

**PREPOSITIONS OF PLACE: AT / IN / ON**

**In**



in a room  
in a building  
in a box



in a garden  
in a town/country  
in the city centre



in a pool  
in the sea  
in a river

**At**



at the bus stop  
at the door  
at the window

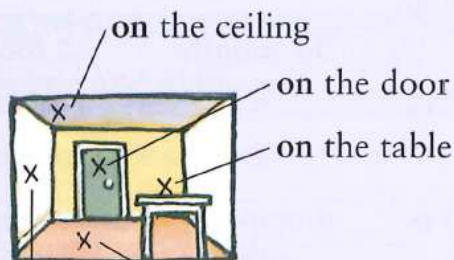


at the roundabout



at reception

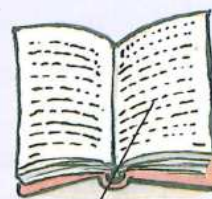
**On**



on the ceiling  
on the door  
on the table  
on the wall  
on the floor



on her nose



on a page



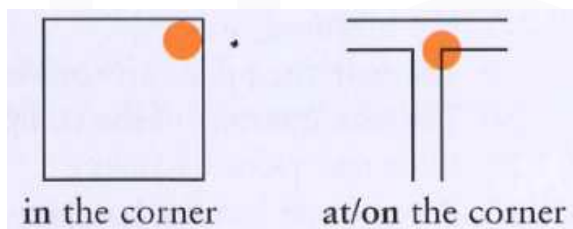
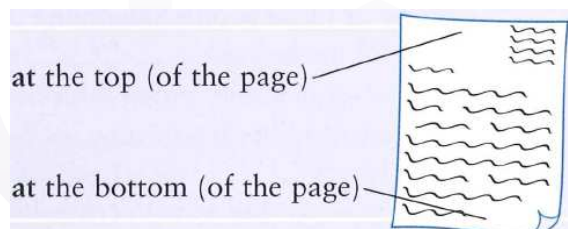
on an island

**We say that somebody / something is:**

- in a line / in a row / in a queue
- in bed
- in the country / in the countryside
- in the sky / in the world
- in a photograph
- in a picture
- in an office
- in a book / in a (news)paper / in a magazine / in a letter

**We use 'ON' in the following expressions:**

- on the left / on the right
- on the left-hand side / on the right-hand side
- on the ground floor / on the first floor / on the second floor ...
- on a map / on a menu / on a list
- on a farm / on the beach
- on the / my way



We say that somebody is **in** hospital / **in** prison / **in** jail:

Ann is **in** hospital because she needs surgery.

We say that somebody is **at** home / **at** work / **at** school / **at** university / **at** college:

Mary is not **at** home. She's **at** work.

I am studying engineering **at** university.

We use both 'IN' and 'AT' for **buildings**. We often use them without much difference in meaning, but we use 'AT' to say **when an event takes place**, for example a concert, a film, a party, a meeting

We went to a concert **at** the Royal Festival Hall.

We are celebrating my birthday **at** the pub I told you about.

We say **at** the station / **at** the airport:

Don't wait for me **at** the airport. I will take a taxi.

We say **at** somebody's house:

I already had dinner **at** Mike's.

We also say **at** the doctor's, **at** the hairdresser's, **at** the supermarket:

I bought my shampoo **at** the supermarket.

We use 'IN' when we are talking about the **building itself**. For example:

We had dinner **at** the hotel.

All the rooms **in** the hotel have air conditioning. ( *not at the hotel* )

We normally use 'IN' with cities, towns, villages...:

I am visiting my family **in** Madrid.

We usually say **on** a bus / **on** a train / **on** a plane / **on** a ship **BUT in** a car / **in** a taxi:

The bus was very full. There were too many people **on** it.

Michael arrived **in** his car.



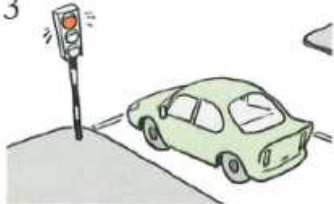





We say **on** a bike / **on** a motorbike / **on** a horse:

Jane overtook me **on** her bike.

