

# General Vestertopian Information: Languages, Numbers, Calendar, and Clocks

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## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Languages</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Numbers</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Calendar</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	Eras . . . . .	6
3.2	Years . . . . .	6
3.3	Months . . . . .	6
3.4	Weeks and Weekdays . . . . .	7
3.5	Days (in the "date" sense) . . . . .	8
3.6	An Important Note on Possible Calendrical Exceptions . . . . .	8
<b>4</b>	<b>Time of Day</b>	<b>9</b>
4.1	Vestertopian Ultimate Time . . . . .	9
4.2	Vestertopian Zeitgeberic Time . . . . .	9
4.2.1	VZT: Divisions of the Day - AOc and POc . . . . .	9
4.2.2	VZT: Tyds, Scrupuls, Hanlawhiles . . . . .	9

## 1 Languages

The official language of Vestertopia is Vulcan. Unfortunately, at the present time, there is no one in Vestertopia who knows Vulcan (with the possible exception of cats, but if so, they're not letting on).

The two most commonly used languages are Vestertinglish and English. Through an astonishing level of coincidence, the two languages are remarkably similar (though there are some differences).

Another language, Vestertopian, also exists, but is currently used only among citizens of Vestertopia, not to be shared with outsiders, and thus will not be described here at this time.

## 2 Numbers

Written Vestertinglish numerals use a base thirty-seven numbering system. The characters are taken from letters of the Glagolitic script. Strangely, though, spoken Vestertinglish numbers are (with two exceptions, described momentarily) the same as spoken English numbers – i.e. base ten, and with the same names. And when they are spelled out as written words, they are spelled the same as English numbers.

For example,  $\mathfrak{B}\mathfrak{A}$  is the written Vestertinglish equivalent of the English 37, with  $\mathfrak{B}$  equivalent to the English 1 and  $\mathfrak{A}$  being equivalent to the English 0. However, in spoken Vestertinglish, or when spelled out as a word,  $\mathfrak{B}\mathfrak{A}$  is “thirty-seven”, just like in English.

The first exception mentioned above is for the number  $\mathfrak{J}\mathfrak{O}\mathfrak{A}$ . In English, this number is most commonly called “one hundred and eleven”. This is also a valid name for the number in Vestertinglish, but the more common Vestertinglish usage is “eleventy-one”. However, note that “eleventy” and “eleventy-two” (for example) are not common Vestertinglish usages.

The second exception is for the number  $\mathfrak{A}$ . In English, this number is most commonly called “zero”. Similarly to the first exception, “zero” is also a valid name for the number in Vestertinglish. However, the more common Vestertinglish usage is “nillion”. And note that (for example) “a nillion and one” is not a common Vestertinglish usage.

Please see Table  $\mathfrak{B}$  for examples of various integers, including all of the base  $\mathfrak{B}\mathfrak{A}$  digits:

Numeric Vestertinglish	Numeric English	Spelled and Spoken
𐌸	0	nillion (in Vestertinglish only); zero (in both Vestertinglish and English, but uncommon in Vestertinglish).
𐌺	1	one
𐌶	2	two
𐌷	3	three
𐌹	4	four
𐌺	5	five
𐌻	6	six
𐌼	7	seven
𐌽	8	eight
𐌾	9	nine
𐌿	10	ten
𐍀	11	eleven
𐍁	12	twelve
𐍂	13	thirteen
𐍃	14	fourteen
𐍄	15	fifteen
𐍅	16	sixteen
𐍆	17	seventeen
𐍇	18	eighteen
𐍈	19	nineteen
𐍉	20	twenty
𐍊	21	twenty-one
𐍋	22	twenty-two
𐍌	23	twenty-three
𐍍	24	twenty-four

