Telling the time: o'clock and half past

The short hand shows the hour, the long hand shows the minutes.

★ ★ ★ EXPLANATION

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

1 What you will learn

You will learn to read o'clock and half past times, and to draw the hands yourself.

WHAT YOU ALREADY KNOW

You can count to 12 and you recognise the numbers on the clock face.

WORDS YOU NEED

hour hand · minute hand · o'clock · half past · digital

HOW TO DO IT — STEP BY STEP

1. **Find the short hand first.**
   The short thick hand points to the hour.
2. **Then look at the long hand.**
   Is the long hand on the 12? Then it is an o'clock time.
3. **Is the long hand on the 6?**
   Then it is half past. The short hand sits between two numbers.
4. **Say it out loud.**
   Half past means half an hour after the hour you have passed. Between 7 and 8 with the long hand on 6 is half past seven.



3 o'clock

03:00



half past 7

07:30

REMEMBER

Long hand on 12 = o'clock.
Long hand on 6 = half past the hour you just passed.
7:30 is half past seven.

QUESTIE'S TIP

For half past, look at the hour you have already passed. In Dutch it works the other way round, so take care if you switch languages.

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★ ★ ★ TOGETHER

Grade 1–2 · REK-KL-L1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

1 Read the clock

Write the time in words under each clock.

1. 

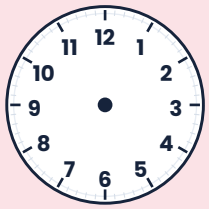
2. 

3. 

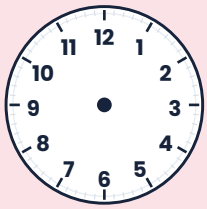
4. 

2 Draw the hands

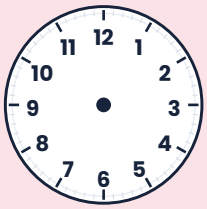
Draw the hour hand short and thick, the minute hand long.

1. 

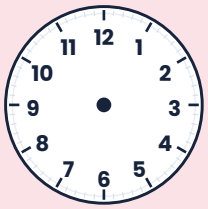
05:00

2. 

08:30

3. 

12:00

4. 

03:30

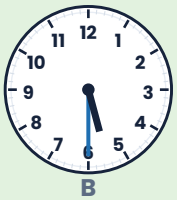
3 Find the pair

Which digital time belongs to which clock? Write the number next to it.



A

08:00 ☐



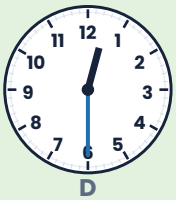
B

11:00 ☐



C

12:30 ☐



D

05:30 ☐

QUESTIE'S TIP

Always draw the long hand first. Then you know roughly where the short hand goes.

Telling the time: o'clock and half past

The short hand shows the hour, the long hand shows the minutes.

★ ★ ★ PRACTICE

Grade 1–2 · REK-KL-L1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

1 A · What time is it?

Write the time in words.

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 

7. 
8. 
9. 
10. 
11. 
12. 

2 B · Draw the hands

Draw the hour hand short and thick, the minute hand long.

1. 
05:00

2. 
08:30

3. 
12:00

4. 
03:30

5. 
10:00

6. 
06:30

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★ ★ ★ APPLY

Grade 1–2 · REK-KL-L1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

1 My day

Read the timetable and answer the questions.

1. School starts at half past eight. Draw that time on the empty clock and write it digitally.

   Sum: _____ Answer: _____

2. Break is at ten o'clock. What is that digitally?

   Sum: _____ Answer: _____

3. You go home at half past three. What is that digitally?

   Sum: _____ Answer: _____

4. It is seven o'clock in the morning. What do you usually do then?

   Sum: _____ Answer: _____

2 B · Draw the hands

Draw the hour hand short and thick, the minute hand long.

1. 

   05:00

2. 

   08:30

3. 

   12:00

4. 

   03:30

5. 

   10:00

6. 

   06:30

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★ ★ ★
CHECK & CHALLENGE

Grade 1–2 · REK-KL-L1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

1 Check yourself

Correct out of 6: ____

1. 02:30 _____
2. 09:00 _____
3. 07:30 _____
4. 04:00 _____
5. 11:30 _____
6. 06:00 _____

CHALLENGE

Clock hunt

Find five clocks at home or in the classroom (devices count). Write down what each one shows. Do they all show the same time?

2 I can do this

- I can read o'clock times. ☺ 😐 ☹
- I can read half past times. ☺ 😐 ☹
- I can draw the hands myself. ☺ 😐 ☹

TEACHER'S NOTE

Let pupils copy the hands with their arms before drawing. If your class is multilingual, note that Dutch 'half acht' means 7:30 while English 'half past eight' means 8:30 — this causes real confusion.

Telling the time: o'clock and half past

For the teacher

★ ★ ★

ANSWERS

Grade 1–2 · REK-KL-L1

A · WHAT TIME IS IT?

1. 3 o'clock (03:00)
2. half past 7 (07:30)
3. 9 o'clock (09:00)
4. half past 1 (01:30)
5. 11 o'clock (11:00)
6. half past 5 (05:30)
7. 8 o'clock (08:00)
8. half past 12 (12:30)
9. 6 o'clock (06:00)
10. half past 10 (10:30)
11. 2 o'clock (02:00)
12. half past 4 (04:30)

B · DRAW THE HANDS

1. 5 o'clock
2. half past 8
3. 12 o'clock
4. half past 3
5. 10 o'clock
6. half past 6

MY DAY

1. 8:30
2. 10:00
3. 15:30 (3:30)
4. own answer

CHECK YOURSELF

1. half past 2
2. 9 o'clock
3. half past 7
4. 4 o'clock
5. half past 11
6. 6 o'clock