

## In those days, at that time ★★★

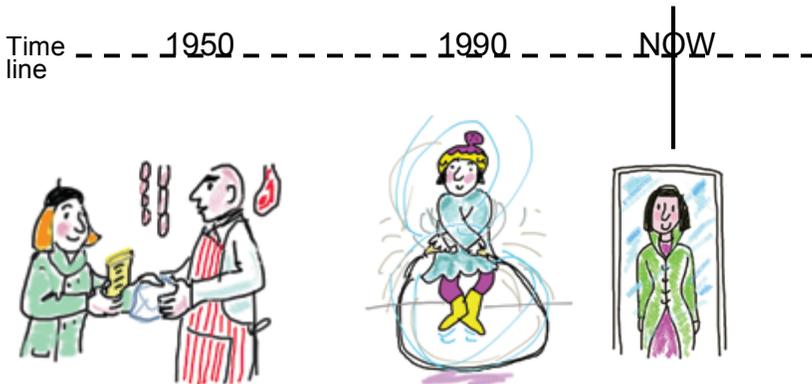
(★ = Basic ★★ = Intermediate ★★★ = Advanced)

### Grammar Bite (read this)

For definitions of words in CAPITALS,  
go to [grammarbites.co.uk/definitions](http://grammarbites.co.uk/definitions)

### Worksheet (do this)

The difference between these two is not grammatical, it's about meaning – and there is a small (but vital) difference between them.



**In those days,**  
food was rationed  
in the UK

(This is about a period  
of time, probably  
a long period)

**At that time,**  
Sally was in  
third year

(This is about  
a shorter time, even  
a very short time)

**(Sally now)**

We **can** also use **at that time** when we are talking about longer periods of time, but we **can't** use **in those days** to talk about short time periods.

For more on this **can/can't** distinction, see **The Switch** (use the link to Grammar Bites below, and go to "General Articles")

Fill each blank with **at that time** or **in those days**:

1 My mum fell and broke her leg last year; \_\_\_\_\_ I was in college.

2 The Romans were in Britain for 300 years, and \_\_\_\_\_ the country was covered in forest.

3 My brother married in 1997, but I was living in Brazil \_\_\_\_\_.

4 I was living in Paris in 2005, and it was \_\_\_\_\_ that I met Jane.

5 Dickens describes a different world: \_\_\_\_\_ boys often didn't go to school.

6 Tony Blair won the election in 1992, but I didn't vote because \_\_\_\_\_ I was living in Spain.

7 Children used to clean chimneys in Victorian times, but \_\_\_\_\_ child protection was almost non-existent.

8 He came round in July, but I missed him, as \_\_\_\_\_ I was in hospital.

9 He rang the front door bell at 6 am, but \_\_\_\_\_ I was still asleep!

10 I wore short trousers to school then, but \_\_\_\_\_ all the boys wore short trousers.

Sign up for your free weekly Grammar Bite at  
[www.Grammarbites.co.uk](http://www.Grammarbites.co.uk)

<sup>1</sup>For DEFINITIONS, go to [www.grammarbites.co.uk/definitions](http://www.grammarbites.co.uk/definitions)