**NOW GO TO THE NEXT PAGE AND COMPLETE THE PRACTICE EXERCISE**

**PRACTICE EXERCISES: PREPOSITIONS OF PLACE**

Complete the following sentences with AT , IN or ON

<p>1</p>  <p>(bottle)</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>(arm)</p>	<p>3</p>  <p>(traffic lights)</p>	<p>4</p>  <p>(door)</p>
<p>5</p>  <p>(wall)</p>	<p>6</p>  <p>(Paris)</p>	<p>7</p>  <p>(gate)</p>	<p>8</p>  <p>(beach)</p>

1. Where is the label? \_\_\_\_\_ the bottle.

2. Where is the fly? \_\_\_\_\_ the arm.

3. Where is the car? \_\_\_\_\_ the traffic lights.

4. Where is the notice? \_\_\_\_\_ the door.

Where is the key? \_\_\_\_\_ the door.

5. Where are the selves? \_\_\_\_\_ the wall.

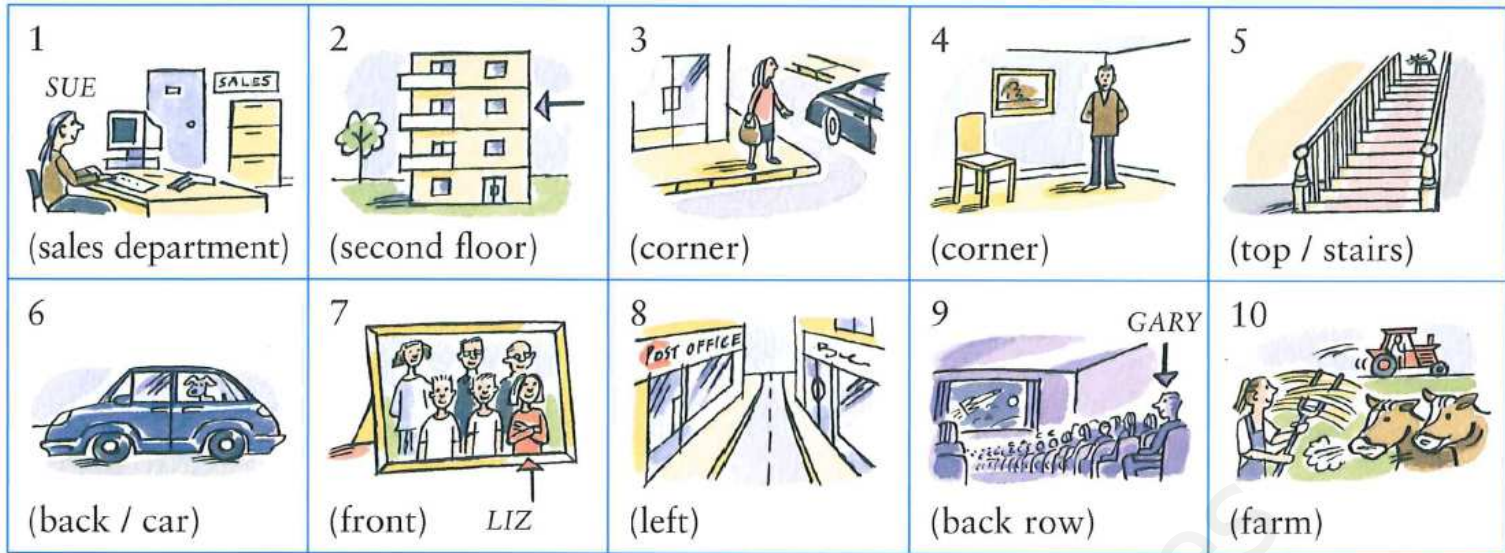
6. Where's the Eiffel Tower? \_\_\_\_\_ Paris.

7. Where's the man standing? \_\_\_\_\_ the gate.

Where's the bird? \_\_\_\_\_ the gate.

