

Arrange a time to meet

HSK 1

Original teaching practice. Read one pattern, cover its model and try the questions before checking the separate answer section. Examples adapted from Chinese Grammar Wiki (AllSet Learning, CC BY-NC-SA) retain the course-reference provenance.

Ask the day and time, then agree when to meet.

Before you start: Recall numbers one to ten, 星期 for weekdays and 点 for clock time. Use the glosses for half hours and afternoon; no calendar calculation is needed.

■ Build the meaning

Numbers combine: 十一 is 11, 二十 is 20, and 二十三 is 23. For clock time, 三点 is 3 o'clock and 三点半 is 3:30.

星期几 asks the weekday; 几点 asks the clock time. A simple time phrase can come before the verb: 我明天三点去学校。

Time comes before the verb: day, part of day, clock



■ Work through a decision

For 我们星期五下午三点半在学校见 – we meet at school on Friday at half past three in the afternoon – first separate weekday (星期五), part of day (下午), clock time (三点半) and place (学校). Asked 几点见, answer 下午三点半, retaining the afternoon information. 半 adds half an hour; it is not a weekday.

Compare: 星期三 means Wednesday, while 三点 means three o'clock. 我下午三点去学校 says I go to school at three in the afternoon; without 下午, the phrase 三点 does not itself choose morning or afternoon. Keep a detail unknown when the message leaves it unstated.

■ Useful words in context

- 明天 míngtiān – tomorrow. 我明天去学校。
- 星期三 xīngqīsān – Wednesday. 明天是星期三。
- 几点 jǐ diǎn – what time. 你几点去?
- 半 bàn – half. 三点半。
- 学校 xuéxiào – school. 我去学校。

■ Listen before reading the script

Ask a partner to read the listening script from the answer section while you keep it covered. Then attempt the listening question. If you work alone without audio, use the script for reading practice; it is not a listening test.

■ Read a different account

明天是星期三。王力三点去学校。林安三点半去学校。

Try the reading question before checking the English meaning in the answer section.

■ Speak with a partner

Ask a partner the day and time of a fictional meeting. They suggest Wednesday at four; confirm it.

Check the distinction: 星期三 is a weekday; 三点 is a clock time. Do not answer one question with the other.

Learn step by step · Practise and review.

Practice without the models

Choose a pattern, cover its teaching examples, and attempt its questions. Use the labels to find feedback in the separate key.

■ Arrange a time to meet

0201.1 Listening. When is the meeting?

- A. Wednesday at 4 p.m.
- B. Thursday at 4 p.m.
- C. Wednesday at 3:30

0201.2 Reading. Who goes to school later?

- A. 林安
- B. Both at the same time
- C. 王力

0201.3 Complete “What time are you going?”: 你 去?

0201.4 Match each word with its meaning in this unit.

- 1. 明天
- 1. 星期三
- 1. 几点
- 1. 半
- 1. 学校
- A. school
- B. half

- C. what time
- D. tomorrow
- E. Wednesday

0201.5 Write a two-line meeting note: the weekday and time, then the place. Change at least one detail from the reading.

Write or say your own response before reading the key.

0201.6 Someone asks 星期几? 星期 means week and 几 asks which number here. Which kind of reply answers this question?

- A. 五个人 – five people
- B. 星期五 – Friday
- C. 五点 – five o'clock

0201.7 A message says 星期六下午两点半在公园见 – meet in the park on Saturday at 2:30 in the afternoon. First separate weekday from clock time. Which reply answers 几点见 – at what time shall we meet?

- A. 下午两点半 – 2:30 in the afternoon
- B. 公园 – the park
- C. 星期六 – Saturday

0201.8 Read: 林安星期二上午八点去学校。王力星期二上午八点半去学校。Which statement follows?

- A. Both go at eight on Tuesday morning.
- B. Wang Li goes half an hour after Lin An.
- C. Lin An goes half an hour after Wang Li.

