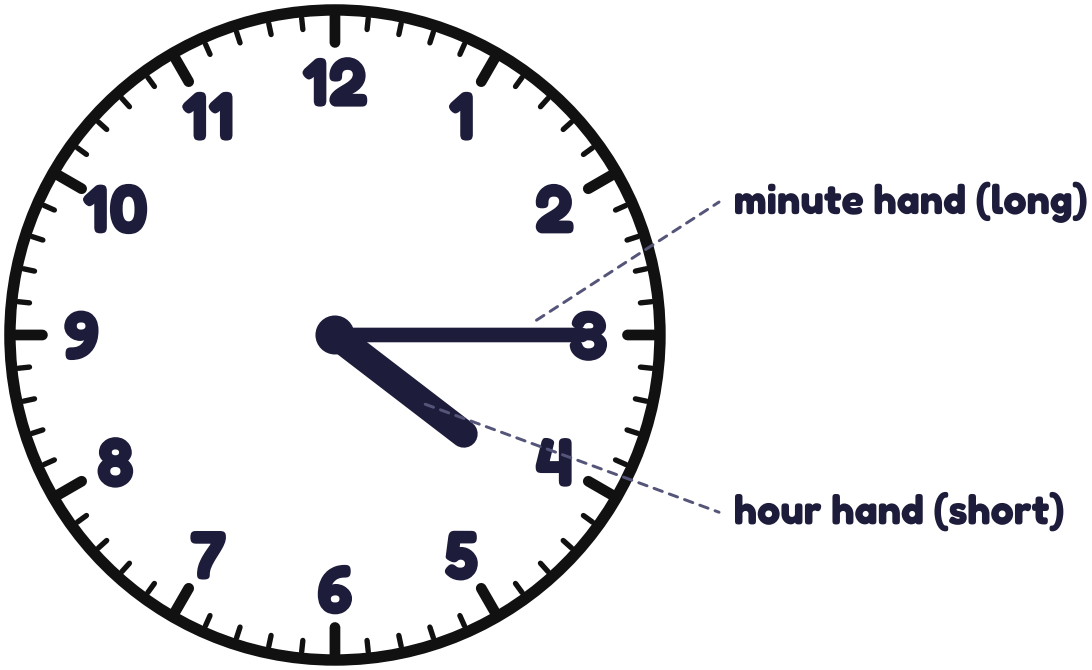
How to read a clock

Short hand first, then the long hand.



1. Find the short hour hand.

It has just gone past 4, so the hour is 4. If it sits between two numbers, the hour is the one it has passed.

2. Find the long minute hand.

Count in fives from the 12 to where it points: 5, 10, 15. That is 15 minutes.

3. Say the time.

Quarter past four (UK, Australia, New Zealand) or four fifteen (US). A digital clock shows 4:15.

Watch out: between 12 and 1 the hour is 12.

After half past, the short hand is closer to the next number, but the hour has not changed yet.