

Rosa's French Time-Telling Adventure

Learning objective: To be able to tell and write the time in French, specifically using 'heure' (hour) and 'demi' (half past).

Read the information below about how Rosa the parrot tells the time in French. Use the word bank to help you answer the questions. Remember that in French, we often use the 24-hour clock for formal occasions, but we will focus on the 12-hour clock today.

Rosa the parrot loves flying across different countries. To tell the time in French, she uses the phrase 'Quelle heure est-il?' which means 'What time is it?'. When it is exactly on the hour, she says 'Il est ... heure' (for one o'clock) or 'Il est ... heures' (for other numbers). If it is half past the hour, she adds 'et demie'. For example, 1:30 is 'Il est une heure et demie'. Remember, 'midi' is midday and 'minuit' is midnight!

Word bank: Quelle heure est-il? · Il est ... heure. · Il est ... heures. · et demie · midi · minuit

1. Translate the phrase 'Quelle heure est-il?' into English. (2 marks)

2. How would you write 4:00 in French? (2 marks)

3. If it is 6:30, how would Rosa say this in French? (2 marks)

4. What do the French words 'midi' and 'minuit' mean in English? (2 marks)

5. Why do you think we use 'heure' (singular) for 1:00 but 'heures' (plural) for 2:00 onwards? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a clock face showing 8:30 and write the French phrase 'Il est huit heures et demie' underneath it.



Extension challenge: Research how to say 'quarter past' (et quart) and 'quarter to' (moins le quart) in French. Can you write down the time for 5:15 and 5:45 using these new terms?