

LESSON NOTES

Learn Japanese Grammar Video - Absolute Beginner S1 #4 Telling Time in Japanese

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KANJI

1. 今何時ですか。
2. 4時です。

KANA

1. いまなんじですか。
2. よじです。

ROMANIZATION

1. Ima nanji desu ka.
2. Yoji desu.

ENGLISH

1. What time is it now?
2. It's four o' clock.

VOCABULARY

Kanji	Kana	Romaji	English
何時	なんじ	nan-ji	what time

今	いま	ima	now
六時	ろくじ	rokuji	six o'clock

SAMPLE SENTENCES

<p>今何時ですか。 <i>Ima nanji desu ka?</i></p> <p>What time is it now?</p>	<p>今、十一時です。 <i>Ima, jūichi-ji desu.</i></p> <p>It's 11 o'clock now.</p>
<p>六時半から朝ごはんです。 <i>Roku-ji han kara asa-gohan desu.</i></p> <p>Breakfast starts at 6:30.</p>	

GRAMMAR

The focus of this lesson is Telling Time in Japanese
Asking What Time It Is

Sentence Pattern:

Ima nanji desu ka?

今何時ですか。

What time is it now?

ima (今) = now

nan-ji (何時) = what time

desu (です) = Copula (linking verb), which is equivalent to the English “am,” “is” and “are.”

ka (か) = Question marker

This is the most common expression used for asking the time. *Ima* (今) can be left out.

Nan-ji desu ka? (何時ですか。) = What time is it?

Saying What Time It Is

***** The hours of the day *****

Time	Kanji	Hiragana	Roman character
1:00	一時	いちじ	ichi-ji
2:00	二時	にじ	ni-ji
3:00	三時	さんじ	san-ji
4:00	四時	よじ	yo-ji
5:00	五時	ごじ	go-ji
6:00	六時	ろくじ	roku-ji
7:00	七時	しちじ or ななじ	shichi-ji or nana-ji
8:00	八時	はちじ	hachi-ji
9:00	九時	くじ	ku-ji
10:00	十時	じゅうじ	jū-ji
11:00	十一時	じゅういちじ	jūichi-ji
12:00	十二時	じゅうにじ	jūni-ji

Be careful!

- * 4:00 is not *shi-ji* or *yon-ji*, but *yo-ji*.
- * 9:00 is not *kyū-ji*, but *ku-ji*.
- * 7:00 is usually *shichi-ji* in daily conversation, but *nana-ji* is also acceptable.

For Example:

Polite Conversation

Ima nan-ji desu ka?

今、何時ですか。

What time is it now?

Yoji desu.

四時です。

It's four o'clock.

Ressun wa go-ji kara desu.

レッスンは五時からです。

The lesson starts at 5 o'clock.

Casual Conversation

Ima, nan-ji?

今、何時？

What time is it now?

Yoji.

四時。

It's four o'clock.

Ressun wa go-ji kara.

レッスンは五時から。

The lesson starts at five o'clock.