
References

Tenses

Throughout *Sentence Pattern Book 1 and 2*, we have learned all the most common Vietnamese tense markers, **đang**, **vừa mới**, **đã**, **sắp**, and **sẽ**. They are placed before the main verbs, but often get omitted when the specific time of action is made clear from the context. The adverbs **chưa** (*not yet*) and **rồi** (*already*) are also commonly used to express something has happened or has not happened in the past, up until the present.

Below is a summary table for all the tenses.

Present	Mình ăn	<i>I eat</i>
Present perfect	Mình ăn rồi Mình chưa ăn	<i>I've eaten already</i> <i>I haven't eaten</i>
Past	Mình mới ăn Mình đã ăn rồi	<i>I just (recently) ate</i> <i>I ate already</i>
Continuous	Mình đang ăn	<i>I am eating</i>
Future	Mình sắp ăn Mình sẽ ăn	<i>I'm about to eat</i> <i>I will eat</i>

Time and Period

In *Basic Pattern 15*, we've learned the question word **mấy giờ** (*what time*), which is used to ask about the time in Vietnamese.

When telling time in Vietnamese, you do not have to start with "It is ...". You can simply state the hour number, followed by the word **giờ** (*o'clock*), the minute (*if applicable*), and time of the day (*optional*). Here are some examples of how to tell the time in Vietnamese.

bảy giờ sáng	<i>7 AM (in the morning)</i>
bảy giờ tối	<i>7 PM (in the evening)</i>
bảy giờ đúng	<i>exactly 7 o'clock</i>
bảy giờ mười	<i>7:10 or 10 past 7</i>
bảy giờ kém mười	<i>10 minutes to 7 or 6:50</i>
bảy giờ ba mươi	<i>7:30 or half past 7</i>
bảy (giờ) rưỡi	<i>7:30 or half past 7</i>

When telling the time, the word **giờ** (*o'clock*) must come after the hour, except when **rưỡi** (*half*) is used, then it is optional. The word **phút** (*minute*) is not needed after the minute.

Contents

Sentence Patterns	1
A tốt, B không tốt	2
<i>A is good, B isn't good</i>	
A rất là tốt, B khá là tốt	8
<i>A is very good, B is quite good</i>	
A không tốt lắm	14
<i>A is not very good</i>	
A chạy tốt	18
<i>A works well</i>	
A chạy có tốt không?	22
<i>Does A work well?</i>	
A thế nào?	26
<i>How is A?</i>	
Ít A, Nhiều B	30
<i>Little A, Lots of B</i>	
A tốt như B	35
<i>A is as good as B</i>	

A tốt hơn B	39
<i>A is better than B</i>	
A tốt nhất	43
<i>A is the best</i>	
Cái nào tốt hơn, A hay B?	47
<i>Which one is better, A or B?</i>	
A tốt, còn B thì không	51
<i>A is good while B isn't</i>	
A tốt, B cũng vậy. A và B đều tốt	55
<i>A is good, so is B. Both A and B are good.</i>	
Mình thường / hay ..	59
<i>I usually / often ..</i>	
Mấy giờ?	64
<i>What time?</i>	
Sắp ăn - sẽ ăn	69
<i>About to eat - Will eat</i>	
Đã ăn rồi - vừa mới ăn	74
<i>Already ate - Just ate</i>	

Chưa ăn	79
<i>Haven't eaten yet</i>	
Ăn chưa?	84
<i>Eaten yet?</i>	
Ngày nào ... cũng	88
<i>Every day ..</i>	
Cái nào cũng	93
<i>Any thing ..</i>	
Đã ... bao lâu?	97
<i>How long has it been?</i>	
Sẽ ... bao lâu?	102
<i>How long will it be?</i>	
Lúc nào - Bao giờ	107
<i>When?</i>	
A tốt nhưng mà mắc	112
<i>A is good but expensive</i>	
References	116
Tenses	116

Time and Period	117
Ordinal numbers	119
Days of the week	120
Day, Month, Year	122
Time expressions	126
Word list	128

Basic Pattern 6

A thế nào?

How is A?

PATTERN

Xe mới của bạn thế nào?

How is your new car?

Thế nào or **như thế nào** is a question word, the equivalent of 'how' or 'what' in English. Similar to most question words, it is often placed at the end of the question.

Bạn làm thế nào?

How did you do?

Cái này tiếng Việt nói thế nào?

How to say this one in Vietnamese?

(This one -in Vietnamese -how to say?)

Thế nào is also used to ask about the quality of something or the state/character of someone.

Cái áo này thế nào?

How is this shirt?

Gia đình của bạn thế nào?

How is your family?

John là người thế nào?

What's John like? (How is he as a person?)

EXAMPLES

1. Thời tiết hôm nay **thế nào?**

How is the weather today?

2. Công việc của em trai bạn **thế nào?**

How is your younger brother's work?

3. Đồ uống ở quán cà phê này **thế nào?**

How is the drink at this cafe?

hôm nay	<i>today</i>
công việc	<i>work; job</i>
em trai	<i>younger brother</i>
quán cà phê	<i>coffee shop</i>

PRACTICE

kỳ nghỉ	<i>vacation</i>
sức khỏe	<i>health</i>
ông	<i>grandpa</i>
doanh thu	<i>sales</i>
hôm qua	<i>yesterday</i>
nhà hàng	<i>restaurant</i>

Say the following in Vietnamese:

1. How was your vacation?
2. How is your grandpa's health?
3. How were yesterday's sales?
4. How is the food at this restaurant?

ANSWERS

1. Kỳ nghỉ của bạn **thế nào?**
How was your vacation?
2. Sức khỏe của ông bạn **thế nào?**
How is your grandpa's health?
3. Doanh thu của hôm qua **thế nào?**
How were yesterday's sales?
4. Đồ ăn ở nhà hàng này **thế nào?**
How is the food at this restaurant?