

THE STORY OF A PLACE

UNIT 2 Lesson D



Objective

Students will be able to tell a story of a place



CONTENTS

What will we learn?
What will we practice?

Documentary

-Listening

Grammar

**-Prepositions of
time**

Speaking



1. Look at the photos and discuss the questions

Where do you think this is?

What do you think is special about this place?

WARM UP





- What is the Mediterranean well known for?
- What is Simon Reeve trying to show us with the programme?
- What town does he visit?

READING

Mediterranean with Simon Reeve

Simon Reeve goes on an extraordinary journey around the Mediterranean, an area that attracts about a third of the world's tourism with its beautiful beaches and fascinating historical sights. Simon travels around the Mediterranean trying to uncover the everyday reality and the history behind what tourists see. In this programme Simon visits the town of Matera, in southern Italy, where he learns about the history of its famous caves.

B B C



BBC DOCUMENTARY

2A. Watch the BBC video clip. Number the topics in the order they are mentioned.

- a. modern tourism
 - b. a celebration
 - c. Matera in the past
- a. modern tourism
 - b. a celebration
 - c. Matera in the past



2B. Complete the summary of the video with one or two words in each gap. Then watch again to check.

People lived in the caves in Matera until the (1) . The government moved people out of the caves and into (2) . Now, Matera is turning the caves into holiday homes and (3) . Before, families shared the caves with (4) . Many towns and villages in southern Italy have been depopulated as young people move away, but a local (5) is a sign that Matera has a (6) .



2C. Work in pairs. Discuss the questions.

1. Do you think the government did a good or bad thing by moving people out of the caves? Why?

2. Would you enjoy visiting Matera and staying in one of the caves? Why/Why not?

Let's Learn some
GRAMMAR



PREPOSITIONS OF TIME

3A. Complete the sentences about Matera using the prepositions *before*, *until* and *during*.

1. The old way of life continued in Matera **until** the Italian government moved people out of the caves.
2. **after** they moved into modern homes, families shared the caves with their animals.
3. The changes happened **during** the 1950s.



BEFORE / AFTER

We use *before/after* + a specific time or event.

We need to be there **before** 7 p.m.

After breakfast, she left for school.

DURING

We use *during* to talk about something that happens within a period of time.

During the 2010s a lot of people left the country.

We talked about it **during** lunch.



GRAMMAR BANK

UNTIL/ TILL

We use *until/till* to talk about something which happens up to a certain time and then stops.

She worked there **until** 2004. (Then she changed jobs.)

