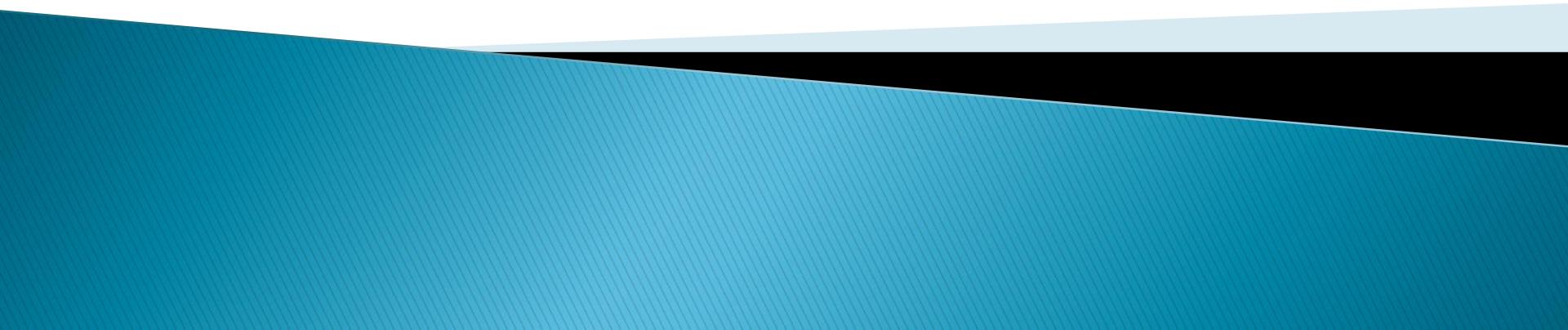


# **La Hora**

## Telling Time



# Clock Time:

- ▶ To ask the current time the question is:
  - ▶ **¿Qué hora es?**
  - ▶ *What time is it right now?*
- 
- ▶ To ask the time of an event (i.e. a class):
  - ▶ **¿A qué hora es tu clase..?**
  - ▶ *What time is your class?*

# The Current Time

- ▶ To describe the current time in Spanish, the following word order is used:
- ▶ If it's 1:00
- ▶ **Es la una (y minutes)**
- ▶ If it's 2:00 or later:
- ▶ **Son las dos (tres, cuatro, cinco) (y minutes)**
- ▶ “Son” and “Es” come first, followed by the hour and minutes.
- ▶ Es la una y quince. *It's 1:15*
- ▶ Son las dos y trece. *It's 2:13*
- ▶ Son las cinco y veinticinco. *It's 5:25*

- ▶ “Es” and “La” are only used with “una”
- ▶ “Son” and “Las” are used with every other hour.
- ▶ Hours are feminine in Spanish. The feminine definite articles are used. One o’clock is singular. The rest are plural.

- ▶ Midnight and Noon are exceptions to the “Es la/Son las” rule.
- ▶ To say “it’s noon”:
  - ▶ Es el mediodía
- ▶ To say it’s midnight
  - ▶ Es la medianoche.
- ▶ If it’s minutes after either one, use “Son las doce y...”

- ▶ The equivalent of “past” is “y”
- ▶ :15 and :30 are described as:
  - ▶ Cuarto (quarter)
  - ▶ Media (half)
- ▶ Son las dos y media      *It's 2:30*
- ▶ Son las ocho y cuarto      *It's 8:15*

- ▶ When describing minutes after half past (:35– :59) replace “y” with “menos” and give the time ahead one hour. This is similar to English using “twenty five to,” “quarter to” or “ten to”
- ▶ Son las seis menos cuarto
  - ▶ *It's quarter to six (5:45)*
- ▶ Son las tres menos diez
  - ▶ *It's ten to three (2:50)*

- ▶ Spanish doesn't really use "AM" and "PM" the way English does. Spanish speakers indicate "AM" and "PM" by using the phrase "in the morning/afternoon/evening"
  - ▶ De la mañana . (also: De la madrugada)
  - ▶ De la tarde.
  - ▶ De la noche
- 
- ▶ Son las cuatro de la mañana.
  - ▶ Son las seis de la tarde.
  - ▶ Son las once menos diez de la noche.

- ▶ When describing a non-specific time of day (i.e. in the morning, afternoon) Use:

- ▶ Por la mañana
- ▶ Por la tarde
- ▶ Por la noche
- ▶ ¿Estudias por la mañana,?
- ▶ No, Estudio por la tarde. Trabajo por la mañana.
- ▶ “De” is used after a clock time.
- ▶ “Por” is used when there is no clock time
- ▶ “En” is never, ever, ever, ever used.

- ▶ When describing the time of an event (not the current time) “A las + hora” is used instead of “Son las +hora”.
- ▶ ¿A qué hora...?                            *(At) what time is...?*
- ▶ ¿Qué hora es?                            *What time is it (now)?*
- ▶ “Son las 5”                            *It's 5*
- ▶ “Es a las 5”                            *It's at 5*
- ▶ ¿A qué hora es tu examen?  
▶ *What time is your exam?*
- ▶ Mi examen es a las cinco de la tarde.  
▶ *My exam is at five PM.*