



STUDY GUIDE

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serbian

language podcast

LESSON 14

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GRAMMAR

TIME TELLING IN SERBIAN

In this lesson we are going to learn how **to tell time** in Serbian. After having learned the numbers, it's time to put all that knowledge to use and practice telling time in Serbian.

Let's start with some vocabulary first:

Hour in Serbian is **sat** or in plural - **sati** (*hours*). You can also use **sat** and **sati** instead of the English *o'clock*.

jedan sat – one o'clock

dva sata – two o'clock

tri sata – three o'clock

četiri sata – four o'clock

pet sati – five o'clock

šest sati – six o'clock

sedam sati – seven o'clock

osam sati – eight o'clock

devet sati – nine o'clock

deset sati – ten o'clock

jedanaest sati – eleven o'clock

dvanaest sati – twelve o'clock

Notice that for *dva*, *tri* and *četiri* (2, 3 and 4) you need to say *sata*. For example, *dva sata*. And from *pet* to *dvanaest* (from 5 to 12) you should use the word *sati*. For example, *pet sati*, *jedanaest sati*. Just keep this in mind.

AM & PM

Let's learn how to say *AM* and *PM* in Serbian. *AM* is *pre podne* (before noon) and *PM* is *posle* or *po podne* (after noon). You can also use *ujutru*, which means *in the morning*, or *uveče*, which means *in the evening*. Sometimes you might want say *at night* and this is *noću* in Serbian. *Podne* means *noon*, *ponoć* means *midnight*.

sedam ujutru – 7am

sedam uveče – 7pm

sedam i deset ujutru – 7:10 in the morning

sedam i deset uveče – 7:10 in the evening

deset i petnaest ujutru – 10:15 in the morning

deset i petnaest uveče – 10 :15 in the evening

jedanaest i dvadeset ujutru – 11:20 AM

jedanaest i dvadeset uveče – 11:20 PM

jedanaest i dvadeset noću – 11:20 at night

dvanaest po podne – 12 PM

dvanaest noću or ponoć – 12 AM or midnight

dva i trideset – 2:30

tri i trideset or pola četiri – 3:30 or half past three

Serbian native speakers would say *pola četiri* for 3:30. *Pola* means *half*. And *pola četiri* literally means *half of four*. In Serbian you need to say *half of the hour that is coming*. For example, 4:30 is *četiri i trideset* or *pola pet* (*half of five*).

In English for 4:30 you would say *half past four*. In Serbian you would say *pola pet* (*half of five*). Just remember that in Serbian we need to say *half of the hour that is coming*. 5:30 for example is *pola šest* (literally meaning *half of six*), 6:30 is *pola sedam* meaning *half of seven*.

4:45 in Serbian is *četiri i četrdeset pet*, or you can say *petnaest do pet*, which is what most Serbian native speakers would say and it means *fifteen to five*. The preposition *do* means *to* and it's often used with time.

To ask about the time in Serbian you need to use the word *Koliko?* and ask *Koliko je sati?* *Koliko* in Serbian means *how many* and *Koliko je sati?* roughly translates to *How many hours?* in English. So, when you're asking about the time in Serbian you are asking a person to tell you how many hours and minutes there are. That is the logic behind the word *Koliko* (*how many*).

Koliko je sati?

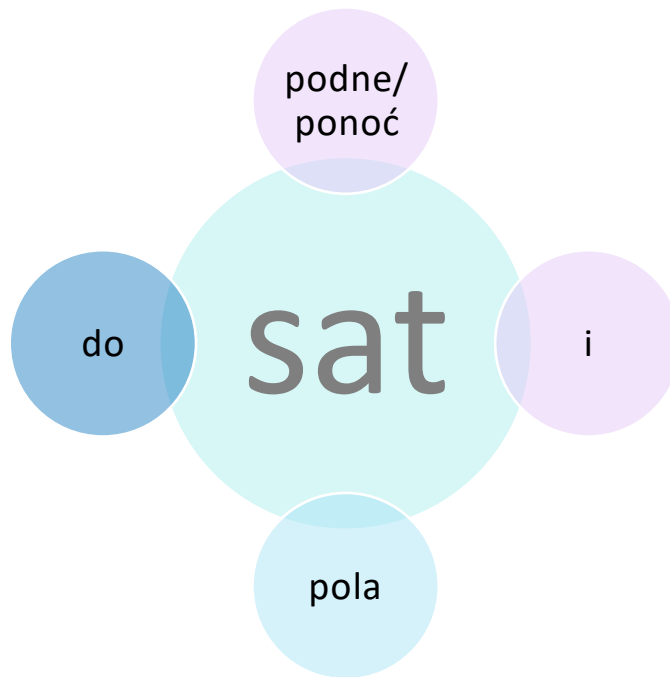
6:15 – *šest i petnaest*

7:30AM – *sedam i trideset ujutru*

9:45AM – *devet i četrdeset pet ujutru* or *petnaest do deset* (*fifteen to ten*)

