HSK 1 · Dates, Time and Event Information

Beginner numbers, dates and timetable questions; classroom examples, not official exam items.

Numbers, dates, and two magic questions

Numbers stack like blocks, dates run big-to-small, and two question words unlock every timetable.

- 几点 for clock time; 星期几 for the weekday.
- The same 三 can mean three different things.

Number blocks: 十, 一, 二, 三

1. **Ten plus one 十一** (shíyī) — eleven, “ten-one”.
2. **Two tens 二十** (èrshí) — twenty, “two-ten”.
3. **Build 23 二十三** (èrshí sān) — “two-ten-three”.
4. **Try 35 三十五** (sānshí wǔ) — “three-ten-five”. You just built it.

Decision

No new words after ten — stack the blocks.

Dates: 年 → 月 → 日/号

The biggest unit first

年 year → 月 month → 日 / 号 day; time uses 点 o'clock and 分 minute.

五月五号 (wǔ yuè wǔ hào) — month five, day five: May 5th in the big-to-small order.

几点, 星期几, 在哪里

Question	Asks	Example answer
几点 (jǐ diǎn)	Clock time	下午三点 — 3 p.m.
星期几 (xīngqī jǐ)	Day of the week	星期三 — Wednesday
在哪里 (zài nǎlǐ)	Where	在学校 — at school

Watch out: answer the unit asked

Asked 星期几?

Answer with a day: 星期三.

Asked 几点?

Answer with a clock time: 下午三点.

Quick check

Your turn

How do you say 35?

A. 三五
B. 三十五
C. 三十

Check yourself

Your turn

In a Chinese date, which comes first?

A. the day
B. the month
C. the year