

2.29 What's the time?

Aim:	To talk about the time around the world
Focus:	The time
Level:	Elementary and above (young learners)
Time:	40 minutes
Sites:	http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/

Procedure

This works well as a revision activity for telling the time – something which is done in almost all beginner courses, but often still not mastered properly even after three or four years of study. Make sure you do some pre-teaching or reminding before visiting the website.

Distribute the *What's the time?* activity and give students time on the website to answer the questions. Bear in mind that most of the times noted from the website will only vary by a few minutes, so this activity alone will not practise the full range of times you might want to cover.

In pairs, students ask and answer from the *What's the time?* activity. Move on to a more personalised activity with students talking to each other about their daily routines, e.g. What time do you get up? This can then be turned into a writing activity, 'A Day in the Life of ...'.

Variation

You can also do some work on nationalities and countries using the webpage. A slightly more complex activity would be to quiz students by country, rather than by city. They would then have to use their search skills to find out which cities on the time page are from which country, before being able to answer the time questions. To get a full range of times to practise, visit a TV company page and make a similar activity with the TV listings page, basing the questions around the formula: What time is the news on TVE1?, etc.

What's the time?**Find out the time in these places.****STUDENT A**

Amsterdam

Taipei

Stockholm

Rome

New York

Mexico City

Now ask your partner about ...

Ottawa

Sydney

San Francisco

Rio de Janeiro

Moscow

Hong Kong

Find out the time in these places.**STUDENT B**

Ottawa

Sydney

San Francisco

Rio de Janeiro

Moscow

Hong Kong

Now ask your partner about ...

Amsterdam

Taipei

Stockholm

Rome

New York

Mexico City

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