I'm not a robot

Hello, everyone. In asking a person about his plans on summer vacation, which of the sentences does make sense?Can I use them interchangeably?a. Where are you going to go on summer vacation?b. Where are you going to go during summer vacation?c. Where are you going to go in summer vacation?Thanks a lot! Hi Bagsensei,c. is simply wrong, but the other two mean slightly different things, at least to me: a) implies that the entire vacation will be spent in the place you're asking about, while b) implies that only part of the vacation will. Others may disagree, though. I would say:a) What are your plans for the summer?b) Where will you be going for your summer vacation? Hi Bagsensei,c. is simply wrong, but the other two mean slightly different things, at least to me: a) implies that the entire vacation will be spent in the place you're asking about, while b) implies that only part of the vacation will. Others may disagree, though. Thank you very much, Theartichoke. That is very helpful. What will you be doing during the summer? May I have a follow up question.If we make it in the past tense, could the sentences below work?a. Where did you go on summer vacation? / What did you do on summer vacation?b. Where did you go during summer vacation? / What did you do during summer vacation?c. Where did you go this summer vacation? / What did you do this summer vacation? Thank you. All of the above sound fine to me. I would be less likely, though, to use "this summer vacation" to talk about something in the past. It's okay if it's the very recent past, but after a month or so, I'd probably say "this past summer vacation." All of the above sound fine to me. I would be less likely, though, to use "this summer vacation" to talk about something in the past. It's okay if it's the very recent past, but after a month or so, I'd probably say "this past summer vacation." Many thanks, Theartichoke. That's a great help.Can I also use "the"?- What did you do on/during the past summer vacation? Believe it or not, I didn't see your response because I was away on summer vacation until yesterday."The" sounds OK to me if you use "during". It sounds a bit off with "on." I have no idea why. Believe it or not, I didn't see your response because I was away on summer vacation until yesterday."The" sounds OK to me if you use "during". It sounds a bit off with "on." I have no idea why. Thank you so much, Theartichoke. "The summer holidays start / are starting next week so im going to Scotland " Which option is correct ? Both. No difference that is worth trying to analyse. The present tense in either the simple or the continuous aspect can be used to to denote the future, as can will and be going to. So you can say it in any of these ways: the holidays start soonthe holidays are starting soonthe holidays will start soonthe holidays will be starting soonthe holidays are going to start soonthe holidays are going to be starting soon The present tense in either the simple or the continuous aspect can be used to to denote the future, as can will and be going to. So you can say it in any of these ways: the holidays start soonthe holidays are starting soonthe holidays will start soonthe holidays will be starting soonthe holidays are going to start soonthe holidays are going to be starting soon So why is it that grammar books by Cambridge and Oxford and many many others only mention the future simple, be going to future continuous, future perfect and also the present continuous if something is going to happen in the near future and it is certain . Once again is it that the present continuous is more formal than the present simple when it comes to future ? I cant answer that particularly as youve made a rather sweeping statement without citing any specific grammar guidelines. I dont consider any of the above examples particularly formal, or unidiomatic. Perhaps grammar books like that are written in a simplified way, to help foreign learners? The formally recommended form of the future is the one that uses "will". But all the others are subtle variations in common educated usage, and perfectly correct grammatically.Having said that, the simple present is more common than all the rest, but that's in part because it's the only one available in "if" clauses and other similar variants, and of course it includes "will start soon". See Google Books Ngram Viewer, bearing in mind that it's incomplete. Can we also say "there are holidays next week"? It sounds a bit awkward for me, but I'm not a native speaker. Can we also say "there are holidays next week"? Yes. You can certainly use the simple present when describing something that has not yet happened, but of course you need to add a time marker that explains that. In other words, there are holidays on its own contains no reference to the future, whereas there will be holidays does. Yes. You can certainly use the simple present when describing something that has not yet happened, but of course you need to add a time marker that explains that. In other words, there are holidays on its own contains no reference to the future, whereas there will be holidays does. Thanks! But I mean is the whole construction (there are/there will be + holidays) all ok? Because I have never heard such a sentence in dialogues. People always say: 'We go on holiday next week', 'our summer holidays start next week', but I have come across "there are holidays next week" for the first time. And it was written by non native speaker, so I decided to ask here. I don't think I would say simply "There are holidays next week" because I can't think of a situation when that would apply. However, on