

## Telling Time

**Class Objective:** I'll be able to tell the time in Italian.

### Concept A: Tell the time

You can express the hour of day (that is, "It is \_\_\_ o'clock") by using the numbers up to 24 and the words *essere*, the verb that means "to be." In most cases, you'll use *essere* conjugated in the third-person plural form *sono*, or "(they) are," followed by the definite article *le* and the number of the hour.

- *Sono le tre.* — "It is three (o'clock)." (3:00)
- *Sono le cinque.* — "It is five (o'clock)." (5:00)
- *Sono le nove.* — "It is nine (o'clock)." (9:00)

### Concept B: Exceptions

The only exceptions occur at one o'clock, noon and midnight, when you use *essere* conjugated in its third-person singular form *è*, or "(it) is," instead.

- *È l'una.* — "It is one (o'clock)." (1:00)
- *È mezzogiorno.* — "It is noon."
- *È mezzanotte.* — "It is midnight."

The idea is that you're saying something like "(The hours) are three" or "(The hour) is one" without needing to explicitly state the subject. Italian lets a speaker drop the subject in certain constructions or when the context makes it clear, like with the time or with the weather; this can't happen in English, which requires speakers to say things like "*It* is one o'clock" or "*It* is raining."

To get more specific about the minutes value, all you've got to do is add the word *e*, ("and") followed by the number of minutes (from 1 to 59) that have passed since the most recent whole hour. You can also use the following words that stand for chunks of time:

- *una mezz'ora* — "a half of (an) hour"
- *un quarto d'ora* — "a quarter of (an) hour"

Putting this little formula together, you can make sentences like these:

- *Sono le quattro e cinque.* — "It is four and five (minutes)." (4:05.)

**QUESTION 1**

Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of a good leader?

**ANSWER**

- 1. Selfish
- 2. Humble
- 3. Empathetic

**QUESTION 2**

- 1. A leader should be someone who is always right and never wrong.
- 2. A leader should be someone who is always confident and never uncertain.
- 3. A leader should be someone who is always strong and never weak.

**QUESTION 3**

- 1. A leader should be someone who is always honest and never dishonest.

**QUESTION 4**

Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of a good leader?

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**ANSWER**

- 1. Selfish
- 2. Humble
- 3. Empathetic

**QUESTION 5**

**QUESTION 1**

Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of a good research question?

**ANSWER**

- 1. It is too broad
- 2. It is too narrow
- 3. It is too specific

**QUESTION 2**

- 1. The research question should be clear, concise, and specific.
- 2. The research question should be broad and general.
- 3. The research question should be too narrow and specific.

**QUESTION 3**

- 1. The research question should be clear, concise, and specific.

**QUESTION 4**

Which of the following is NOT a characteristic of a good research question?

It is too broad

**ANSWER**

- 1. It is too broad
- 2. It is too narrow
- 3. It is too specific

**QUESTION 5**