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Cambridge English Exam?

## IT'S (ABOUT/HIGH) TIME

## IT'S (ABOUT/HIGH) TIME + PAST SUBJUNCTIVE

It's (about/high) time + past subjunctive expresses that you think something should happen soon or should already have happened.

- It's time we left. (=We aren't leaving and we should.)
- It's high time I bought a new pair of jeans.

  (=I haven't bought a new pair of jeans yet, but I should have.)
- It's time you went to bed. You'll have to get up early tomorrow. (= you should be in bed by now, but you are not)
- It's about time this road was completed. They've been working on it for months.
- It's high time you got that bad knee looked at by a doctor! used to say often in an annoyed way that something should have happened sooner:
- "They're getting married." "Well, it's about time!"
- It's time they were here. Why are they so late?
   (We cannot use a negative after "It's (about/high) time".

X It's time we didn't stay.

## IT'S TIME (FOR SOMEONE) TO DO SOMETHING / FOR SOMETHING

When we say that the right time has arrived for something and we are still in time, we can use the following patterns:

- It's time (for you) to go to bed.
- It's time to say goodbye.
- It's time for breakfast.