December 20th I might say "There are two holidays next week, Christmas Day and Boxing Day" (Dec 25 and 26). Or today I might say "There are several holidays next month", thinking of Nirvana Day, Chinese New Year and Ash Wednesday.Note, these are holidays in the sense of festivals, not vacation. That's why I didn't like this sentence, too. It was a conversation between two students and they talked about half-term holidays: "There are holidays next week. Can we go somewhere?"I'd prefer something like: "our half-term holidays start/we go on holiday next week". But, as I have already said, I'm not a native speaker. There are lots of different ways of saying most things. Theres nothing wrong with saying There are holidays next week, even if most people might say it differently, e.g. (in the UK anyway) as Were on holiday next week or Its the holidays next week. "It's half-term next week." There are lots of different ways of saying most things. Theres nothing wrong with saying There are holidays next week, even if most people might say it differently, e.g. (in the UK anyway) as Were on holiday next week or Its the holidays next week. Ok, thanks. "It's half-term next week." And what about summer holidays? Can I say "It's the summer holidays next week"? Well, you can say it but why choose a vague phrase when you've already told us the answer in the first words of your #1? ...but I guess you can't use the continuous form when the event you're talking about is fixed - "The summer holidays are starting on July 1st"? ... I guess you can't use the continuous form when the event you're talking about is fixed ... Who says you can't? There is a theory that the present tense has a hidden meaning ("this has been fixed") and the present continuous doesn't have that meaning. That is an invention by foreign teachers of English who are trying to cope with the vagueness and subtlety of English by stating a "rule". There is no such rule, though there is possibly a statistical trend in the writings of native speakers.(I am reminded of the story of the farmer who is told that the Polish-Russian border has been re-drawn, and his farm is now inside Poland. He replies: "Thank goodness! I couldn't stand another of those Russian winters!") Well, you can say it but why choose a vague phrase when you've already told us the answer in the first words of your #1? I ask because it says in Murphy grammar book that we can't use "it's" and "there's" at the same time: 'It's Sunday' but we can't say 'There's Sunday'.'It's break time' but we can't say 'There's break time'.But it seems to work with holidays? 'It's the holidays next week' = 'There are holidays next week'? Its perfectly possible to use the existential there to say there are holidays (or there is/are anything else) but it needs to be modified in some way that justifies that construction. Its definitely not a set phrase or special case. And it makes little or no sense on its own, since all it means is holidays are / holidays exist.There are people. There are people gathering in the square. (= People are gathering in the square)There are holidays. There are holidays that mark historical events or religious festivals. (= Holidays exist that mark a historical event or religious festival) Last edited: Jan 25, 2021 There is a theory that the present tense has a hidden meaning ("this has been fixed") and the present continuous doesn't have that meaning. That is an invention by foreign teachers of English who are trying to cope with the vagueness and subtlety of English by stating a "rule". There is no such rule, though there is possibly a statistical trend in the writings of native speakers. ...but even English student books (written by Englishmen/women) and many forums tell us to use the Present Simple for fixed events with words such as start, end, close, arrive, leave, etc... so how is that a foreign thing? Either the books are wrong or you've misunderstood them. I think you'll probably find that the books say something like: "Sometimes the present tense can be used to express the future, particularly if it refers to a predetermined plan: We leave for Paris tomorrow".This doesn't mean that the present continuous can't also be used for the same purpose (We're leaving for Paris tomorrow), or that the present tense always has that meaning. You're turning an observation about what is often said into a rule about what must be said, and then concluding that something else can't be said. I mean fixed events (like schedules, timetables, etc.) Yes, I've seen "I'm flying to Berlin on October 13th", but my plane to Berlin "leaves at 6.00" - I have never seen "is leaving at 6.00"Choosing the day of the travel is on me (but could not be as well)But what time does the plane leave is not on me, I have to adjustI'm not trying to deflate a native speaker's statement, don't get me wrong... it's just that I have never seen using the continuous form for fixed events which I have to adjust to... but if it's correct - well, good to know, and thank you Yes, I've been thinking this over since yesterday, and discussing it with my wife. Our conclusions are:Both of the present tenses are perfectly appropriate to describe a future event which has been planned. "Mr Jones goes/is going to Paris tomorrow... His plane leaves/is leaving at 10:15..."If there is a distinction, it's that the simple present, being shorter, is more peremptory. "Queen Elizabeth cried: The Earl of Essex dies tomorrow! So it is decided, he is being executed at dawn."Events that are not premeditated or planned can never be expressed in the present: "It rains on Friday... ".The future tense is appropriate in all these cases: "Mr Jones will go/be going to Paris tomorrow... His plane will leave/be leaving at 10:15... The Earl of Essex will die tomorrow! ... he will be executed at dawn... It will rain on Friday."