**TIME EXPRESSIONS, PREPOSITIONS**

The prepositions **at, on** and **in** refer not only to place, but also to time. We can refer to

approximate time with approximately, about, around, round or round about:

The accident happen**ed** at approximately 5.30.

The accident happened (at) about/around 5.30.

Time phrases with **at**

**Exact time**: at 10 o’clock; at 14 hundred hours

**Meal times**: at lunch time; at tea time; at dinner time

**Other points of time**: at dawn; at noon; at midnight; at night

**Festivals**: at Christmas; at Easter; at Christmas-time

**Age**: at the age of 27; at 14

+ time**: at this time; at that time**

At is often omitted in questions with What time...? and in short answers to such questions:

What time **did** you **arrive**? – Nine o’clock in the morning.

The full question and answer is formal:

At what time did you arrive? – At nine o’clock in the morning.

**Time phrases with in (= some time during)**

**Parts of the day**: in the evening; in the morning

**Month**s: in March; in September

**Years:** in 1900; in 1948; in 1998

**Seasons**: in (the) spring; in (the) winter

**Centuries**: in the 19th century, in the 20th century

**Festivals**: in Easter week

**Periods of time**: in that time; in that age; in the holidays

Time phrases with **on**

**Days of the week**: on Monday; on Fridays

**Parts of the day**: on Monday morning; on Friday evening

**Dates**: on June 1st; on 21st March

**Day + date:** on Monday, June 1st

**Particular occasions**: on that day; on that evening

**Anniversaries** etc.: on your birthday; on your wedding day

**Festivals**: on Christmas Day; on New Year’s Day

**Note:** I would recommend to teach how to say and write **date.**

1. The year

When reading or speaking we use the term hundred but not thousand. The year 1987 would be

read as nineteen hundred and eighty-seven or nineteen eighty-seven. 1066: ten sixty-six. Years

ending in ‘00’ are said with ‘hundred’: 1900 nineteen hundred but note 2,000: the year two

thousand.

Years before the Christian era are followed by the letters B.C. (= Before Christ) and years

dating from the Christian era are occasionally preceded by the letters A.D. (= Anno Domini,

in the year of the Lord in Latin). A.D. is not usually necessary, except with the early centuries

to avoid possible confusion. B.C. is usually necessary.

Pompey died in 48 B.C.

Tiberius died in A.D. 37.

2. The date

We can write the date in different ways: e.g.

Day/month/year: 6th January, 1991 (or ‘91) – BrE

Month/day/year: January 6th, 1998 (or ‘98) – AmE

When we say the date we add the (and of):

January the sixth, or the sixth of January – BrE

January sixth – AmE

The date can also be written entirely in figures:

6.1.90, or 06.01.90

In BrE this means January 6, 1990.

In AmE it means June 1, 1990 since the number of the month is written before the day. In

letters often: 2/4/1941

10-5-1986

23.7.91

What is the date today? → Kolikátého dnes je?

3 April (not 3.!), 3/4/2012 naturally, the form of Am. English has to be mentioned 4/3/2012

**Použitá literatura**

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