**Table 𐌺. Some integers (part 𐌺 of 𐌶)**

<b>Numeric Vestertinglish</b>	<b>Numeric English</b>	<b>Spelled and Spoken</b>
ᑕ	25	twenty-five
ᑎ	26	twenty-six
ᑭ	27	twenty-seven
ᑭ	28	twenty-eight
ᑭ	29	twenty-nine
ᑭ	30	thirty
ᑭ	31	thirty-one
ᑭ	32	thirty-two
ᑭ	33	thirty-three
ᑭ	34	thirty-four
ᑭ	35	thirty-five
ᑭ	36	thirty-six
ᑭ	37	thirty-seven
ᑭ	38	thirty-eight
ᑭ	39	thirty-nine
ᑭ	40	forty
ᑭ	74	seventy-four
ᑭ	75	seventy-five
ᑭ	110	one hundred and ten
ᑭ	111	eleventy-one (commonly in Vestertinglish); one hundred and eleven (commonly in English)
ᑭ	112	one hundred and twelve
ᑭ	1369	one thousand three hundred and sixty-nine
ᑭ	2738	two thousand seven hundred and thirty-eight
ᑭ	50653	fifty thousand six hundred and fifty-three

**Table ᑭ. Some integers (part ᑭ of ᑭ)**

The representations of ordinal numbers are similarly confused; perhaps even more so. In written and spoken Vestertinglish and English words, the ordinals are the same: first, second, third, etc. (with the corresponding near-exception of “eleventy-first” vs. “one hundred and eleventh”). When written with numerals, though, the appropriate Vestertinglish base thirty-seven digits are followed by the appropriate written English representations of ordinal suffixes, even if those suffixes don’t necessarily make sense when viewed from the base thirty-seven point of view.

For example, the Vestertinglish and English “first” can be written in Vestertinglish as 1st (equivalent to the written English 1st), while “seventy-five” is 75. From these two facts, one might assume that “seventy-fifth” would be written as 75st. If so, one would be wrong. Remember that the spoken and the spelled-out Vestertinglish is “seventy-five” for the cardinal, and “seventy-fifth” for the ordinal. Due to this, when written with numerals, “seventy-fifth” is 75th, not 75st.

Further note the special case of 1st, corresponding to the English 11th.

### 3 Calendar

For the most part, Vestertopian timekeeping does not match up cleanly with the more common methods of timekeeping in the world (for example, the Gregorian calendar and the AM/PM clock). The more common methods are typically rooted, historically and etymologically, in various astronomical events, such as the length of a month relating to the orbit of the moon around the earth, or the length of a year relating to the orbit of the earth around the sun. Due to the fact that these astronomical events do not cleanly line up with each other, though, these calendars do not cleanly line up with them.

This has certain advantages, mainly in terms of simplicity. For example, Gregorian calendar has 12 months in a year, despite the fact that for every orbit of the earth around the sun, there are actually a bit more than 12 orbits of the moon around the earth. This is accomplished via defining “month” to be something fairly close to, but different than, the typical amount of time it takes for the moon to orbit the earth, which in turn leads to the months not lining up with the moon.

Various other common calendars are lunar or lunisolar, such as most Islamic calendars and the Hebrew calendar, respectively. These also do not cleanly line up with the astronomical events, although in different ways than the Gregorian calendar: The months of lunar calendars do match up with the orbit of the moon around the earth, but this causes their year of twelve such months to be shorter than the time it takes for the earth to orbit the sun. This leads to the months precessing through the astronomical year; for example, the month of Ramadan of the year 1440 of the Islamic calendar began in the Northern Hemisphere’s summer, while Ramadan of the year 1441 will start in the spring.

Lunisolar calendars precess similarly, but occasionally have years with a 13th intercalary month to keep the months from precessing too far from the astronomical year (similar in purpose to the intercalary February 2 of the Gregorian calendar’s leap years). They begin precessing again immediately thereafter, however, and thus require this sudden intercalary jolt periodically.

The Vestertopian timekeeping system, on the other hand, is rooted in many of the

same astronomical events, but it lines up with them. This comes at the cost of some complexity in practical usage, as will be seen.