(Mind you, Queen Elizabeth would quite probably have said: The Earl of Essex shall die tomorrow! but that's another story.) Last edited: Jan 26, 2021 Hi, I'm a bit confused with to be "on" a summer camp or "in" a summer camp Any suggestions, please? Thank you in advance,Nina. That's even more confusing I would say 'on' but heard people saying 'in' so thought I'll check. 'At' sounds good though... Eh... Thank you for your help.N. I have to say I would say 'on'.....'in' a camp sounds like a being confined in a camp, not necessarily with your agreement. When you go to a summer camp, I believe you talk about 'going on camp.....' At camp, as per Kidagakash, also works. pp I believe I've heard people who routinely send their children to summer camp say "He's at summer camp" - in a similar way to "He's at school" ... There's a popular song from 1963 called "Camp Granada" :- Hello muddah, hello faddah Here I am at Camp Granada Camp is very entertaining And they say we'll have some fun if it stops raining. I went hiking with Joe Spivy He developed poison ivy You remember Leonard Skinner He got ptomaine poisoning last night after dinner. etc ... Last edited: Nov 29, 2010 Good afternoon! What's the correct way to say this?I'm going to work as an English teacher at a camp or in a camp.Thank you in advance! Arthur. Presumably you have searched for "at in" using the search box and have read some of the threads that you will find there. Perhaps you could use what you have read to decide which is more likely to be the preferable way of saying your sentence. Then, if you are still unsure, you could come back and ask for advice, explaining why you are still unsure. This is complicated by the several meanings of "camp". For some, I would use "in" and for others I would use "at".Camp:A resting/sleeping place while hiking {in}A place of internment (prison camp) {at a/the}A summer home (chiefly Eastern US) {not applicable, I don't think}A place for large groups of adolescents to be supervised for extended periods, usually in the summer {at a/the}A military base {at a/the} Hi everyone,I'm a high school student and I've been emailing with my teachers during this summer break. I'm puzzled about the sentence "how's your summer going" and how to respond to it. Once I started an email with "how's your summer going" and my math teacher replied "I'm having a great summer--hope you are too". Though it sounds okay when a teacher chats with his student, it still seems too informal to me for a student to say so. The problem is, how can I respond in a natural and polite way when a teacher asks "how's your summer?" or "I hope your summer 's going well"? Hope my question is clear. Thanks,dnalyd It depends on a the teacher, of course, but it's pretty informal -- from teacher to student, fine; from student to teacher, you might reconsider. Instead of a question, consider just a statement. After you tell your teacher how your summer is going, you can end with: I hope your summer is going well. Or, I hope you're having a good summer. You can also use "holiday" or "break" for "summer" if you're both away from school for a holiday. You can respond to such a question with a brief anecdote from your memories of the summer, dnalyd. If that sounds like too much work, you could respond "It's going well" or something similar. A brief, sincere answer will be polite enough for a casual question in an email. Thank you owlman5, I am just wondering because too many people have asked me the same question. I guess "It's going well" is sincere enough from student to teacher. It depends on a the teacher, of course, but it's pretty informal -- from teacher to student, fine; from student to teacher, you might reconsider. Instead of a question, consider just a statement. After you tell your teacher how your summer is going, you can end with: I hope your summer is going well. Or, I hope you're having a good summer. You can also use "holiday" or "break" for "summer" if you're both away from school for a holiday. Rephrasing the statement sounds like a good idea. Thanks for the advice! Couldn't come sooner vs can't come soon enough, as in:"Summer vacation couldn't come sooner" or "summer vacation can't come soon enough!" Is there a distinction between these two phrases, or are they roughly the same? I know they're both used to mark great anticipation for something, but I was just wondering if there was a slight difference in meaning.For "can't come soon enough," I know that it implies that no matter how soon something happens/arrives, it isn't soon enough--not soon enough to satisfy the speaker, that is. I think both phrases mean the same thing. I really can't think of any difference in meaning between them. I'm with teddy: I wouldn't have understood "... couldn't come sooner", either. "Can't come soon enough", yes. That's interesting. I would have figured that "...couldn't come sooner" was also used in BE. It's pretty common over here. Hello everyone,Can we use all the prepositions "in, at and on" with the word "holiday"?Eg.1. At holiday2. In holiday3. On holidayRegardsJA I can't think of a situation in which 'at' or 'in' would work, but you haven't given us a full sentence or any context. I can't think of a situation in which 'at' or 'in' would work, but you haven't given us a full sentence or any context. ThanksHere is an example:-Why we get depressed at holidays, and how to deal.RegardsJA "On holiday" - taking time off from work (British)"At