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Hi Folks. When you're reading a book that is divided into several chapters, what is the accurate way to say it? 1) I'm already on chapter 8. 2) I'm already at chapter 8. 3) I'm already in chapter 8. I think I would normally use "on". But maybe "at" in some circumstances. In AE, all 3 prepositions are used before "chapter 8". The difference in meaning is small, and may be different in different AE and BE regions. Here are the meanings in my dialect: I'm already at chapter 8 = This is the chapter I am starting. I have finished chapter 7. I am ready to start chapter 8. I'm already in chapter 8 = I am in (inside) chapter 8. I have read part, but not all, of chapter 8. I am reading chapter 8. I'm already on chapter 8 = Chapter 8 is my current assignment (from a teacher, or from my own plan for reading the book). Note "on" does not say if you're already partway thru 8 (like "in") or about to start 8 (like "at"). If I'm not being specific about the exact point in the chapter, I'd use "at". Sorry, dojibear, but "at" doesn't necessarily suggest to me that I'm ready to start chapter 8 (after having just finished chapter 7)-- it could mean at any point in the chapter, I think, as the whole chapter 8 can be, and would usually be, considered a point in the book. Am I missing something? Thanks. Thanks, Englishmypassion. I was thinking too narrowly. I was thinking about one situation where I would use "at", rather than all the meanings "at" could be used for. I wonder if the word we use is affected by the question we are answering: What point are you at? Where are you now? What are you reading now? How far along are you? By saying "a point in the book" you are using a very common metaphor, that reading the book is like a journey or a race. At any time you are at some "point" along the race track. Questions like "Where are you now?" and "What point in the book are you at?" use this metaphor. I can't imagine using "I'm in chapter 8". I'd mark it wrong in this context. "I've already got up to chapter 8", is my British English version. I might say "I'm at chapter 8" if I was about to start that chapter. The question I would expect is "Where are you up to?" or "Where have you got up to?" Nothing at all about 'points', unless this is a very specific question about what happens in chapter 8. "What point are you up to in chapter 8?" I just realized I would be comfortable saying "I'm in the middle of Chapter 8." (But not "in Chapter 8".) Also: just starting Chapter 8 partway through Chapter 8 almost finished with Chapter 8 Etc. In BE, of the original three choices I'd use "on". I don't think "at" really works, and "in" would make it sound as if I were a character in the story: "I'm in chapter 8". In response to a question such as "How far have you got?", "I'm [already] up to chapter 8" would work.

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