



PUC SPEL Online is a web-based English language tutoring system developed by PUC to help you improve your English vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. You can access the online courses from your own computer with an internet connection and at any time you are available. The course provides convenience and flexibility for you to practice your English independently outside of your classrooms with the support of online tutors.

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Grammar Reference

What time is it?

To ask about the time, we use the following questions:

What + time + is + it?

What + is + the time?

Example:

What time is it?

It's 5:20. (It's five twenty.)

There are a few ways to tell the time.

1. Say the hour first and then the minutes (hour + minutes)

Example:

7:45 (seven forty-five)

8:11 (It's eight eleven.)

Note: For minutes 01 through 09, you can say the letter "O" rather than "zero".

Example:

11:04 (eleven O-four.)

1:08 (It's one O-eight.)

2. Say the minutes first and then the hours. (minutes + past/to + hour)

For minutes 1-30, use "past/after" after the minutes.

Example:

7:15 fifteen minutes **past/after** seven

3:25 It's twenty five **past/after** three.

For minutes 31-59, use "to/before" after the minutes.

Example:

7:45 fifteen minutes **to/before eight**

8:55 It's five **to/before nine**.

Note:

When it is **15 minutes past** the hour, we usually say: **(a) quarter past**

Example:

9:15 It's (a) quarter past nine

When it is **15 minutes before** the hour, we usually say: **a quarter to**

2:45 It's (a) quarter to three

When it is **30 minutes past** the hour, we usually say: **half past**

5:30 It's half past five (but we can also say five thirty)

When there are **no minutes**, we use **o'clock**.

Example:

10:00 ten o'clock.

2:00 It's two o'clock.



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Prepositions of time “At” and “In”

“At” is used for a precise time.

Example:

at 6:30
at 5 o'clock
at 8 P.M.
at noon
at bedtime
at sunrise

“In” is used with months, years, and long periods

Example:

in May
in summer
in 1990
in the morning
in the afternoon
in the evening