



A1 TEENS · VOCABULARY · LESSON 11

What Time Is It? *Reading clocks & talking about your day*

School starts at eight. Lunch is at half past twelve. In this lesson you'll learn to read a clock and tell the time in English — o'clock, half past, quarter past and quarter to.



45 minutes



CEFR A1



Telling the Time

Name: _____ Date: _____

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WARM-UP

Think before you start

Look at a clock and ask yourself...

1. What time is it right now? Can you say it in English?

2. What time do you wake up on a school day?

3. What time does your school start and finish?

4. When do you have dinner — early or late?

Telling the time, step by step

The question and the answer

ASK What time is it? — or — *What's the time?*

ANSWER It's **three o'clock**.

ANSWER It's **half past nine**.

The four important times



3:00
three o'clock



3:15
quarter past three



3:30
half past three



3:45
quarter to four

WHEN THE CLOCK SAYS...

WE SAY...

Exactly on the hour **7:00**

It's **seven o'clock**.

15 minutes after **7:15**

It's **quarter past seven**.

30 minutes after **7:30**

It's **half past seven**.

45 minutes after **7:45**

It's **quarter to eight** (*the next hour!*)

Any minutes **7:10 / 7:20**

It's **ten past seven / twenty past seven**

After half past **7:40 / 7:50**

It's **twenty to eight / ten to eight**

💡 Remember these little words!

o'clock

past

to

quarter past

quarter to

half past

It's...

at + time

Saying **WHEN** something happens — use "at"

TIME I wake up **at** half past six.

TIME The film starts **at** quarter to nine.

ASK What time **do** you go to bed? — I go to bed **at** ten o'clock.

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KEY VOCABULARY

Words for time & your day

WORD	MEANING	EXAMPLE
o'clock <i>phrase</i>	used for an exact hour, with no minutes	<i>It's six o'clock. Time for dinner!</i>
half past <i>phrase</i>	30 minutes after the hour	<i>The bus comes at half past eight.</i>
quarter past <i>phrase</i>	15 minutes after the hour	<i>I have a break at quarter past ten.</i>
quarter to <i>phrase</i>	15 minutes before the next hour	<i>School finishes at quarter to four.</i>
morning <i>noun</i>	the early part of the day, before lunch	<i>I do my homework in the morning.</i>
afternoon <i>noun</i>	the part of the day after lunch	<i>We play football in the afternoon.</i>
evening <i>noun</i>	the part of the day before night	<i>In the evening I watch TV with my family.</i>
early <i>adj / adv</i>	before the usual or expected time	<i>I get up early to catch the bus.</i>
late <i>adj / adv</i>	after the usual or expected time	<i>He goes to bed late on Fridays.</i>
break <i>noun</i>	a short time to rest between activities	<i>We have a break at half past ten.</i>

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READING

A busy Tuesday for Mia

A DAY IN THE LIFE · ISSUE 11

Mia's Tuesday: *From morning to night*

A normal school day, hour by hour

Mia is thirteen. She lives in Brighton with her family and her cat, Pixel. This is her Tuesday — from the first alarm to the last yawn.

In the morning

Mia's alarm rings at **quarter past six**. It's very **early**! She doesn't get up at once — she stays in bed for ten minutes. At **half past six** she gets up, washes her face and has breakfast. She leaves the house at **quarter to eight** and walks to school with her friend Leo.

School starts at **eight o'clock**. Mia has maths, English and science in the **morning**. At **half past ten** there is a short **break**, and everyone runs outside to play.

In the afternoon

Lunch is at **half past twelve**. Mia eats a sandwich and an apple. In the **afternoon** she has history and art. Her favourite lesson, art, starts at **quarter past two**. School finishes at **quarter to four**, and Mia is happy — it's time to go home!

In the evening

Mia does her homework at **five o'clock**. The family has dinner at **seven o'clock**. In the **evening** she watches a film with her brother and plays with Pixel. She goes to bed at **half past nine** — not too **late** on a school night. "Good night!" she says. Tomorrow is another busy day.

