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time  (tīm)

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n.

1.

a. A nonspatial continuum in which events occur in apparently irreversible succession from the past through the present to the future.

b. An interval separating two points on this continuum; a duration: *a long time since the last war; passed the time reading.*

c. A number, as of years, days, or minutes, representing such an interval: *ran the course in a time just under four minutes.*

d. A similar number representing a specific point on this continuum, reckoned in hours and minutes: *checked her watch and recorded the time, 6:17 AM.*

e. A system by which such intervals are measured or such numbers are reckoned: *solar time.*

2.

a. often **times** An interval, especially a span of years, marked by similar events, conditions, or phenomena; an era: *hard times; a time of troubles.*

b. times The present with respect to prevailing conditions and trends: *You must change with the times.*

3. A suitable or opportune moment or season: *a time for taking stock of one's life.*

4.

a. Periods or a period designated for a given activity: *harvest time; time for bed.*

b. Periods or a period necessary or available for a given activity: *I have no time for golf.*

c. A period at one's disposal: *Do you have time for a chat?*

5. An appointed or fated moment, especially of death or giving birth: *He died before his time. Her time is near.*

6.

a. One of several instances: *knocked three times; addressed Congress for the last time before retirement.*

b. times Used to indicate the number of instances by which something is multiplied or divided: *This tree is three times taller than that one. My library is many times smaller than hers.*

7.

a. One's lifetime.

b. One's period of greatest activity or engagement.

c. A person's experience during a specific period or on a certain occasion: *had a good time at the party.*

8.

a. A period of military service.

b. A period of apprenticeship.

c. Informal A prison sentence.

9.

a. The customary period of work: *hired for full time.*

b. The period spent working.

c. The hourly pay rate: *earned double time on Sundays.*

10. The period during which a radio or television program or commercial is broadcast: *"There's television time to buy" (Brad Goldstein).*

11. The rate of speed of a measured activity: *marching in double time.*

12. Music

a. The meter of a musical pattern: *three-quarter time.*

b. The rate of speed at which a piece of music is played; the tempo.

13. Chiefly British The hour at which a pub closes.

14. Sports A time-out.

adj.

1. Of, relating to, or measuring time.
2. Constructed so as to operate at a particular moment: *a time release*.
3. Payable on a future date or dates.
4. Of or relating to installment buying: *time payments*.

tr.v. **timed, tim-ing, times**

1. To set the time for (an event or occasion).
2. To adjust to keep accurate time.
3. To adjust so that a force is applied or an action occurs at the desired time: *timed his swing so as to hit the ball squarely*.
4. To record the speed or duration of: *time a runner*.
5. To set or maintain the tempo, speed, or duration of: *time a manufacturing process*.
6. To speculate based on the anticipated short-term performance of (a market): *time the stock market*.

Phrasal Verb:

time out

Computers To be canceled if an expected input is not received after a specified time. Used of processes.

Idioms:

against time

With a quickly approaching time limit: *worked against time to deliver the manuscript before the deadline*.

any time

Used to acknowledge an expression of gratitude.

at one time

1. Simultaneously.
2. At a period or moment in the past.

at the same time

However; nonetheless.

at times

On occasion; sometimes.

behind the times

Out-of-date; old-fashioned.

for the time being

Temporarily.

from time to time

Once in a while; at intervals.

high time

The appropriate or urgent time: *It's high time that you started working*.

in good time

1. In a reasonable length of time.
2. When or before due.
3. Quickly.

in no time

Almost instantly; immediately.

in time

1. Before a time limit expires.
2. Within an indefinite time; eventually: *In time they came to accept the harsh facts*.
3. *Music*

a. In the proper tempo.

b. Played with a meter.

on time

1. According to schedule; punctual or punctually.
2. By paying in installments.

time after time

Again and again; repeatedly.

time and again

Again and again; repeatedly.

time of (one's) life

A highly pleasurable experience: *We had the time of our lives at the beach*.

time on (one's) hands

An interval with nothing to do.

time was

There was once a time: "Time was when [urban gangs] were part of a ... subculture that inner-city adolescence outgrew" (George F. Will).

[Middle English, from Old English *tīma*; see *dā*- [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

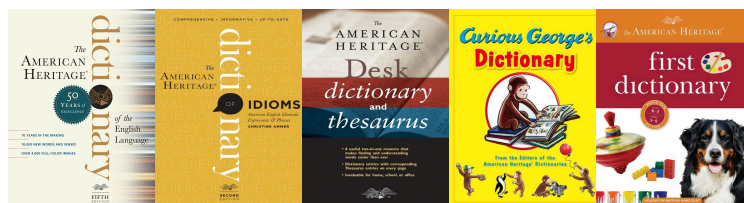
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