

Lesson 17:

Time

Time [saa]

Most languages of Eastern Africa tell the time of the day by referring to 12 hours of day time and 12 hours of night time:

- 7:00 am is referred to as *saa moja asubuhi* to mean that it is the first hour of the day.
- 7:00 pm is called *saa moja usiku* to indicate that it is the first hour of the night.

A). Times of Day

saa moja	[first hour]	7:00 am / pm
saa mbili	[second hour]	8:00 am / pm
saa tatu	[third hour]	9:00 am / pm
saa nne	[fourth hour]	10:00 am / pm
saa tano	[fifth hour]	11:00 am / pm
saa sita	[sixth hour]	12:00 am / pm
saa saba	[seventh hour]	1:00 am / pm
saa nane	[eighth hour]	2:00 am / pm
saa tisa	[ninth hour]	3:00 am / pm
saa kumi	[tenth hour]	4:00 am / pm
saa kumi na moja	[eleventh hour]	5:00 am / pm
saa kumi na mbili	[twelfth hour]	6:00 am / pm

B). Vocabulary

asubuhi	[morning]
mchana	[afternoon]
adhuhuri	[midday]
alasiri	[late afternoon/early evening]
jioni/machweo/machwa/ magharibi	[evening]
mafungia ngombe	[between evening and 11 pm]
usiku	[night]
usiku mchanga	[between 7 pm and 11 pm]
usiku mkuu/usiku wa manane	[between midnight and 3 am]

majogoo
 machweo/mawio/
 mapambazuko
 alfajiri
 mafungulia ngombe

[between 3 am and 4 am]
 [early morning, pre-dawn]
 [dawn]
 [between 8 am and 11 am]

C). How to state time

Kwa Kiingereza Kwa Kiswahili

7 am	saa moja asubuhi
8 am	saa mbili asubuhi
9 am	saa tatu asubuhi
10 am	saa nne asubuhi
11 am	saa tano asubuhi
12 pm	saa sita mchana
1 pm	saa saba mchana
2 pm	saa nane mchana
3 pm	saa tisa mchana
4 pm	saa kumi jioni
5 pm	saa kumi na moja jioni
6 pm	saa kumi na mbili jioni
7 pm	saa moja usiku
8 pm	saa mbili usiku
9 pm	saa tatu usiku
10 pm	saa nne usiku
11 pm	saa tano usiku
12 am	saa sita usiku
1 am	saa saba usiku
2 am	saa nane usiku
3 am	saa tisa usiku
4 am	saa kumi alfajiri
5 am	saa kumi na moja alfajiri
6 am	saa kumi na mbili alfajiri

D). Other important vocabularies of time

a). saa	[hour]	saa sita mchana/ saa sita kamili mchana	[12:00 pm]
b). dakika	[minutes]	saa kumi na dakika kumi jioni	[4:10 pm]
c). sekunde	[seconds]	saa tano na nusu na sekunde ishirini na tano asubuhi	[11:30:25 am]

d). nusu	[half]	saa nne na nusu asubuhi	[10:30 am]
e). kamili	[exact]	saa tisa kamili usiku/ saa tisa usiku	[3:00 am sharp]
f). robo	[quarter after]	saa sita na robo mchana/ saa sita na dakika kumi na tano mchana	[12:15 pm]
g). kasororobo	[quarter to]	saa nne kasororobo asubuhi/ saa nne na dakika arobaini na tano asubuhi	[9:45 am]

Zingatia [Note]

saa	[time]
ngapi?	[what?]
Saa ngapi?	[What time?]
sasa	[now]

Question Formation

Mifano:

1. Ni saa ngapi sasa / sasa ni saa ngapi?
[What is the time now?]

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| a). Sasa ni saa mbili asubuhi. | [Now it is 8:00 am.] |
| b). Ni saa mbili asubuhi. | [It is 8:00 am.] |

2. Ni saa ngapi?
[What is the time?]

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Ni saa tatu usiku. | [It is 9:00 pm.] |
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3. Utaenda nyumbani saa ngapi?
[What time are you going home?]

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| a). Nitaenda nyumbani saa nane mchana. | [I will go home at 2:00 pm.] |
| b). Nitaenda saa nane mchana. | [I will go at 2:00 pm.] |

4. Utakula chakula cha asubuhi/mchana/usiku saa ngapi?
[What time will you eat breakfast/lunch/dinner?]

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| a). Nitakula chakula cha mchana saa saba
mchana. | [I will eat lunch at 1:00 pm.] |
| b). Nitakula saa saba mchana. | [I will eat at 1:00 pm.] |

5. Ulilala saa ngapi jana?

[What time did you sleep yesterday?]

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| a). Jana nililala saa tano usiku. | [Yesterday I slept at 11:00 pm.] |
| b). Nililala saa tano usiku. | [I slept at 11:00 pm.] |

6. Utaenda karamuni/filamuni/Kansas City/Michigan saa ngapi?

[What time are you going to the party/movie/Kansas City/Michigan?]

- | | |
|---|--|
| a). Nitaenda karamuni/filamuni/Kansas City/Michigan saa sita usiku. | [I will go to the party/movie/Kansas City/Michigan at midnight.] |
| b). Nitaenda saa sita usiku. | [I will go at 12:00 am.] |

7. Utacheza saa ngapi?

[What time will you play?]

Nitacheza saa _____.	[I will play at _____.]
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8. Utaimba saa ngapi?

[What time will you sing?]

Nitaimba _____.	[I will sing at _____.]
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9. Utamaliza kazi ya nyumbani saa ngapi?

[What time will you finish doing homework?]

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| a). Nitamaliza kazi ya nyumbani saa _____. | [I finish doing homework at _____.] |
| b). Nitamaliza _____. | [I will finish at _____.] |

10. Utafundisha Kiswahili saa ngapi?

[What time will you teach Kiswahili?]

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| a). Nitafundisha Kiswahili _____. | [I will teach Kiswahili at _____.] |
| b). Nitafundisha _____. | [I will teach at _____.] |

11. Utapika kuku/pizza saa ngapi?

[What time will you cook chicken/pizza?]

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|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a). Nitapika kuku/pizza saa _____. | [I will cook chicken/pizza at _____.] |
| b). Nitapika _____. | [I will cook at _____.] |

12. Utafika darasani saa ngapi?

[What time will you reach class?]

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a). Nitafika darasani saa _____. | [I will reach class at _____.] |
| b). Nitafika saa _____. | [It will arrive at _____.] |

13. Utafasha nyumba saa ngapi?

[What time will you clean the house?]

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Nitasafisha nyumba saa _____. | [I will clean the house at _____.] |
| Nitasafisha _____. | [I will clean at _____.] |