**Telling time Study Guide**

* **Questions:**

¿Qué hora es? = What time is it?

¿A qué hora es…? = At what time is…?

* **Giving the actual time:**

1. To say that it is one o’clock, we use “es”, the **singular** form of the verb “ser”.

It is 1:00. = Es la una.

At 1:00 = A la una

Mi clase de español es a la una. = My Spanish class is at 1 o’clock.

1. For **all** other times, we use “son”, the **plural** form of the verb “ser”. A las dos

It is 2:00. = Son las dos.

At 2:00 = A las dos.

Mi clase de español es a las dos. = My Spanish class is at two.

* **Using minutes after the hour or to the next hour:**

1. To say how many minutes are after the hour, use “y” which means “and”. You do this from 1 minute past up to 30 minutes past the hour.

1:05 Es la una y cinco. (we do not say the number zero)

2:05 Son las dos y cinco.

3:10 Son las tres y diez.

4:20 Son las cuatro y veinte.

8:08 Son las ocho y ocho.

4:15 Son las cuatro y cuarto = It is a quarter past four.

Son las cuatro y quince.

4:30 Son las cuatro y media. = It is half past four

Son las cuatro y treinta.

1. To talk about minutes leading up to the next hour, use the word “menos”, which means minus. For this, you are saying how many minutes are left until the next hour.

Think of this like you are doing math. It is four minus ten minutes.

4:45 Son las cinco menos cuarto. = It is a quarter to five

Son las cinco menos quince.

Son las cuatro y cuarenta y cinco.

12:45 Es la una menos cuarto

Es la una menos quince

Son las doce y cuarenta y cinco.

1:45 Son las dos menos cuarto/quince.

Es la una y cuarenta y cinco.

* **Important points about telling time:**

1. 1:00 Es la una. We say "una" because hour (la hora) is a feminine word.
2. 1:01 Es la una y uno. We say "uno" because minute (el minuto) is a masculine word.
3. We do not say AM or PM or o’clock in Spanish. Instead we say that it is in the morning, afternoon, or night.

AM = de la mañana (morning time)

PM = de la tarde (afternoon time)

PM = de la noche (night time)

1. We also do not say o’clock. Instead we say

en punto = This is used to say that is the hour on the hour, exactly that hour with no minutes:

Es la una en punto. = It is 1 PM on the dot.

* **Important vocabulary to know:**

La hora = hour

El minuto = minute

el mediodía = noon. This is 12 **PM**

la medianoche = midnight This is 12 **AM**

y cuarto = quarter past

y media = half past

menos cuarto = a quarter to

Students have been asking when does afternoon become night. This can vary depending on the season and if it is dark or light outside. As a class, we agreed that 9PM is definitely night time, and that 7 or 8 PM would depend on whether it is summer and light outside or fall and already dark outside.

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Es la una = It is one o’clock.

A la una = at one o’clock.

Son las dos = it is two o’clock

A las dos = at two o’clock