RULE SHEET

What time is it?



Ask: **What time is it?** or **What's the time?** Answer with **It's** and the time. From 1 to 30 minutes after the hour, say **past** and this hour. After half past, say **to** and the next hour.

Past and to

Time	Say	Time	Say
1:05	five **past** one	12:35	twenty-five **to** one
1:10	ten **past** one	12:40	twenty **to** one
1:15	(a) **quarter past** one	12:45	(a) **quarter to** one
1:20	twenty **past** one	12:50	ten **to** one
1:25	twenty-five **past** one	12:55	five **to** one
1:30	**half past** one	1:00	one **o'clock**

Digital times, a.m. and p.m.

- 8:50 · It's **eight fifty**. = It's **ten to nine**.
- 9:05 · It's **nine oh five**. = It's **five past nine**.
- Use **a.m.** from midnight to midday: 7 a.m. = seven o'clock in the morning
- Use **p.m.** from midday to midnight: 3 p.m. = three o'clock in the afternoon
- Timetables: 15:00 = 3 p.m. · 20:30 = 8:30 p.m. · 12:00 in the day = **midday** · 12:00 at night = **midnight**

Times in sentences

- The film is **at** half past six.
- The shop is open **from** nine **to** six.
- **in** the morning · **in** the afternoon · **in** the evening · **at** night

> **Watch out** Say **o'clock** only with full hours: It's three o'clock. Not: half past three o'clock. **Half past eight** is 8:30, half an hour after eight. Both are correct: quarter past and **a** quarter past.

PRACTICE 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

O'clock, half past, quarter past, quarter to

1 Tick the correct time.

1. It's 12:00 in the day. It's _____. ○ midnight ○ midday ○ half past twelve
2. 9:30 – It's _____. ○ half past ten ○ half past nine ○ half to ten
3. 6:15 – It's _____. ○ quarter to six ○ quarter past seven ○ quarter past six
4. 11:45 – It's _____. ○ quarter to twelve ○ quarter past eleven ○ quarter to eleven
5. 9:00 – It's _____. ○ nine hours ○ nine o'clock ○ half past nine
6. 12:30 – It's _____. ○ half to one ○ half past one ○ half past twelve
7. It's 12:00 at night. It's _____. ○ midnight ○ midday ○ twelve thirty
8. 8:15 – It's _____. ○ quarter to eight ○ quarter past eight ○ quarter to nine

2 Write o'clock, half, quarter, past or to.

o'clock	half	quarter	past	to

1. 2:00 – It's two _____.
2. 5:30 – It's _____ past five.
3. 10:15 – It's _____ past ten.
4. 4:45 – It's quarter _____ five.
5. 10:30 – It's half _____ ten.
6. 11:00 – It's eleven _____.
7. 9:45 – It's _____ to ten.
8. 5:15 – It's quarter _____ five.