



Time Zones

Laika Joslas

1. Match the English words with the Latvian translation.

English	Latvian
Time zone	Geogrāfiskais platumis
Longitude	Vasaras laiks
Latitude	Austrumu puslode
Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)	Laika joslā
Prime Meridian	Vietējais laiks
International Date Line	Griničas laiks
Local time	Datuma maiņas līnija
Daylight Saving Time	Geogrāfiskais garums
Eastern Hemisphere	Rietumu puslode
Western Hemisphere	Sākotnējais meridiāns

2. Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the box.

Word box: *time zone, longitude, GMT, Prime Meridian, International Date Line, local time*

1. Latvia is in the Eastern European _____.
2. The _____ runs through Greenwich, London.
3. 0° _____ is used as the starting point for time zones.
4. When it is 12:00 in London, Riga is 2 hours ahead according to _____.
5. The _____ separates two calendar days.
6. Riga's _____ is GMT +2 (or +3 in summer).

3. Quick Geography Check

1. How many time zones are there in the world?
 - a) 12
 - b) 18
 - c) 24
 - d) 36
2. Which time zone is Latvia in?
 - a) GMT +1
 - b) GMT +2
 - c) GMT +3
 - d) GMT –1
3. Why do we need time zones?
 - a) Because clocks are different in each country
 - b) Because the Earth rotates and the Sun rises/sets at different times
 - c) Because countries want to be unique
 - d) Because it is easier for traveling

4. Take turns asking and answering. Use active vocabulary. First, Student A asks and Student B answers. Then switch roles.

Questions to practise:

- What time is it in Riga if it is 12:00 in London?
- What time is it in New York if it is 18:00 in Riga?
- Which countries are in the same time zone as Latvia?
- How many hours ahead is Tokyo compared to Riga?
- Which country is behind Latvia in time?

Useful phrases:

- *“Latvia is in the ... time zone.”*
- *“The local time in Riga is ...”*
- *“The time difference between Riga and ... is ... hours.”*
- *“... is ahead of Latvia by ... hours.”*
- *“... is behind Latvia by ... hours.”*
- *“According to Greenwich Mean Time, Riga is ...”*

5. You are planning an online meeting with students from Latvia, Japan, and Brazil. The meeting is at 15:00 in Riga.

- What time is it in Tokyo?
- What time is it in Brasília?
- Which country has the earliest time?
- Which country has the latest time?