ESOL Entry Level – Vocabulary – Time

Welcome

Welcome to this session on time.

There are different ways that we use to talk about the time. In this session, you will be learning vocabulary for:

* Units of time
* Day and night
* Days of the week
* Months of the year

Units of time

We measure time using different units.

Second

There are 60 seconds in a minute. A second is a very short amount of time.

Minute

A minute is the same as 60 seconds.

Hour

There are 60 minutes in an hour.

Day

There are 24 hours in a day.

Week

There are 7 days in a week.

Month

A month is either 28, 29, 30 or 31 days.

Year

There are 12 months in a year.

Decade

There are 10 years in a decade.

Century

There are a 100 years in a century.

Millennium

There are a 1,000 years in a millennium.

Day and night

A day is divided into day and night.

**Daytime** is from sunrise to sunset. It is usually light during the day.

**Nighttime** is from sunset to sunrise. It is usually dark during the night.

The time that the sun rises and sets changes throughout the year, meaning that the length of daytime and nighttime changes. The time of sunset and sunrise will be different in different countries around the world, too.

In the UK, the shortest day is in December, in the winter, when we have just under 8 hours of daylight. Our longest day is in June, in the summer, when we have around 16 hours of daylight.

Meanings of day

The word ‘day’ can have two meanings.

A day can mean **the** **24 hours between midnight and the next day**, for example, when we talk about days of the week.

A day can also mean **the time between sunrise and sunset**.

Morning afternoon and evening

We use morning, afternoon and evening to talk about different parts of a day.

We talk about the time from midnight to midday as **morning**.

We talk about the time from midday to sunset as **afternoon**.

We talk about the time from sunset to midnight as **evening**.

AM and PM

We use **am** for all times after midnight and before midday.

For example:

* 2am means 2 o’clock in the morning
* 11am means 11 o’clock in the morning

We use **pm** for all times after midday and before midnight.

For example:

* 3pm means 3 o’clock in the afternoon
* 8pm means 8 o’clock in the evening

Question 1

Match the time of day to the description

* midnight to midday
* midday to sunset
* sunset to midnight

1. Evening
2. Morning
3. Afternoon

The correct answers are:

midnight to midday - **morning**

midday to sunset - **afternoon**

sunset to midnight - **evening**

Question 2

What do we use for all times after midday and before midnight?

am

pm

The correct answers is pm

Question 3

Is this statement true or false?

8am means 8 o’clock in the evening.

The correct answer is false

Question 4

What is the name for the time between sunrise and sunset?

Daytime

Nighttime

Evening

Midday

The correct answer is daytiem

Days of the week

There are 7 days of the week:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

5 of these are weekdays:

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

2 of these are weekend days:

Saturday and Sunday.

Days of the week abbreviations

Sometimes, we use abbreviations when writing down the days of the week. Look at the chart to see what these are.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Days of the week | Abbreviation |
| Monday | Mon |
| Tuesday | Tues |
| Wednesday | Weds |
| Thursday | Thurs |
| Friday | Fri |
| Saturday | Sat |
| Sunday | sun |

Question 5

Which of these are weekdays? Select all that apply.

Monday

Saturday

Thursday

Wednesday

The correct answers are Monday, Thursday and wednesday

Months of the year

There are 12 months of the year. All the months have 30 or 31 days, except for February which has 28 days, or 29 days in a leap year.

Every 4th year, we have a leap year, when there is an extra day in February, on the 29th of February. So, a leap year has 366 days instead of the usual 365.

Move the slider to see the months of the year and the number of days in each month.

Months of the year abbreviations

In the same we use abbreviations for days of the week, we also use abbreviations for the months of the year.

Look at the chart to see the abbreviations.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| January | Jan |
| February | Feb |
| March | Mar |
| April | Apr |
| May | May |
| June | Jun |
| July | Jul |
| August | Aug |
| September | Sep |
| October | Oct |
| November | Nov |
| December | Dec |

Seasons

We have four seasons in the UK: winter, spring, summer and autumn.

Look at the chart to see which months are in each season.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| January | Winter |
| February |
| March | Spring |
| April |
| May |
| June | Summer |
| July |
| August |
| September | Autumn |
| October |
| November |
| December | Winter |

Question 6

match the missing numbers to complete the sentences.

There are **?** months of the year. All the months have 30 or **?** days, except for February which has **?** days most years, or **?** days in a leap year.

12

29

28

31

The correct answer is: There are **12** months of the year. All the months have 30 or **31** days, except for February which has **28** days most years, or **29** days in a leap year.

Question 7

In the UK, which season lasts from June to August?

Winter

Spring

Summer

Autumn

The correct answer is summer

Summary

Well done. You have completed this session on time.

You should now know vocabulary for:

* Units of time
* Day and night
* Days of the week
* Months of the year