

A Read sentences 1–8 and match the words in *italics* with their meanings a–l.

1 On *New Year's Eve* at *midnight*, the clock strikes twelve and everyone cheers and kisses each other.

2 It's the 18th today and I'm going away for *a fortnight*, so I'll see you in November!

3 Jamie's birthday is on 29th February, so he really only has a birthday in *a leap year*.

4 Did you know that the tradition of Guy Fawkes' night began in the 17th *century*? It was in 1605 that he tried to blow up the Houses of Parliament.

5 At the moment, the contest is an *annual* event, but it's so popular that they're thinking of making it a *monthly* competition.

6 A *decade* ago it was never this warm in *winter*. That's global warming for you!

7 I've had a look in my *diary* and I'm free on Monday afternoon. Do you fancy meeting then?

8 I was born at *midday*. My mum always tells people I arrived just *in time for* lunch.

- a a hundred years
- b the season when the weather is coldest
- c the last day of the year
- d 12 o'clock in the middle of the day
- e two weeks
- f happening every month
- g 12 o'clock at night
- h early enough for
- i happening every year
- j ten years
- k a book with dates, in which you write down your future arrangements
- l a year that happens every four years and has an extra day

B Look at the sentences in A and decide which preposition *in*, *on*, *at*, or *for* we use before the following expressions.

- 1 a period of time 2 a time of the day 3 a date 4 a season 5 a special day
6 a month 7 a century 8 a day of the week 9 a year

C Complete the questions with the correct preposition *in*, *on*, *at*, or *for*.

- 1 Do you feel happier _____ summer or _____ winter?
- 2 How do you think life will be different _____ 2050?
- 3 When was the last time you went away _____ a fortnight?
- 4 What do you think it was like to live _____ the 19th century?
- 5 What did you do _____ New Year's Eve last year?
- 6 How do you usually feel _____ Monday morning?
- 7 How often do you go to bed _____ midnight?
- 8 Are there any birthdays in your family _____ May?
- 9 Do you ever play jokes on people _____ 1st April?

D Ask your partner the questions from C. Give as much detail as possible and make a note of his / her answers to remind you what they say!