

La hora:

- To ask what time is it: ¿Qué hora es?
- Answering this question:
Three possible ways to start the answer (depending on the hour)
 1. If the HOUR is ONE then we use: Es la (una)
 2. If the hour is MORE than one we use: Son las (dos-doce)
 3. If the time is midnight or noon, we use simply “Es”

Miscellaneous vocab:

la hora=the hour

el minuto=the minute

en punto=sharp

media=half

cuarto=quarter

mediodía=noon

medianoche=midnight

So, to answer time we use one of these:

1. Es la (when the hour is only ONE)
2. Son las (when the hour is more than one)
3. Es (with only mediodía or medianoche)

To add on the minutes, we simply use the connector of “y” or “menos” depending on if u have 40 or more past the hour

Example:

2:10 = Son las dos y diez.

3:50 = Son las tres y cincuenta. OR Son las cuatro menos diez.

(The first is the hour, then the connector and then the minutes)

If the minutes are fifteen or thirty, we can use cuarto or media instead of quince and treinta.

To do the MENOS method, there first needs to be FORTY or MORE after the hour!

Go to the next hour and then subtract however many minutes are missing!

Instead of using the connector word of “y” we now use “menos” which is minus.

(meaning that many minutes until the next hour)

Example:

4:40

First, can we do the menos method? Yes, due to more 40 min past.

Second, you can still simply write it out like always.

Son las cuatro y cuarenta. OR

Son las cinco menos veinte.

note: the connector word of “menos” and you have to do the next hour and subtract the number of minutes until that hour

What if you have this time?

9:45

THREE ways to write this:

1. Son las nueve y cuarenta y cinco.
2. Son las diez menos quince.
3. Son las diez menos cuarto.

What about the AM and PM???

Here they are:

am= de la mañana	12:00am-11:59am
pm=de la tarde	12:00pm-7:59pm
pm=de la noche	8:00pm-11:59pm

NOTE:

noon=12:00pm midnight=12:00am

How do you add the AM and PM?

Simply add it on to the end.

Example:

10:33pm= Son las diez y treinta y tres de la noche.

7:59pm=Son las siete y cincuenta y nueve de la tarde. OR (be careful!!!)

Son las ocho menos uno de la noche.

(notice since you did the menos method from 8pm that it changes to noche)

NOTE: you can ONLY use mediodía and medianoche with “Es” and CANNOT use the menos method with it.

SO: 12:00pm can be: Es mediodía. OR Son las doce de la tarde.

5:25pm Son las cinco y veinticinco de la tarde.

8:38 am Son las ocho y treinta y ocho de la mañana.