hablamos de situaciones de lugar o de tiempo.

LUGAR:

Usamos “at”:

- Para hablar de una posición en un punto:
It's very hot at the center of the Earth
Turn right at the next traffic-light.
- Si pensamos en un lugar grande, pero pensamos en él como en un punto:
You have to change trains at Madrid
The plane stops for an hour at Frankfurt.
- Si hablamos de un lugar como lugar de encuentro:
Let's meet at the station
- Si pensamos en un lugar como el sitio donde algo ocurre:
There's a good film at the cinema in Callao.
- En direcciones, si damos el número de la calle:
She lives at 10 Downing Street.
- En expresiones como: at home, at school, at work, at university, at college.

Usamos “in”:

- Para hablar de una posición en el espacio, cuando algo está rodeado por todas partes:
I don't think he's in his office.
Let's go for a walk in the woods.
I last saw her in the car park.
- En direcciones, si sólo damos el nombre de la calle:
She lives in Downing Street.
- En expresiones como: in a picture, in the sky, in bed, in prison, in church.

Usamos “on”:

- Para hablar de posición en una recta:
His house is on the way from Valencia to Alicante.
Zaragoza is on the River Ebro.

- Para hablar de posición sobre una superficie:
Come on, supper's on the table.
I'd prefer that picture on the other wall.
- Para medios de transporte:
He's arriving on the 12:15 train.
There's no room on the bus.
- Para el número de una planta:
She lives in a flat on the third floor.
- En expresiones como: on a page.

TIEMPO:

Usamos "at":

- Para hablar de horas o momentos exactos:
I usually get up at eight o'clock.
I'll meet you at 12:30.
Phone me at lunch time.
- En las expresiones "at night" y "at what time" (aunque en este último caso se puede omitir "at").
We'll meet at night.
At what time does your train leave?
What time does your train leave?
- Para hablar de fines de semana y festivos:
Are you going away at Easter?
What did you do at the weekend?

Usamos "in":

- Para hablar de partes del día:
I work best in the morning.
Three o'clock in the afternoon.
We usually go out in the evening.
- Para hablar de periodos superiores a un día:
It happened in the week after Christmas.
I was born in April.
Avila is beautiful in spring.
He died in 1616.
Our house was built in the 15th Century.

Usamos "on":

- Para hablar de días:
I'll phone you on Tuesday.
My birthday is on March 21st.
They are having a party on Christmas day.
We usually go to see our grandparents on Sundays.