

# TIME

## PREPOSITIONS

**SINCE**

STARTING POINT MOMENT OF SPEAKING

STARTING POINT

5 pm  
Yesterday  
Monday  
Last week  
May  
2015

**FOR**

STARTING POINT MOMENT OF SPEAKING

length of time

moment of speaking - starting point

7pm - 5 pm = For two hours

**DURING**

BEGINNING OF A PERIOD OF TIME END OF A PERIOD OF TIME

from the beginning to the end of a period

During the summer she worked as a lifeguard.

an event/ or a short occurs within a period of time

During a pause in the conversation, she left the room.  
My father was killed during the war.  
I mentioned the subject during our last discussion.

**IN**

BEGINNING OF A PERIOD OF TIME END OF A PERIOD OF TIME

an event occurs within a period of time

I stayed at home in the summer  
Unemployment has risen by over 15% in the past year.

**OVER**

BEGINNING OF A PERIOD OF TIME END OF A PERIOD OF TIME

from the beginning to the end of a period of time

Most hotels are fully booked over the holiday weekend.

an event occurs within a period of time

We expect a rise in sales over the next few months.

**THROUGHOUT**

BEGINNING OF A PERIOD OF TIME END OF A PERIOD OF TIME

during the whole of a period of time or an event

He remained in Paris throughout the war.  
House prices continued to rise throughout the 1980s.

**UNTIL**

STARTING POINT END OF AN ACTIVITY

FROM UNTIL /TILL

Until as a preposition means 'up to (the time that)'

We played chess until 8 pm

we use from with until or till to talk about when something begins and when it ends:

I worked out at the gym from 6 pm until 7.30 pm.

## BY

not later than a particular time or date

The meeting should have finished by 4.30.  
Application forms must be received by 31st March.

TIME OR DATE

during the period until a particular time or date

By mid afternoon over 5,000 people had visited the exhibition.