
Discovering Swedish



EPISODE 6

**“Norrlänningar”
and
“numbers 12-24”**



Dialogue

Swedish

SJ: SJs X2000* från Stockholm är försenat. Beräknad ankomsttid är nu 16:00.

José: Försenat! Igen? Vad är klockan?

Anna: Jag vet inte. Åh?!

Sj: SJs X2000 från Stockholm är försenat. Beräknad ankomsttid är nu 16:30.

José: Det gick snabbt... Ah! Där är Tore. Hej Tore! Vet du vad---

SJ: SJs X2000 från Stockholm är försenat. Beräknad ankomsttid är nu 17:00.

Anna: Huh?! Kommer verkligen tåget?

José: Jag vet inte.
Tore? Vet du vad klockan är, Tore?

Anna: Han är tyst.

José: Ja. Han kommer ifrån Norrland**. Norrlänningar är tysta.
Tore? Tore! Men skärp dig nu! Vad är klockan, Tore?

Anna: Mm... Jag tror han sover.

José: Åh, verkligen...?

SJ: SJs X2000 från Stockholm är inställt.

Anna

& José: Huh?!

English

- SJ:** SJ's X2000 from Stockholm has been delayed. Estimated time of arrival is now 4:00 PM.
- José:** Delayed! Again? What time is it?
- Anna:** I don't know. Oh?!
- SJ:** SJ's X2000 from Stockholm has been delayed. Estimated time of arrival is now 4:30 PM.
- José:** That was fast... Ah! There's Tore. Hello, Tore! Do you know what---
- SJ:** SJ's X2000 from Stockholm has been delayed. Estimated time of arrival is now 5:00 PM.
- Anna:** Huh?! Will the train really come...?
- José:** I don't know.
Tore? Do you know what time it is, Tore?
- Anna:** He's quiet.
- José:** Yes. He's from Norrland. People from Norrland are quiet.
Tore? Tore! Pull yourself together! What time is it, Tore?
- Anna:** Mm... I think he's asleep.
- José:** Oh, really...?
- SJ:** SJ's X2000 from Stockholm has been cancelled.
- Anna**
& José: Huh?!

Notes: *X2000 is a high-speed train.

** Sweden has been divided into three 'landsdelar', the northernmost of which is Norrland. Below Norrland is Svealand, and south of that is Götaland. People from Norrland are often thought of as being quiet. Of course, as always, this is a generalization and does not apply to everyone from the north of Sweden.

Key vocabulary

Swedish	English
SJ (Statens Järnvägar)	Swedish rail
X2000	Swedish high-speed train
Vad är klockan?	What time is it? (lit. what is the clock/watch)
Jag vet inte	I don't know (lit. I know not)
tyst	quiet
sova	sleep
ankomst/avgång	arrival/departure
inställd/-t	cancelled
verkligen	really
beräknad/-t	estimated
nu	now
Norrlänning	a person from Norrland, the northern part of Sweden.

Key sentences

Swedish	English
Ursäkta mig. Vet du vad klockan är?	Excuse me. Do you know what time it is?
Ursäkta mig.	Excuse me (used, for instance, when trying to catch someone's attention)
Vet du när tåget förväntas ankomma/avgå?	Do you know when the train is expected to arrive/depart?

Telling the time

Sharp on the hour					
Brittish time	Swedish time (in writing)	Swedish time (in speech)	Brittish time	Swedish time (in writing)	Swedish time (in speech)
8:00 AM	8:00	Åtta	8:00 PM	20:00	Tjugo (in common speech often 'åtta')
9:00 AM	9:00	Nio	9:00 PM	21:00	Tjugoett (in common speech often 'nio')
10:00 AM	10:00	Tio	10:00 PM	22:00	Tjugotvå (in common speech often 'tio')
11:00 AM	11:00	Elva	11:00 PM	23:00	Tjugotre (in common speech often 'elva')
12:00 PM	12:00	Tolv	12:00 AM	0:00	Midnatt/tolv på natten
1:00 PM	13:00	Tretton (in common speech often 'ett')	1:00 AM	1:00	Ett (på natten)
2:00 PM	14:00	Fjorton (in common speech often 'två')	2:00 AM	2:00	Två (på natten)
3:00 PM	15:00	Femton (in common speech often 'tre')	3:00 AM	3:00	Tre (på natten)
4:00 PM	16:00	Sexton (in common speech often 'fyra')	4:00 AM	4:00	Fyra (på morgonen)
5:00 PM	17:00	Sjutton (in common speech often 'fem')	5:00 AM	5:00	Fem (på morgonen)
6:00 PM	18:00	Arton (in common speech often 'sex')	6:00 AM	6:00	Sex (på morgonen)
7:00 PM	19:00	Nitton (in common speech often 'sju')	7:00 AM	7:00	Sju (på morgonen)
Other times					
a quarter past ____.		Kvart över ____.	xx:01-xx:29		____ minut/–er över ____. Ex: tio minuter över fyra (ten minutes past four)
a quarter to ____.		Kvart i ____.	xx:31-xx:59		____ minut/–er i ____. Ex: tio minuter i fyra (ten minutes to four)
half to (30 min to __)		Halv ____.			

Grammar Explanations

24hr system

Sweden operates on a 24hr system, which means that write 3PM, for instance, as 15:00 and 3AM as 3:00. Just as in English, it is not possible to the time expressions 'quarter' (kvart), 'half' (halv), and so on together with the 24hr system. You can say 'a quarter to four' (kvart i fyra), but you cannot say 'a quarter to sixteen' (kvart i sexton).

When giving time according to the 24hr system, the hour is always succeeded by the time that has passed since the full hour. In speech, notice that you sometimes use the conjunction 'och' (and) between the hour and the minutes past, except when the hour is full. If the hour is full, you can choose either to omit the minutes past, or add 'noll-noll' (zero zero) to further emphasize that the hour is full. In writing, time given in the 24hr system is always written in digit form, e.g. 16:10, 15:00 and so on.

Example:

Sixteen (and) ten.

16:10 – Sexton (och) tio.

Twenty-three (and) thirty.

23:40 – Tjugotre (och) tretio.

Thirteen (and) forty-five.

13:45 – Tretton (och) fyrtiofem

Fourteen (zero zero)

14:00 – Fjorton (noll-noll)