7 Telling the time

A What's the time?

What's the time?	What time is it?
It's four o'clock.	It's five past six.
It's (a) quarter past four. It's four fifteen.	It's twenty past six. It's six twenty.
It's half past four. It's four thirty.	It's twenty to seven. It's six forty.
It's (a) quarter to five. It's four forty-five.	It's three minutes to seven. It's six fifty-seven.

SPOTLIGHT *minutes to* or *past*

We use **minutes to** or **minutes past** with numbers which are not *five, ten, fifteen, twenty* or *twenty-five*.

- *eight* ***minutes to*** *two* (NOT ~~*eight to two*~~)
- *three* ***minutes past*** *six* (NOT ~~*three past six*~~)

1 **Write the times in words. Don't use *past* or *to*.**

▶	3.10	three ten	6.15	six fifteen
1	9.15	.....	5.50	.....
2	10.25	.....	7.20	.....
3	3.35	.....	2.30	.....
4	6.45	.....	4.40	.....

2 **Write the times in words. Use *past* and *to*.**

▶	12.30	half past twelve	6.40	twenty to seven
1	7.15	.....	8.55	.....
2	9.30	.....	1.03	.....
3	11.35	.....	2.45	.....
4	3.50	.....	4.17	.....

3 **Look at the timetable and answer the questions. Write your answers in words.**

Bath Spa	7.25 ▼	7.45 ▼	8.05 ▼	8.35 ▼	9.05 ▼
Swindon	7.57 ▼	8.17 ▼	8.45 ▼	9.07 ▼	9.42 ▼
Didcot Parkway	8.15 ▼		9.02 ▼		9.58 ▼
Reading	8.35 ▼	8.55 ▼	9.15 ▼	9.45 ▼	10.10 ▼
London Paddington	8.55	9.15	9.35	10.05	10.35

▶ When does the first train leave Bath? At seven twenty-five.
1 When does the first train after 8.00 leave Bath? .....
2 You want to be in London before 10.00. What time is the best train from Swindon? .....
3 When does the 8.05 train from Bath get to Didcot Parkway? .....
4 When does the 8.05 from Bath get to London Paddington? .....
5 When does the 9.05 from Bath get to Reading? .....

4 ABOUT YOU AND YOUR COUNTRY **Write your answers, or ask another student.**

1 What time do banks open and close in your country? .....
2 What time do most shops open and close? .....
3 What time do most restaurants open and close? .....
4 When do most people start and finish school/work? .....
5 When do you have lunch? .....
6 When do you have dinner? .....

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B Exact times and periods of time

9.00 **a.m.**	nine o'clock **in the morning**
12.00 **p.m.**	(at) **midday / noon**
9.00 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.	**all morning**
1.58	**just before / nearly / almost** two
5.00 p.m.	five o'clock **in the afternoon**
2.00 – 5.30 p.m.	**all afternoon** (ALSO **all day** from 9.00 – 5.00)
7.00 p.m.	seven o'clock **in the evening**
8.02	**just after** eight
11.30 p.m.	eleven thirty **at night**
12.00 a.m.	(at) **midnight**

sun

moon

5 Same or different? Write *S* or *D*.

▶ 8.45 p.m. / 8.45 in the evening S
1 12.00 at night / midnight .....
2 4.00 a.m. / 4.00 in the afternoon .....
3 6.27 / nearly 6.30 .....
4 11.45 p.m. / 11.45 at night .....
5 almost 7 o'clock / just before 7.00 .....
6 9 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. / all day .....
▶ 3.00 p.m. / nearly 3.00 D
7 8.43 / nearly quarter to nine .....
8 2.17 / quarter past two .....
9 12.03 p.m. / just after midday .....
10 2.00 p.m. – 5.30 p.m. / all afternoon .....
11 8.30 / just before 9.00 .....
12 3.00 a.m. / three o'clock .....

6 Complete the sentences.

▶ I can meet you in the morning.
1 She usually leaves ..... before three.
2 Our train was late, and it was ..... eight thirty when we arrived.
3 The party ends ..... midnight, and then I'll get a taxi home.
4 It starts to get really hot around ..... .
5 We got there at about five o'clock ..... the afternoon.
6 I usually go to bed around 11 o'clock ..... night.
7 They are very busy, so they'll be at work ..... day.
8 It was ..... 7 o'clock when we got home.
9 The train leaves ..... after 8.00, at 8.03.
10 She's there ..... morning, from nine until lunchtime.

7 One word is missing in each sentence. What is it, and where does it go?

▶ I get up just/seven o'clock. before / after
1 I'm meeting my friend midday. .....
2 I only drink coffee the morning. .....
3 I work day in a bank. .....
4 I see my friends the evening. .....
5 I watch television evening. .....
6 I go to bed midnight. .....
7 I don't get home before 10.00 night. .....
8 It's three minutes to 8.00 – it's 8.00. .....
9 I always get up before 7.00, at 6.55. .....

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