### 3.1 Eras

The Vestertopian calendar has two major divisions, similar to (but different than) the AD and BC divisions of the Gregorian calendar: Anno Vestertopiae and Before Vestertopia (AV and BV, respectively). The year 𑀧 AV is defined as the year in which Vestertopia was founded. The year preceding 𑀧 AV is 𑀧 BV, and the year following 𑀧 AV is 𑀧 AV.

Note that this is not exactly analogous to the Gregorian AD/BC, in which there is no year 𑀧. Rather, 𑀧 BC in the Gregorian calendar is immediately followed by 𑀧 AD.

Similarly to the Gregorian AD/BC system, the meaning of a year without an explicit era is context-dependent, but in typical usage it will usually refer to AV.

### 3.2 Years

The Vestertopian year is defined to begin exactly at the time of the winter solstice in Vestertopia, and to end exactly at the time of the next such solstice.

As mentioned above in the section “Eras”, the year 𑀧 AV is defined as the year in which Vestertopia was founded. In the Gregorian calendar, Vestertopia was founded on April 𑀧, 𑀧𑀧𑀧 AD. Therefore, the Vestertopian year 𑀧 AV corresponds to the time from the start of the winter solstice (in Vestertopia) of the Gregorian year 𑀧𑀧𑀧 to the start of the winter solstice (in Vestertopia) of the Gregorian year 𑀧𑀧𑀧 AD.

### 3.3 Months

Vestertopian months begin exactly with the new moon (in Vestertopia), and end exactly at the next one. The names of the months are each a Sanskrit numerical prefix followed by “chandrakant” (Sanskrit – or at least Vestertanskrit – for “beloved of the moon”).

Table 𑀧 shows the names of the months:

Month Number	Month Name
𐌺	Ekachandrakant
𐌶𐌵	Dvichandrakant
𐌶𐌴	Trichandrakant
𐌶𐌳	Chaturchandrakant
𐌶𐌲	Panchachandrakant
𐌶𐌱	Shatchandrakant
𐌶𐌰	Saptachandrakant
𐌶𐌹	Ashtachandrakant
𐌶𐌸	Navamchandrakant
𐌶𐌷	Dashamchandrakant
𐌶𐌶	Ekadashamchandrakant
𐌶𐌵	Dvadashamchandrakant
𐌶𐌴	Trayodashamchandrakant
𐌶𐌳	Chaturdashamchandrakant

Table 𐌶. Vestertopian months

Note that the winter solstice is unlikely to line up exactly with the new moon. In this case, the same month can be referred to in two ways. For example:

In the Gregorian calendar, the winter solstice of the year 𐌺𐌶𐌴𐌴 occurs on December 𐌴. This is the start of the Vestertopian year 𐌺. However, this date is near the end of its associated lunar cycle, which runs from Gregorian November 𐌸 to December 𐌸. This is the 𐌶th lunar cycle which at least partially occurs in the year 𐌺, and the 𐌺st lunar cycle which at least partially occurs in the year 𐌺. Therefore, this month is both Trayodashamchandrakant of 𐌺 and Ekachandrakant of 𐌺.

Context is normally used to choose which way to use to refer to such a month. For example, the 3th day of the month in the above example is contained entirely in the year 𐌺, and thus is likely to be referred to as Trayodashamchandrakant 𐌶, 𐌺 rather than Ekachandrakant 𐌶, 𐌺.

### 3.4 Weeks and Weekdays

Unlike most of the Vestertopian timekeeping system, a week and the days of the week do not correspond to any particular astronomical event. Instead, they correspond exactly to their analogues in the common Western system, as measured in Vestertopia. The only difference is their names, as shown in Table 𐌶 :

Vestertopian Weekday	English Weekday
Lateday	Sunday
Blueday	Monday
Ekamyocardialinfarctionday	Tuesday
Dvimyocardialinfarctionday	Wednesday
Unstartingday	Thursday
Loveday	Friday
Waitday	Saturday

Table 9. Vestertopian weekdays

Note that since days of the week do not (typically) line up with the orbits of the earth or the moon, they also do not line up with years or months. Any particular day of the week may begin in one month and end in another, or begin in one year and end in another. Furthermore, as will soon be described, Vestertopian weekdays do not (ever) line up with Vestertopian days (of the "date" sense); any particular Vestertopian weekday will always straddle two different Vestertopian days.

