

12. We always have fireworks ____ New Year's Eve.
a) at
b) in
c) on
d) –
13. He's been learning English ____ six months.
a) for
b) since
c) during
d) in
14. Make sure you lock the door ____ you leave.
a) after
b) until
c) by
d) before
15. The building was constructed ____ the 18th century.
a) at
b) in
c) on
d) for
16. We usually rest ____ lunch, feeling pleasantly full.
a) before
b) until
c) after
d) by
17. Did anything interesting happen ____ yesterday?
a) –
b) on
c) in
d) at
18. The café is open ____ 7 a.m. ____ 10 p.m. every day.
a) at / by
b) from / to
c) since / for
d) in / at
19. It was very quiet ____ night.
a) in
b) on
c) at
d) for
20. You must complete the online form ____ seven days of receiving the invitation.
a) by
b) for
c) in
d) within



Answers

1. c) at
2. d) for
3. a) on
4. b) since
5. a) by
6. d) –
7. c) in
8. b) during
9. d) ago
10. b) in
11. a) until
12. c) on
13. a) for
14. d) before
15. b) in
16. c) after
17. a) –
18. b) from / to
19. c) at
20. d) within



Explanations

1. “at” (c)

Use 'at' with specific clock times: at 6:45 a.m.

2. “for” (d)

Use 'for' with a duration: for over twenty years. It answers 'How long?'

3. “on” (a)

Use 'on' with days of the week: on Mondays.

4. “since” (b)

Use 'since' with a past event that marks the starting point: since the argument. It means from that moment until now.

5. “by” (a)

'By 5 p.m.' means 'no later than 5 p.m.' It sets a deadline for the submission.

6. “–” (d)

No preposition is needed with 'next': next month, next Tuesday, next summer.

7. “in” (c)

Use 'in' with parts of the day: in the afternoon, in the morning, in the evening.

8. “during” (b)

Use 'during' + noun to say when something happened within a period: during the ceremony.

9. “ago” (d)

'A long time ago' means far back from the present. 'Ago' is always used with past simple.

10. “in” (b)

Use 'in' with months: in July, in October, in March.

11. “until” (a)

'Until I pass the test' means the practising will continue up to the moment of passing.

12. “on” (c)

Use 'on' with specific named days: on New Year's Eve, on Christmas Day.

13. “for” (a)

Use 'for' with a duration: for six months. It tells us how long the learning has lasted.

14. “before” (d)

'Before you leave' means at an earlier time than leaving. Lock the door first, then leave.

15. “in” (b)

Use 'in' with centuries: in the 18th century, in the 21st century.

16. “after” (c)

'After lunch' means following the meal. The context 'feeling pleasantly full' confirms this happens after eating.

17. “–” (a)

No preposition is needed with 'yesterday'. It is already an adverb of time.

18. “from / to” (b)

'From 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.' describes a time range. Use 'from...to' for opening hours and schedules.

19. “at” (c)

'At night' is a fixed expression meaning 'during the night-time in general'. Compare: 'in the night' refers to a specific night.

20. “within” (d)

'Within seven days' means 'in no more than seven days'. 'Within' sets a strict time limit after a specific event.