

Monica's Day Off

1 Reading Fill in the spaces with a preposition or '—'.

Yesterday, Monica Parsons got up ¹ 8 o'clock. She took a shower, and then had toast and yoghurt ² breakfast. She didn't go ³ work, because it was Saturday.

She left the house ⁴ about 10 o'clock. She went ⁵ the bus station ⁶ foot. She then took the bus ⁷ the city centre. She had a cappuccino and a blueberry muffin ⁸ the local coffee shop. She always likes drinking coffee ⁹ the morning. It was quite expensive – and she paid ¹⁰ cash.

Monica stayed ¹¹ the coffee shop ¹² about an hour. After her cappuccino, she went ¹³ shopping. She bought some shoes, and a new jacket. She paid ¹⁴ them ¹⁵ credit card. Next, she went ¹⁶ a music shop. Monica enjoys listening ¹⁷ classical music, and she wanted a new Mozart CD.

At 12:30, Monica met Susan, an old school friend. They had lunch ¹⁸ an Italian restaurant. Monica and Susan both like art, so they visited ¹⁹ a gallery ²⁰ the afternoon.

Monica went home ²¹ about 4 o'clock. ²² the evening, she called ²³ her mother, and emailed ²⁴ some friends. After dinner, she watched some TV, and went ²⁵ bed.



2 Preposition Check Fill in the spaces with a preposition or '—'.

AT	IN	ON	(X)	TO	FOR	BY
get up eight o'clock				go foot		go work
pay coffee				pay credit card		pay cash
go shopping				go home		stay an hour
have toast breakfast			 the morning	 the evening
take a bus the city				listen music	 the afternoon
visit a gallery				call someone		email someone

3 Discussion Ask your partner(s) these questions. Ask follow-up questions!

- What time do you usually get up?
- What do you usually have for breakfast?
- Do you go to school / work at weekends?
- Where did you last take a bus to?
- Do you go to coffee shops? What do you usually have?
- Do you usually pay in cash at the supermarket?
- When did you last go shopping? What did you buy?
- Do you enjoy listening to music? What kind of music do you listen to?
- When did you last go to a music shop? Did you buy anything?
- Where did you have lunch yesterday?
- Do you like to visit art galleries? When was the last time you went to one?
- What time did you go home yesterday?
- What do you like to do in the evening?
- Do you call people very often?
- Who did you last email?

FOLLOW-UP QUESTION IDEAS



Monica's Day Off: Teaching Notes

Target Structure:	Basic Prepositions
Vocabulary:	General
Level:	Elementary
Time:	30 minutes, depending on length of speaking activity.
Preparation:	None

Suggested Teaching Method

Low-level students can have great difficulty with basic preposition use, resulting in inaccurate speech. This worksheet looks at some of the most common areas of difficulty. There are controlled exercises to begin with, followed by an opportunity for students to personalize the language.

- 1 Give one worksheet to each student. Explain that most of the spaces need a preposition. However, some of them don't need a preposition. For these, students can just write '—'. Do the first one as an example, eliciting the answer from a confident student.

Students should work on this exercise alone, and then check in pairs. When finished, go through the answers with the group.

- 2 Tell the students to cover exercise two, and study the prepositions in exercise one for one minute. After studying, students should uncover exercise two, but cover exercise one.

Tell the students to fill in the spaces. They should leave blank any which do not need a preposition. Students can check in pairs when finished.

- 3 This exercise assumes that students have a working knowledge of how to ask and answer questions using the Present Simple and Past Simple.

If the students are weak on these grammar structures, it will be easier for students to work in pairs, asking and answering the questions. They would not need to ask follow-up questions.

For more confident students, place them in pairs or groups of three. They should ask each other the questions in a random order. Encourage students to use these questions as the basis for conversation. Point out the follow-up question ideas. Demonstrate with a student.

While the students are doing this exercise, monitor, but try not to interrupt. Make a note of errors you hear – particularly preposition errors. At the end of the exercise, write some of the errors on the board, and encourage self / peer correction.

The answer key can be found on the next page. ➡

Answer Key (Other collocations are possible.)**1**

Yesterday, Monica Parsons got up ¹ **at** 8 o'clock. She took a shower, and then had toast and yoghurt ² **for** breakfast. She didn't go ³ **to** work, because it was Saturday.

She left the house ⁴ **at** about 10 o'clock. She went ⁵ **to** the bus station ⁶ **on** foot. She then took the bus ⁷ **to** the city centre. She had a cappuccino and a blueberry muffin ⁸ **at** the local coffee shop. She always likes drinking coffee ⁹ **in** the morning. It was quite expensive – and she paid ¹⁰ **in** cash.

Monica stayed ¹¹ **at** the coffee shop ¹² **for** about an hour. After her cappuccino, she went ¹³ **—** shopping. She bought some shoes, and a new jacket. She paid ¹⁴ **for** them ¹⁵ **by** credit card. Next, she went ¹⁶ **to** a music shop. Monica enjoys listening ¹⁷ **to** classical music, and she wanted a new Mozart CD.

At 12:30, Monica met Susan, an old school friend. They had lunch ¹⁸ **at** an Italian restaurant. Monica and Susan both like art, so they visited ¹⁹ **—** a gallery ²⁰ **in** the afternoon.

Monica went home ²¹ **at** about 4 o'clock. ²² **In** the evening, she called ²³ **—** her mother, and emailed ²⁴ **—** some friends. After dinner, she watched some TV, and went ²⁵ **to** bed.

2

AT	IN	ON	(X)	TO	FOR	BY
get up at eight o'clock			go on foot		go to work	
pay for coffee			pay by credit card		pay in cash	
go — shopping			go — home		stay for an hour	
have toast for breakfast			in the morning		in the evening	
take a bus to the city			listen to music		in the afternoon	
visit — a gallery			call — someone		email — someone	

How are we doing?

We'd be pleased to hear some feedback on our worksheets. Tell us how it went in your classroom.

Send your comments to editor@handoutsonline.com.

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