0201.9 Use Mandarin for the new sentences or dialogue. You may explain your reasoning in English. Write a fictional invitation giving a weekday, morning or afternoon, a clock time and a meeting place. Write a reply confirming the time and asking one different detail. Read the invitation and reply aloud or exchange them with a partner. Make your time different from the examples.

Write or say your own response before reading the key.

A fresh situation

R1. Interpret and repair. A meeting is 星期四下午三点半. Someone answers 星期四 when asked 几点见. What information is missing?

R2. Use it yourself. Arrange a meeting on Friday at four in the afternoon at school. Write your responses before opening the key. Compare meaning as well as form; a different valid answer need not copy the model.

Answers and explanations

Check after your attempt. For open tasks, compare the message and the stated criteria, then revise one detail.

■ Arrange a time to meet

0201.1 A. Wednesday at 4 p.m.

四点 is four o'clock; 下午 makes it afternoon.

0201.2 A. 林安

三点半 is later than 三点.

0201.3 几点

几点 asks for clock time.

0201.4 1-D: 明天 = tomorrow; 2-E: 星期三 = Wednesday; 3-C: 几点 = what time; 4-B: 半 = half; 5-A: 学校 = school

Use the example sentences to check each word's meaning in context.

0201.5 One possible response: 星期四下午三点半。我们在学校见。

Check meaning and form:

- The weekday and clock time are identifiable.
- The place is stated.
- The time differs from the reading.

Compare the meaning and structure with the checklist. Your own response may differ from the model.

0201.6 B. 星期五 – Friday

星期几 asks the weekday. 五点 supplies a clock time and 五个人 a number of people. The shared number five does not make these details interchangeable.

0201.7 A. 下午两点半 – 2:30 in the afternoon

几点 asks clock time, so 下午两点半 answers it. Saturday and the park are true details but answer which day and where. Preserve 下午 instead of dropping the part of day.

0201.8 B. Wang Li goes half an hour after Lin An.

八点半 is half an hour after 八点 on the same stated Tuesday morning. Wang Li goes later, not Lin An. The account gives going times; it does not supply arrival times or travel duration.

0201.9 One possible response: Possible invitation: 我们星期一上午九点在学校见。Reply: 上午九点, 对吗? 在学校哪里见? We meet at school on Monday at nine in the morning. Nine in the morning, right? Where in the school? The reply confirms the stated time and asks for a more precise place. Other coherent invitations and questions are valid.

How to revise: If you answered a time question with a weekday, separate the two phrases and try again. Check 半 if you chose a half hour. Compare your own invitation

with the reply; do not replace its time with the model's time.

Check meaning and form:

- Include a weekday and a clock time as separate details.
- Specify morning or afternoon instead of relying on a guess.
- Make the reply confirm the invitation's actual time.
- Ask a relevant follow-up rather than inventing an unstated detail.
- Write or speak the requested sentences, questions or dialogue in Mandarin; optional English reasoning does not replace them.

If you answered a time question with a weekday, separate the two phrases and try again. Check 半 if you chose a half hour. Compare your own invitation with the reply; do not replace its time with the model's time.

■ Listening script and meaning

明天星期三，我们下午四点钟在学校见。

Tomorrow, Wednesday, we will meet at school at four in the afternoon.

■ Reading meaning

Tomorrow is Wednesday. Wang Li goes to school at three. Lin An goes at half past three.

■ Speaking model

A: 星期几? 几点? B: 星期三下午四点。A: 好，下午四点见。

Compare the intended message first. Ask a listener to comment on intelligibility and pronunciation; matching the written model does not establish speaking accuracy.

■ Fresh-situation answers

R1. The reply supplies Thursday, the weekday, but omits the time. Answer 下午三点半 to 几点见; retain 下午 so 3:30 is unambiguous.

R2. One possible response. 我们星期五下午四点钟在学校见。This states weekday, part of day, clock time and place. Ask 星期几 or 几点 if one detail is unclear.

Recall later. Tomorrow, change both the weekday and time, then answer the two questions separately.