8. Where are the children? \_\_\_\_\_ the beach.





1. Where does Sue work? \_\_\_\_\_ the sales department.

2. Where's Sue's flat? \_\_\_\_\_ the second floor.

3. Where's the woman standing? \_\_\_\_\_ the corner.

4. Where's the man standing? \_\_\_\_\_ the corner.

5. Where's the cat? \_\_\_\_\_ the top of the stairs.

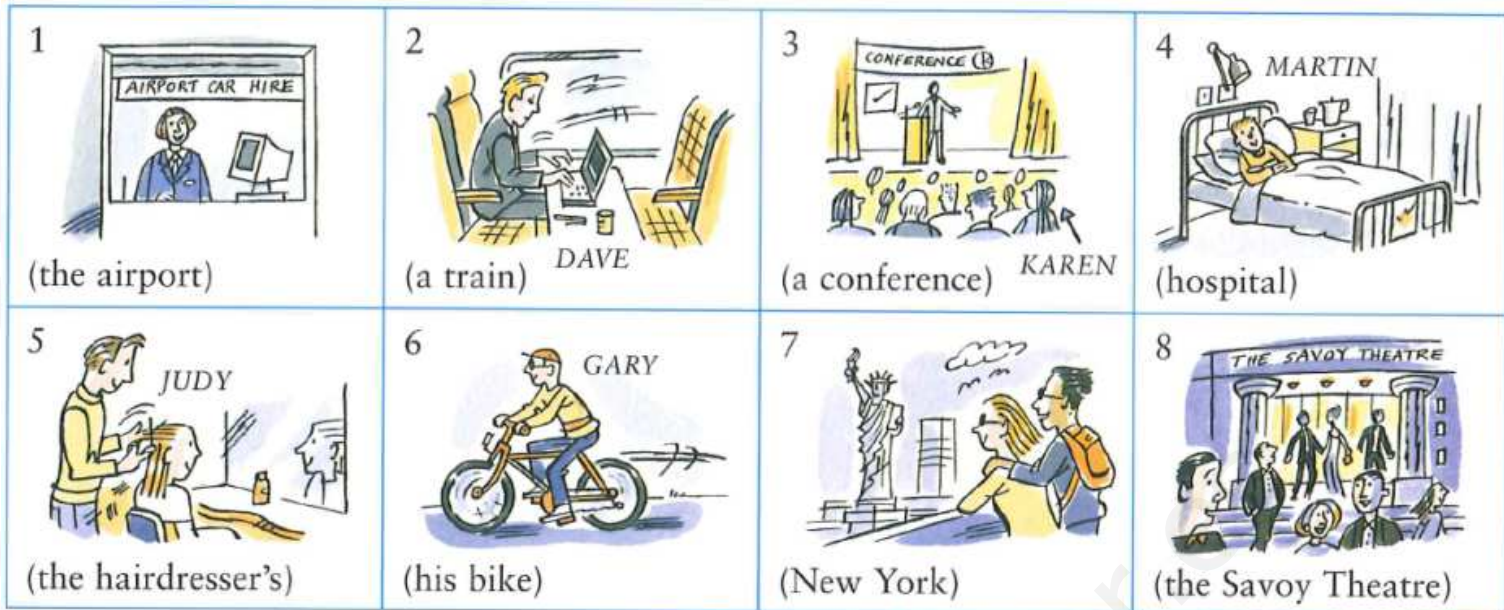
6. Where's the dog? \_\_\_\_\_ the back of the car.

7. Where's Liz? \_\_\_\_\_ the front.

8. Where's the Post Office? \_\_\_\_\_ the left.

9. Where is Gary sitting? \_\_\_\_\_ the back row.

10. Where does Kate work? \_\_\_\_\_ a farm.



1. You can hire a car \_\_\_\_\_ the airport.
2. Dave is \_\_\_\_\_ a train.
3. Karen is \_\_\_\_\_ a conference.
4. Martin is \_\_\_\_\_ hospital.
5. Judy is \_\_\_\_\_ the hairdresser's.
6. I saw Gary \_\_\_\_\_ his bike.
7. We spent a few days \_\_\_\_\_ New York.
8. We went to a show \_\_\_\_\_ the Savoy Theatre.

**YOU CAN PRINT THIS PAGE TO DO THE EXERCISE. THE ANSWERS WILL BE GIVEN TOMORROW.**