

It's time...

You can say 'It's time (for somebody) to do something':

- It's time to go home. / It's time for us to go home.

You can also say:

- It's late. It's time we went home.

Here we use the past (went) but the meaning is present or future, *not* past:

- It's 10 o'clock and he's still in bed. It's time he got up. (*not* 'It's time he gets up')

It's time you did something = 'you should have done it already or started it'. We often use this structure to criticise or to complain:

- It's time the children were in bed. It's long after their bedtime.
- The windows are very dirty. I think it's time we cleaned them.

You can also say: It's about time... / It's high time... This makes the criticism stronger:

- Jack is a great talker. But it's about time he did something instead of just talking.
- You're very selfish. It's high time you realised that you're not the most important person in the world.

35.4 Read the situations and write sentences with It's time (somebody did something).

- 1 You think the children should be in bed. It's already 11 o'clock.
It's time the children were in bed.
- 2 You haven't had a holiday for a very long time. You need one now.
It's time I
- 3 You're waiting for Mary. She is late. Why isn't she here yet?
It's time she
- 4 You're sitting on a train waiting for it to leave the station. It's already five minutes late.
.....
- 5 You enjoy having parties. You haven't had one for a long time.
.....
- 6 The company you work for is badly run. You think there should be some changes.
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