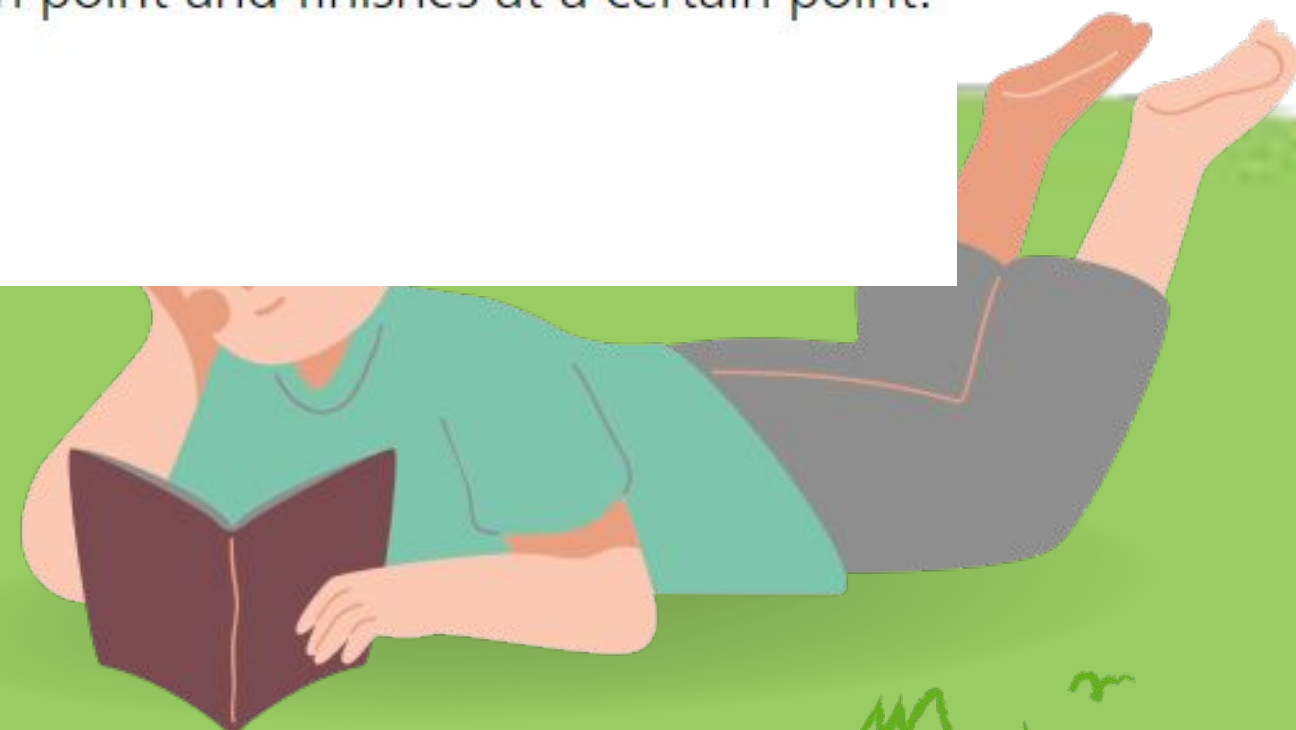
We'll wait **till** 6 p.m.

BETWEEN

We use *between* to talk about a time that starts at a certain point and finishes at a certain point.

They lived in New York **between** 2005 and 2008.

They're leaving **between** 3 p.m. and 4 p.m.



GRAMMAR BANK

IN

We use *in* + months/years/decades/centuries/seasons.

We're going on holiday **in** August.

In 2020 I changed my career.

In the 1990s, there was a lot of investment.

In the twenty-first century, this type of work has become important.

We spend a lot of time on the beach **in** the summer.

We also use *in* + a period of time, to show when something will happen.

I'll see you **in** ten minutes.

The conference finishes **in** three hours.



GRAMMAR BANK

AT

We use *at* + a specific time.