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VOCABULARY CARDS

Review & remember

o'clock*phrase*

An exact hour with no extra minutes.

*"It's nine o'clock. Let's start!"***half past***phrase*

Thirty minutes after the hour.

*"The train leaves at half past two."***quarter past***phrase*

Fifteen minutes after the hour.

*"Wake up — it's quarter past seven!"***quarter to***phrase*

Fifteen minutes before the next hour.

*"The shop opens at quarter to ten."***early***adj / adv*

Before the usual or expected time.

*"I get up early on school days."***late***adj / adv*

After the usual or expected time.

"Don't be late for the bus!"

6

PRACTICE

Fill in the blanks

 Complete each sentence about telling the time. Write the missing word or words on the line.

- 1 It's 8:00. It's eight _____ . (*exact hour*)
- 2 It's 9:30. It's _____ nine. (*9:30*)
- 3 It's 4:15. It's quarter _____ four. (*after the hour*)
- 4 It's 6:45. It's quarter _____ seven. (*before the hour*)
- 5 What _____ is it? — It's ten o'clock. (*the question word*)
- 6 School starts _____ eight o'clock. (*before the time*)
- 7 It's 7:15. It's _____ seven. (*7:15*)
- 8 I wake up early in the _____ . (*part of the day*)

7

SPEAKING

Talk about your day

Work with a partner. Ask these questions. Answer with a real time. Use "at" + the time!

🎤 What time do you wake up on a school day?

🎤 What time does your school start and finish?

🎤 When do you have lunch?

🎤 What time do you have dinner at home?

🎤 What time do you go to bed?

EXAMPLE CONVERSATION

A: What time do you wake up?

B: I wake up at quarter past seven. And you?

A: I wake up at half past six. That's early!

B: What time does your school start?

A: It starts at eight o'clock and finishes at quarter to four.

8

WRITING

My school day

Write about your day (50–70 words)

Write about a normal day for you. Use times! Write what you do in the morning, afternoon and evening. Remember to:

- use at least 4 times (e.g. *at seven o'clock, at half past eight*)
- use *o'clock* AND *half past* at least once each
- use the word *at* before each time
- write about morning, afternoon AND evening

Check your understanding

Tick (✓) the correct answer for each question.

1. The clock says 5:00. What time is it?

- A five past
- B five o'clock
- C half past five
- D quarter to five

2. The clock says 8:30. What time is it?

- A half past eight
- B quarter past eight
- C eight o'clock
- D half to eight

3. The clock says 10:15. What time is it?

- A quarter to ten
- B quarter past ten
- C half past ten
- D ten o'clock

4. The clock says 6:45. What time is it?

- A quarter past six
- B quarter past seven
- C quarter to seven
- D quarter to six

5. How do we ASK the time?

- A How time is it?
- B What time is it?
- C When time is it?
- D Which time is it?

6. Complete: School starts ___ eight o'clock.

- A in
- B on
- C at
- D to

7. Which time is the EARLIEST in the day?

- A half past nine in the evening
- B seven o'clock in the morning
- C quarter to four in the afternoon
- D twelve o'clock (midday)

8. The clock says 3:45. What time is it?

- A quarter to four
- B quarter past three
- C quarter to three
- D half past three



Answer Key

Part 6 — Fill in the blanks

1. o'clock 2. half past 3. past 4. to
5. time 6. at 7. quarter past 8. morning

Part 9 — Quiz

- B** — five o'clock (an exact hour with no minutes)
- A** — half past eight (30 minutes after the hour)
- B** — quarter past ten (15 minutes after the hour)
- C** — quarter to seven (15 minutes before the NEXT hour)
- B** — What time is it?
- C** — at (we use "at" before a clock time)
- B** — seven o'clock in the morning (morning comes first)
- A** — quarter to four (15 minutes before 4)