

Rosa's Spanish Clock Shop: Telling the Time

Learning objective: To be able to tell the time in Spanish using 'es la' for one o'clock and 'son las' for all other hours, including quarter hours and half-past.

Read the story below about Rosa the parrot. Use the vocabulary provided to help you answer the questions about the times on her clocks. Remember to use 'y' for 'past' and 'menos' for 'to'.

Rosa the parrot lives in a vibrant shop filled with beautiful cuckoo clocks. Every morning, she practices her Spanish by announcing the time to her friends. When the long hand points to the twelve, she says, '¡Es la una!' or '¡Son las diez!'. When it reaches the three, she chirps, 'y cuarto'. When it reaches the six, she squawks, 'y media'. As the hour approaches the next number, she uses 'menos cuarto' to tell her friends that the hour is almost here. Max the monkey often visits, trying to calculate how many minutes are left until lunch, while Rosa keeps the rhythm of the shop ticking perfectly.

Word bank: ¿Qué hora es? (What time is it?) · Es la una (It is one o'clock) · Son las... (It is... o'clock) · y cuarto (quarter past) · y media (half past) · menos cuarto (quarter to)

1. Rosa looks at a clock where the long hand is on the 6 and the short hand is between 4 and 5. Write the time in Spanish. (2 marks)

2. If a clock shows 1:15, why do we use 'Es la una' instead of 'Son las una'? Explain the grammatical rule. (3 marks)

3. Max the monkey says it is 'Son las ocho menos cuarto'. What time is it in digital format? Explain how you calculated this. (3 marks)

4. Compare and contrast the way we say 'half past' in Spanish ('y media') with the way we say 'quarter to' ('menos cuarto'). Why do you think the language changes structure here? (4 marks)

Draw: Draw a large clock face for Rosa. Show the time at 'las cinco y cuarto' (5:15) and 'las diez menos cuarto' (9:45). Label the hands in Spanish.



Extension challenge: Justify your answer: If you were planning a party for the BookFlik characters, why is it important to be precise with time? Create a schedule for a three-hour adventure starting at 'las dos y media', writing each activity time in Spanish and calculating the duration of each task.