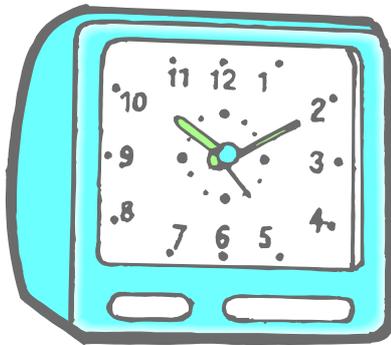




Telling the Time

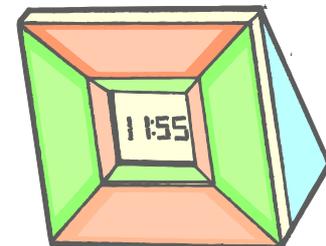
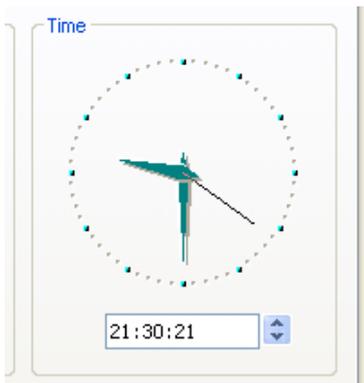
There are several ways to describe the time that have come from a few different places. I believe 1 reason for this is due to the different ways of displaying the time. There are mechanical clocks, digital watches and sun dials (just joking with that last one). Also there is choice between a 12 and a 24 hour clock which can affect things.



The time shown on this clock can be said in several ways such as:
Ten minutes past ten (rare)
Ten past ten
Ten past (short)
Ten ten (digital)

Twenty two ten (24 hour clock, evening)
AM or PM

In the same way that the Blue clock shows Ten Past it can also show Twenty Past (10:20) & Twenty Five Past (10:25). When the clock goes past half way it can be read as Twenty Five To (10:35), Twenty To (10:40), Ten To (10:50) & Five To (10:55).



Five to twelve
Eleven fifty-five

21:30 is the 24 hour clock version/equivalent of 9:30 PM and is often described as Half Past Nine. When I was at school they described the pointing parts of a clock as hands (e.g. a person's hands like in that picture above). So, whenever the big hand is pointing directly down you say it is half past.

If the person you are speaking to is already aware of roughly what the time is e.g. they know it is past 3 o'clock then you can just say Half Past. As with much communication if the person already knows some of the details then you can leave those out. Communication relies upon many things other than words and so make use of these things as well.



Described as Quarter Past (10:15)

Described as Quarter To (10:45)



Quote of the Day: What's a school without direction? - Nicky Wire/Richey James