

# AT THE END vs IN THE END

## AT THE END (OF) \_\_\_\_\_ AL FINAL DE

At the end is most commonly used literally, as a prepositional phrase followed by of, to refer to the end of a specific noun. This noun can be a physical object, a period of time, an event, a place, or something more abstract, such as one's patience. Here are some examples :

- The teacher set some homework **at the end of** the lesson.
- I'm going on holiday **at the end of** the week.
- **At the end of** his life, he had no regrets.
- Put a period **at the end of** every sentence.
- I pay the phone bill **at the end of** each month.
- There is a brick building **at the end of** the driveway.

## IN THE END \_\_\_\_\_ AL FINAL

In the end is an adverb phrase used mostly as an idiom that means "finally," "after a long time," or "when everything is considered." It is often followed by a comma.

Here are some examples:

- I complained about the pizza so, **in the end**, I didn't have to pay for it.
- We waited for an hour and, **in the end**, we went without her.
- We worked hard, and **in the end**, we achieved our goal.
- **In the end**, what really matters in a friendship is trust.

# AT THE BEGINNING vs

# IN THE BEGINNING

## AT THE BEGINNING (OF) \_\_\_\_\_ AL PRINCIPIO DE

We use at the beginning (often with of) to talk about the point where something starts.

**At the beginning of** the week/year/story/movie/game, etc.

Here are some examples:

- **At the beginning of** every lesson, the teacher told the children a little story.
- Notes on how to use this dictionary can be found **at the beginning** of the book.

## IN THE BEGINNING \_\_\_\_\_ AL PRINCIPIO

We usually use in the beginning when we contrast two situations in time:

- **In the beginning**, nobody understood what was happening, but after she explained everything very carefully, things were much clearer.
- I was sceptical **in the beginning**, but Facebook has won me over.
- **In the beginning**, we just tried to keep everything very simple. Later on, ...