3:25PM – *tri i dvadeset pet po podne*

10:30 AM – *deset i trideset pre podne* or *pola jedanaest ujutru*



12:00 – *podne* (noon) or *dvanaest sati* (twelve o'clock)

12:15 – *dvanaest i petnaest*

12:30 – *pola jedan* or *dvanaest i trideset*

12:45 – *petnaest do jedan* or *dvanaest i četrdeset pet*

1:00 – *jedan sat*

pre podne or *ujutru* – AM

po podne – PM

ujutru – in the morning

popodne – in the afternoon

uveče – in the evening

noću – at night

podne – noon

ponoć – midnight

Note: Unlike English, in Serbian we do not use the word *quarter* when telling time. For example: *a quarter to ten* (9:45) is always **9:45** in Serbian which is *devet i četrdeset pet* or **15 minutes to 10** which is *petnaest do deset*.

VOCABULARY

<i>Serbian</i>	<i>English</i>
sat	<i>an hour</i>
sati	<i>hours</i>
podne	<i>noon</i>
pre podne	<i>before noon</i>
jutro	<i>morning</i>
ujutru	<i>in the morning</i>
po podne	<i>afternoon</i>
veče	<i>evening</i>
uveče	<i>in the evening</i>
noć	<i>night</i>
noću	<i>at night</i>
ponoć	<i>midnight</i>
u ponoć	<i>at midnight</i>
pola	<i>half</i>
do	<i>to</i>
i	<i>and</i>
koliko	<i>how many</i>

LESSON EXAMPLES

<i>Serbian</i>	<i>English</i>
Koliko je sati?	<i>What time is it?</i>
devet ujutru	<i>nine in the morning (9:00 AM)</i>

devet i petnaest	9:15
devet i trideset	9:30
pola deset	9:30
devet i četrdeset pet	9:45
petnaest do deset	9:45

PRACTICE

EXERCISE #1

Translate into English:

#	Serbian	English
1.	pet sati	five o'clock (example)
2.	sedam sati	
3.	dva sata	
4.	osam sati	
5.	šest sati	

EXERCISE #2

Translate into Serbian:

#	English	Serbian
1.	ten o'clock	deset sati (example)
2.	eleven o'clock	
3.	one o'clock	
4.	four o'clock	
5.	nine o'clock	

EXERCISE #3

Translate into Serbian:

#	English	Serbian
1.	midnight	ponoć (example)
2.	noon	

#	English	Serbian
3.	in the morning	
4.	in the afternoon	
5.	in the evening	
6.	at night	

EXERCISE #4

Please write the time in words

	Time	Serbian
1.	11:00 AM	<i>jedanaest sati (example)</i>
2.	12:00 PM	
3.	3:10	
4.	5:30	
5.	12:00 AM	
6.	7:40	
7.	2:55	
8.	4:05	
9.	10:25 in the evening	
10.	10:25 in the morning	

ANSWER KEY

EXERCISE #1

(The answer is underlined and in bold)

Translate into English:

#	Serbian	English
1.	<u>pet sati</u>	<i>five o'clock (example)</i>

#	Serbian	English
2.	sedam sati	<u>seven o'clock</u>
3.	dva sata	<u>two o'clock</u>
4.	osam sati	<u>eight o'clock</u>
5.	šest sati	<u>six o'clock</u>

EXERCISE #2

(The answer is underlined and in bold)

Translate into Serbian:

#	English	Serbian
1.	ten o'clock	<i>deset sati (example)</i>
2.	eleven o'clock	<u>jedanaest sati</u>
3.	one o'clock	<u>jedan sat</u>
4.	four o'clock	<u>četiri sata</u>
5.	nine o'clock	<u>devet sati</u>

EXERCISE #3

(The answer is underlined and in bold)

Translate into Serbian:

#	English	Serbian
1.	midnight	<i>ponoć (example)</i>
2.	noon	<u>podne</u>
3.	in the morning	<u>ujutru</u>
4.	in the afternoon	<u>po podne</u>
5.	in the evening	<u>uveče</u>

#	English	Serbian
6.	at night	<u>noću</u>

EXERCISE #4

(The answer is underlined and in bold)

Please write the time in words

	Time	Serbian
1.	11:00 AM	<i>jedanaest sati (example)</i>
2.	12:00 PM	<u>dvanaest ujutru / podne</u>
3.	3:10	<u>tri i deset</u>
4.	5:30	<u>pet i trideset / pola šest</u>
5.	12:00 AM	<u>dvanaest noću / ponoć</u>
6.	7:40	<u>sedam i četrdeset / dvadeset do osam</u>
7.	2:55	<u>dva i pedeset pet / pet do tri</u>
8.	4:05	<u>četiri i pet</u>
9.	10:25 in the evening	<u>deset i dvadeset pet uveče</u>
10.	10:25 in the morning	<u>deset i dvadeset pet ujutru</u>

Odlično! Samo tako nastavite!