

Greenwich Mean Time challenge

Introduction

In this challenge learners will use Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) to compare the times in Francophone countries with Scotland.

Possible prior experiences

Explain what is meant by Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), meridian line and international time zones.

Discuss how it can be daylight and night time in two different places depending on where you are in the world.

Demonstrate how to use the 24-hour clock when making time zone calculations.

Demonstrate how to ask in French what time it would be in a different country.

Explain how arrival times are always given in that country's local time.

Demonstrate how to calculate the journey length using flight times and time zone map.

Demonstrate how to create a flight timetable.

Demonstrate how to ask in French at what time a flight arrives.

Support notes

Introduce the learners to the concept of [Greenwich Mean Time \(GMT\)](#) and explain that it is now commonly called Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).

Investigate [international time zones](#) and how it can be [daytime on one side of the world](#) and night time on the other side. Therefore, time zones needed to correspond with daylight hours in different countries. The learners also need to be aware that it is simpler to use the 24-hour clock when making time zone calculations, as this avoids confusion.

As a class or individually, learners could situate the Francophone countries, which the learners have already discovered, on the [World Map](#) and compare their [local times with Scotland](#). It is worth investigating [daylight saving times](#) as there can be confusion when calculating time differences, because of these.

Learners working in pairs could become familiar with the world map and time zones by using the photocopied map to answer the questions on the *World time zones questions* sheet.

As a group, the learners contribute what they have learned during the lesson. Learners could use individual whiteboards to take part in a Q&A session.

[Supporting resources are available on the Passeport website.](#)