holidays" (in your example) - at times when holidays are celebrated"At holiday" - (doesn't exist) Hercules Grytpype-Thynne said: "On holiday" - taking time off from work (British)"At holidays" (in your example) - at times when holidays are celebrated"At holiday" - (doesn't exist) ThanksWhen the word is used as plural "holidays" we can use "at" as well, am I right?This is another example given by one of the members of this forum:1. I don't see my parents much at/on/in holidays.2. I don't see my parents much at/on/in the holidaysKind regardsJA Last edited: Nov 14, 2017 I can't think of a situation in which 'at' or 'in' would work, but you haven't given us a full sentence or any context. ThanksThis is an example given by one of the members of this forum:1. I don't see my parents much at/on/in holidays.2. I don't see my parents much at/on/in the holidaysKind regardsJA Speaking only for myself, an AmE speaker, "at holidays", "on holidays", and "at the holidays" are all possible, with slightly different meanings. at holidays: around the time that holidays are celebratedon holidays: on the actual days when holidays are celebratedat the holidays: specifically during the Christmas/New Year seasonI don't think I would say "on the holidays", and I can't imagine a context in which I would use "in", with or without an article. Hercules Grytpype-Thynne said: Speaking only for myself, an AmE speaker, "at holidays", "on holidays", and "at the holidays" are all possible, with slightly different meanings. at holidays: around the time that holidays are celebratedon holidays: on the actual days when holidays are celebratedat the holidays: specifically during the Christmas/New Year seasonI don't think I would say "on the holidays", and I can't imagine a context in which I would use "in", with or without an article. Thank you so much In BE, when referring to school holidays (the weeks around Easter and Christmas, and during the summer), we would say 'in the holidays'.But never 'in holiday/s' without the article. Could you please give one example for each? 1. John isn't working this week; he's on holiday." For the rest, Joseph A already provided the example sentence in #6: "I don't see my parents much _____." Thanks. You said in #7 that "at holidays", "on holidays", and "at the holidays" are all possible, with slightly different meanings...But, how can I see the difference here in this single red example? Replace the blank with the three different prepositional phrases in turn, and each of the three resulting sentences will have a slightly different meaning, as described in my #7. Hercules Grytpype-Thynne said: Replace the blank with the three different prepositional phrases in turn, and each of the three resulting sentences will have a slightly different meaning, as described in my #7. This is the meaning which I don't understand: at holidays: around the time that holidays are celebrated Could you please give a different example so I can understand? "Both she and her husband had extended families in Chicago, whom they saw frequently at holidays and other times." - from a biography of Marian Shields Robinson, mother-in-law of former President Obama, at Gutenberg.org. Hercules Grytpype-Thynne said: "Both she and her husband had extended families in Chicago, whom they saw frequently at holidays and other times." I'm sorry, I don't understand the difference between "at holidays" and "on holidays": at holidays: around the time that holidays are celebratedon holidays: on the actual days when holidays are celebrated Could you please clarify the difference by some different example? I told you the difference. "On" talks about the holidays themselves (in the U.S., days like Christmas, New Year's Day, Easter, Independence Day, etc.) and "at" is more generally the time during which these holidays are celebrated. It would be somewhat difficult to construct examples that unambiguously demonstrate this difference. But let me try with some sentences about a specific holiday.At Easter, I shop for fancy clothes, decorate the house with flowers, and prepare dyed eggs for the children to find. (Around the time of Easter)On Easter, I go to church in the morning and eat a large dinner in the afternoon. (on Easter Sunday) Hercules Grytpype-Thynne said: I told you the difference. "On" talks about the holidays themselves (in the U.S., days like Christmas, New Year's Day, Easter, Independence Day, etc.) and "at" is more generally the time during which these holidays are celebrated. It would be somewhat difficult to construct examples that unambiguously demonstrate this difference. But let me try with some sentences about a specific holiday.At Easter, I shop for fancy clothes, decorate the house with flowers, and prepare dyed eggs for the children to find. (Around the time of Easter)On Easter, I go to church in the morning and eat a large dinner in the afternoon. (on Easter Sunday) Thank you so much for your help.By your this reply, I get the idea that there's no difference between "at holidays" and "at the holidays", but when I see your post #7, I get confused - you've given separate meanings for "at holidays" and "at the holidays". Could you do me one more favour by clarifying the difference with an example, please? I see the reason for your confusion. The sentence that you quoted from my #18 uses the phrase "the holidays" but not in the sense that I had in mind when I was discussing "at the holidays" in #7. In #18 , I was using it to refer to "the holidays that the speaker is referring to" as opposed to "the general time during which these holidays are celebrated". The sense of "the holidays" in the phrase "at the