### 3.5 Days (in the "date" sense)

A Vestertopian day is defined to begin at sunrise in Vestertopia, and to end at the next one. Note, therefore, that any two days are probably not the same length.

Similarly to the relationship between months and years, Vestertopian days do not necessarily line up with any other Vestertopian timekeeping measures. So, for example, a particular day may belong to more than one month, more than one year, or more than one weekday. In such cases (and again, similarly to the relationship between months and years), the day can be described in more than one way.

For example, the sixth new moon indicates both the end of Panchachandrakant and the beginning of Shatchandrakant. In the year  $\clubsuit$ , this occurs on the  $\heartsuit$ st day of Panchachandrakant. Therefore, the day Panchachandrakant  $\heartsuit$ ,  $\clubsuit$  is the same as the day Shatchandrakant  $\heartsuit$ ,  $\clubsuit$ .

Typically, any particular instant of that day will be described in terms of the month (and/or year) that that instant is part of. That is, any particular instant from the start of the day (i.e. sunrise) to the end of the month (i.e. the new moon) will typically be described as being on Panchachandrakant  $\heartsuit$ , while any particular instant from the end of the month to the end of the day (i.e. the next sunrise) will typically be described as being on Shatchandrakant  $\heartsuit$ .

### 3.6 An Important Note on Possible Calendrical Exceptions

*this section has been redacted for public release to protect vital Vestertopian national secrets*



## 4 Time of Day

Vestertopia has two entirely different systems of keeping track of the time of day: Vestertopian Ultimate Time (abbreviated VUT) and Vestertopian Zeitgeberic Time (VZT).

### 4.1 Vestertopian Ultimate Time

Under Vestertopian Ultimate Time (VUT), it is always 𐍂𐍅 o'clock in Vestertopia.

### 4.2 Vestertopian Zeitgeberic Time

Under Vestertopian Zeitgeberic Time (VZT), unlike under Vestertopian Ultimate Time, the time of day is not static. However, it does not easily correspond to any of the more widely known methods of measuring the time of day.

#### 4.2.1 VZT: Divisions of the Day - AOc and POc

At the highest level, the day is split into two parts: from sunrise to sunset, and from sunset to sunrise. Analogously to the common time system's divisions of AM and PM, these are called ante occasum and post occasum (AOc and POc, respectively).

Note that these two parts of any particular day will be of two different lengths of absolute time (except on equinoxes), and moreover either part of one day will be of a different length than the same part of the next day.

#### 4.2.2 VZT: Tyds, Scrupuls, Hanlawhiles

Tyds, scrupuls, and hanlawhiles are respectively analogous to (but different than) the hours, minutes, and seconds of the common 𐍂-hour timekeeping system.

Both the AOc and the POc are divided into 𐍂𐍅 equal tyds. Each tyd is divided into 𐍂𐍅 equal scrupuls. Each scrupul is divided into 𐍂𐍅 equal hanlawhiles. Each of these divisions is defined to start at 𐍅. Note that this is unlike in the common timekeeping system, wherein minutes and seconds start at 𐍅 but hours start at 𐍂 (or 𐍇, depending on your point of view). For example, 𐍅𐍅𐍅 AOc corresponds to sunrise, while 𐍂𐍅𐍅 AOc corresponds to the point in time that is one 𐍂𐍅th of the way from sunrise to sunset.

Note that any particular tyd (or scrupul or hanlawhile) is likely to be of a different length of absolute time than any other (with the most common exception being those in the same part of the same day, which are of equal length by definition).