

L'HEURE

Quelle heure est-t-il?

“What time is it?”

Basic Ways of Telling Time

- Literally say the numbers.
- “Il est + THE NUMBER + heure.”
- To write the time the French use the following:
5h15, or five fifteen.

- While this system is easy there is one problem:
- You do not know if it is the morning, afternoon, evening or night.
- So, to clarify this you must say:
- The time + DE + LE/LA + time of day. Here are the expressions you will need to know:

- De l'après-midi = in the afternoon
- Du matin = in the morning
- Du soir = in the evening
- De la nuit = in the night

1:10

3:50

5:32

7:20

2:52

11:15

2:15

4:26

6:45

8:05

10:25

12:30

French Ways of Telling Time

24-clock

- There are a few instances where the French use a different system to English speakers.
- First one is the use of the 24-hour clock (this is also called military time).
- Basically, this makes it so you do not have to use AM and PM.
- To use this system all of the hours between 1am and 11am, 12pm are the same as the English system.
- However, for the hours 1pm through 11pm you must add twelve hours.
- For example: 1pm becomes 13h and 6pm becomes 18h.

15 Pass Construction

- To say “quarter past” or “15” you will use the word “**et quart**”, which means “and 1/4 (one-fourth)”.
- For example, to say 5:15 you say: “Cinq-heures et quart”.

30 Past Construction

- To say “half past” or “30” you will use the word “**et demie**”, which means “and 1/2 (half)”.
- For example, to say 6:30 you say: “Six-heures et demie.”

The “Moins” Construction

- The moins rule:
- For the minutes between 31 and 59 you say the COMING hour **plus the word MOINS** then *subtract the number of minutes to go before that coming hour.*
- For example,
 - To say 9:40 you say, “Dix heures moins vingt”.
 - To say 6:50 you say, “Sept-heures moins dix”.
 - To say 4:45, you say “Cinq-heures moins quart”.

le lever du jour	daybreak
le lever du soleil	sunrise
le soleil levant	rising sun
le matin	morning
...du matin	A.M.
hier matin	yesterday morning
le midi	noon, midday
le minuit	midnight
l'après-midi (m)	afternoon
le soir	evening, in the evening
...du soir	P.M.
la nuit	night
le coucher du soleil	sunset

Quelle heure est-il ?	
Il est une heure.	
Il est trois heures.	
Il est dix heures.	
Il est midi.	
Il est minuit.	
Il est quatre heures cinq.	
Il est quatre heures et quart.	
Il est quatre heures moins le quart	
Il est quatre heures quinze.	
Il est quatre heures et demie.	
Il est quatre heures trente.	
Il est cinq heures moins vingt.	
Il est quatre heures quarante.	

1:30 pm	13h30	
5:45 pm	17h45	
8:50 pm	20h50	
11:15 pm	23h15	
2:15 pm	14h15	
6:00 pm	18h00	
9:40 pm	21h40	
4:10 pm	16h10	
4:50 pm	16h50	
7:30 pm	19h30	
10:20 pm	22h20	
8:20 pm	20h20	