

Theme 4: Question words, Weather, Seasons and Time

Question words

Who?	Mang?
What?	Eng?
Why?	Goreng?
When?	Leng?
Where?	Kae?
How?	Jang?
How much is it?	Ke bokae?
<i>Weather</i>	
What will be the weather today?	Bosa bo tla nna jang gompieno?
What will be the weather tomorrow?	Bosa bo tla nna jang ka moso?
It's cold.	Go tsididi.
It's warm.	Go bollo.
It's raining.	Pula e a na.
It's snowing.	Go na letlha.
It's foggy.	Go mouwane.
<i>Seasons</i>	
Winter	Mariga
Summer	Selemo
Spring	Dikgakologo
Autumn	Letlhafula
<i>Time</i>	
What time is it?	Ke nako mang?
It's five o'clock.	Ke five o' clock.
Five fifteen	Ke kota past five.
Five-thirty	Ke half past five.
At four forty-five	Ka metsotso e 45 past.
At five ten	Ka ten past five.
Four-fifty	Ke ten to five.
It's midnight.	Ke bosigogare.
It's noon.	Ke motshegare.
Ten minutes ago.	Metsotso e e lesome pele ga jaanong.
In half an hour	Ka ura e e sephatla.
Since nine p.m.	Go tsweng nine bosigo.
After seven p.m.	Morago ga seven bosigo.
Before eight a.m.	Pele ga 8 phakela.
When does it begin?	Go simolola ka nako mang?
He's on time.	O ka nako.
He's late.	O morago ga nako.
Earlier.	Pele.
Later	Morago.
Before	Pele.
After	Morago.
Soon	Jaanong-jaana.
On Wednesdays	Ka la Laboraro.
Each month	Ka kgwedi le kgwedi.
Each week	Ka beke le beke.
Since yesterday	Go tsweng maabane.
Since May	Go tsweng Motsheganong.
Since last week	Go tsweng beke e e fitileng.
Since last month	Go tsweng kwedi e e fitileng.
Next year	Ngwaga e e tlang.

COMMENTS:

Time in the olden times was measured by the sun (*letsatsi*). The Batswana people observed the natural cycles of changes of the day and events which accompanied these changes. For example, the early dawn was described by the redness in the east and in terms of visibility, e.g. *Ka mahube a naka tsa dikgomo* (With the redness of the horns of the cattle). The position of the sun played an important factor in naming time as well. The traditional concept of African time was changed by the Western concept of clock time.

A: Tourist B: Setswana speaker	Theme 4: Question words, Quantities, Weather and Time
A: Wena o mang?	Who are you?
B: Ke Kedibone.	I am Kedibone.
A: Kedibone mang?	Kedibone who?
B: Ke Kedibone Matshepe.	Kedibone Matshepe.
A: Kedibone, ke kopa dijo tse dinnyane.	Kedibone, may I have some food?
B: Go siame. O ya go lebelela motshameko leng?	Alright. When will you go to watch the match?
A: Ke tla o lebelela ka moso ka uri ya botlhano.	I will watch it tomorrow at 5 o'clock.
B: Bosa bo tla nna jang ka moso?	How will the weather be tomorrow?
A: Go tla nna bollo. Ke nako mang jaanong?	It will be warm. What is the time now?
B: Ke motshegare.	It is noon.
A: Mmawee! Ke siilwe ke nako.	O dear! I am late!