holidays" is as follows: In the U.S., the holidays are those that occur toward the end of December, primarily Christmas and New Year's Day along with their respective Eves, but also encompassing such holidays as Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and the Winter Solstice. The phrase "the holidays" is used and understood in this way even if the grammatical conditions that usually call for the use of the article the are absent.Holidays that occur at other times of the year, such as Easter or Independence Day, are holidays but not the holidays.At holidays can be used to refer to the winter holiday season (particularly, as I've discovered from Google, in headlines and titles, which often omit articles for reasons of space and/or style), but may also refer to other holidays. At the holidays refers only to the winter holiday season, particularly if other qualifications are absent.I really think that this detailed description is more informative than any example sentences I could come up with. Hello, I'm an American in Spain trying to help a Spaniard with his English, but as he's learning British English, there are some things that neither of us knows for sure. He's writing a brief story about a trip to Germany. I would call the trip a 'vacation,' but I understand that in Britain it's called a 'holiday.' He wrote something like, "Some friends and I went on holidays to Germany." I think "on holiday" sounds better than "on holidays," but not being British, I really have no idea. Other threads have said that "on holiday" and "on holidays" are both correct, but in different contexts, without a great deal of explanation about why a certain context would require one or the other. If you are British, would you please explain exactly which contexts require (or prefer) singular and which plural? Perhaps with some examples for when each one is preferable?Thank you very much! In this context I would be on holiday (singular). Indeed, I can't think of any context in which I would say I was "on holidays" or "going on holidays".PS - Welcome to WordReference, econerd Hello, econerd, and welcome to the forums! You're absolutely right:"Some friends and I went on holidays to Germany." "Some friends and I went on holiday to Germany." We might say 'on holidays' referring to more than one vacation: On Spanish holidays in the 70s, I used to love reclining on the beach. Hello, I say 'When I was on holiday in Cancun I caught swine fever', and 'Don't ring me for the next two weeks - I'll be on my holidays'. Rover Thanks! These are all very helpful. I think we are talking about the BrE use of the word holiday. In the holidays I usually go to Brighton. (I live there for the duration of the holidays)When I am on holiday I usually go to Brighton. (I visit Brighton, length of visit unspecified) but I am on my holidays next week so please contact my secretary.On holy days I always go to church. I think we are talking about the BrE use of the word holiday. In the holidays I usually go to Brighton. (I live there for the duration of the holidays)When I am on holiday I usually go to Brighton. (I visit Brighton, length of visit unspecified) but I am on my holidays next week so please contact my secretary.On holy days I always go to church. So You would say:"The mundane task of setting the table can be fun in the holidays." Yes? (I agree with this one as well.) However, I have found this one in the Oxford dictionary:"The mundane task of setting the table can be fun at holidays." I want to formulate it for myself:So far I thought we can say :A)"In the holidays"orB)"On holiday"Except the one we say "I am on my holidays next week" Last edited: Sep 26, 2011 I would appreciate that if anyone can help me with this confusion I have. That helps but it is still quite confusing to me.Can you also say "I'm on holiday" or is "I'm on my holidays" the only correct one?Would you say "I had a good holiday" or "I had good holidays".Thank you. I've not heard "I'm on my holidays," even from the British folks I've been around for the last few years. I would say, "I'm on holiday" and "I had a good holiday." But that's just one opinion. 'I had good holidays' means you had more than one holiday. If you went to the Lake District every summer, you can say, 'As a child, I had good holidays in the Lake District.'You can also use the plural to refer to the non-term time in a school context, if you see what I mean: Easter holidays, summer holidays, and say things like, 'I'm not doing much over/during the summer holidays.' Its not colloquial. Dont use it.Im on my holidays is fine to this BE speaker. I don't think I've heard "I'm on holidays", but it sounds like something a child might possibly say, meaning that it was school holiday time. I do hear "on my holidays" but don't use it myself: for me it's always "on holiday" or (referring to school holidays) "in the holidays"/"during the holidays". I'm on holiday I'm on my holidays I'm on holidays While "I'm on holidays" is "not impossible"*, it does sound odd and unidiomatic. I've never heard anyone say that.* As you know, @sitifan, nothing is impossible when you trawl the weird and wonderful world of the internet. Cast your "nets" deep enough and you can dredge up almost anything from the digital depths.

The summer i turned pretty book 1 ending explained. The summer i turned pretty book 2 summary. The summer i turned pretty books ending. Is the summer i turned pretty the first book. The summer i turned pretty book 1 ending. Is there a sequel to the summer i turned pretty. How does the summer i turned pretty end. The summer i turned pretty summary. End of the summer i turned pretty.