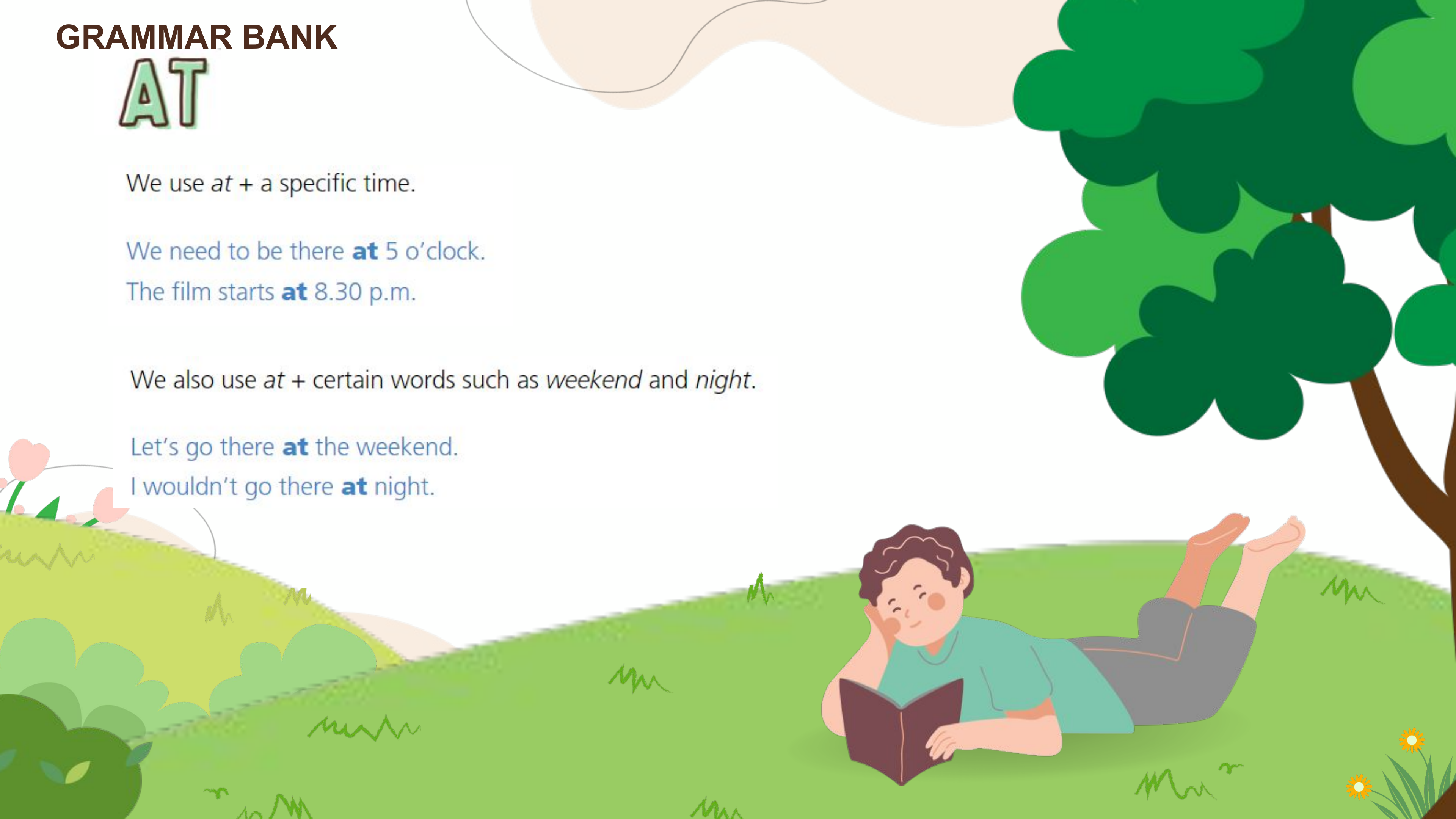
We need to be there **at** 5 o'clock.

The film starts **at** 8.30 p.m.

We also use *at* + certain words such as *weekend* and *night*.

Let's go there **at** the weekend.

I wouldn't go there **at** night.



GRAMMAR BANK

ON

We use *on* + dates/days.

I'll see you **on** Wednesday afternoon.

My birthday is **on** 12 July.

They celebrate **on** New Year's Day.

We play football **on** Saturdays.



WORKBOOK

prepositions of time

1 A  The sentences below have a mistake. Choose the best option to correct the mistake.

1 I didn't have time to have lunch until the break.

- a between b on c during

2 What are you going to do in New Year's Day?

- a between b on c at

3 I'll wait here before you're ready to go and then we can leave together.

- a until b after c during

4 We worked together during 2019 and 2021.

- a on b between c until

B Complete the sentences with a preposition of time.

1 Amy shared a flat with two of her friends from 2018 **until** last year.

2 I like to eat ice cream **during** a film.

3 I'll see you **in** about three hours' time.

4 Let's clean the kitchen **after** we've eaten dinner, or our food will go cold.

5 I was born **in** the 2000s.

6 We need to go to the bank **before** we go shopping so we have some money to spend.

READING



Three places that have changed a lot in the last forty years

Shanghai, China

Look at photos of Shanghai in the 1980s and you'll see a very different city to the one that's there now. There were no tall buildings along the river – no famous view that tourists come to take photos of. In 1996, the 632-metre-high Oriental Pearl Tower opened and was the only tall building in the area. Now there are tall buildings all around it. It's not just the buildings that have changed. Shanghai's size has changed, too. In 1984, the city was around 308 km² in area size. Today it's over 6,200 km². It has twice the population that it had around twenty years ago, with 26 million people, and is one of the fastest growing cities in the world.



