

A. Telling the time in Tallinn

Tallinn is the capital of Estonia, where about 1 million people speak Estonian, a non-Indo-European language closely related to Finnish.

The following expressions show how to tell the time in Estonian:



Kell on üks



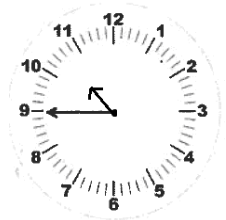
Kell on kaks



Veerand kaks



Pool neli



Kolmveerand üksteist



Viis minutit üks läbi

Here are some more numbers in English and Estonian:

6 *kuus* 7 *seitse* 8 *kaheksa* 10 *kümme*

A1. Translate the following into English words

- (a) *Kakskümmend viis minutit üheksa läbi*
- (b) *Veerand neli*
- (c) *Pool kolm*
- (d) *Kolmveerand kaksteist*
- (e) *Kolmkümmend viis minutit kuus läbi*

A2. Translate the following times into Estonian:

- (a) Quarter to nine
- (b) Quarter past four
- (c) Half past eleven
- (d) Five past seven
- (e) Half past twelve

SOLUTION

A1.

- (a) Twenty-five past nine
- (b) Quarter past three
- (c) Half (past) two
- (d) Quarter to twelve
- (e) Twenty-five to seven

A2.

- (a) Kolmveerand üheksa
- (b) Veerand viis
- (c) Pool kaksteist
- (d) Viis minutit seitse läbi
- (e) Pool üks

Explanation

“Quarter past” and “half past” are translated as “Quarter of” and “Half of”, pointing to the next hour. So *neli* in the fourth example is 4, not 3, which could also be guessed by the fact that *kolmveerand* is “three quarters”.

9 in 2a is not given, though *üheksa* appears in 1a, and can be guessed by analogy with *kaheksa* (8) (note the pattern $\ddot{u}=1$, $ka=2$, if *-heksa* means “from 10”).

Similarly, for 2c you need to figure out that 12 is *kaksteist*, which is given in 1d, on the basis that *üksteist* in the fifth example is 11.

The word for 5, needed for 2b, is shown in the sixth example.

Kakskümmend (20) and *kolmkümmend* (30) must be guessed based on the fact that *kaks=2*, *kolm=3* and *kümme=10*.