The Aral Sea

The Aral Sea once was one of the largest lakes in the world. When water from two rivers was pushed into different directions to help grow food, the lake became smaller. By the 2010s, the lake was so small that the fishing industry died. The lake is now just 10 percent of its past size, with some water in the north near Kazakhstan, and a little in the west. The part in the east near Uzbekistan is now a desert. A plan to make the lake bigger near Kazakhstan has been successful. This is both by stopping water from leaving and helping water to enter the lake. The plan has cost \$87m dollars, but fishing near the city of Aralsk is now possible again.

Houtouwan, Shengshan Island, China

Off the coast of Shanghai is Shengshan Island, one of 400 islands in the area. On the island is the village of Houtouwan, which was once the home of over 2,000 people, but is now the home of just a few. People began leaving the village in the 1990s to look for work on other parts of the island. Today, their homes are still there, many with furniture still inside. However, nature is taking the village back. Plants are growing over and inside the buildings. That's why tourists take a three-hour journey from Shanghai to see this unusual place. And local people earn money by selling them water.

WORKBOOK

2A Read the article. Decide which place each sentence is about: Shanghai (S), the Aral Sea (A) or Houtouwan (H).

- 1 Only a small number of people live in this area.
- 2 The buildings are not the same as forty years ago.
- 3 It's greener here than in the past.
- 4 The size of this place changed because of farming.
- 5 There are double the number of people there today compared to the early 2000s.
- 6 Local people can do an activity here that they couldn't do a few years ago.
- 7 The area and population are increasing a lot.

B Complete the information with numbers from the article.

- 1 The population of the Houtouwan area in the early 1990s:
- 2 The percentage of water compared with the past that is still in the Aral Sea today:
- 3 How many metres high the first tall building in Shanghai was:
- 4 How many millions of dollars it cost to get more water into the Aral Sea:
- 5 The number of hours it takes to get to Houtouwan from Shanghai:
- 6 The number of millions of people who live in Shanghai today:

WORKBOOK

2A. Read the article. Decide which place each sentence is about: Shanghai (S), the Aral Sea (A) or Houtouwan (H).

1. Only a small number of people live in this area.
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2B. Complete the information with numbers from the article.

1. The population of the Houtouwan area in the early 1990s: .
2. The percentage of water compared with the past that is still in the Aral Sea today: .
3. How many metres high the first tall building in Shanghai was: .
4. How many millions of dollars it cost to get more water into the Aral Sea: .
5. The number of hours it takes to get to Houtouwan from Shanghai: .
6. The number of millions of people who live in Shanghai today: .

Let's practice
SPEAKING



The story of a place

4A Work in pairs. Discuss the questions. Do you know any places which have changed a lot, or are changing a lot at the moment? What is changing?

B You will hear someone talking about Barcelona in the past and present. What do you think he will say about the topics in the box?

Olympic Games football stadium architecture
historical centre art/artists food market
tourists live music events accommodation

C  **2.09** | Listen and check your ideas.

D  **2.09** | Listen again and tick the phrases that you hear.

KEY PHRASES

When I first visited ... , it was ...

... is well known/famous for its ...

The city has changed a lot. Before ... it was ...

It has a wonderful atmosphere/a fantastic history/
great food/amazing art galleries ...

The city has a lot to offer.

You can explore/enjoy/visit ...

Nowadays, ...

I really recommend it.

The story of a place

- 5A** Plan to talk about a place that is special to you (or a famous place in your country). Make some notes about the place in the past and now.
- B** Work in groups. Take turns to tell the story of your place. Use the Key phrases to help. Other students: listen and ask questions to learn more.





THANKS

If you have questions
Do not hesitate to ask