

Henry IV Part One, Act 1, Scene 2, lines 1-22

Falstaff Now Hal, what time of day is it, lad?

Prince Thou art so fat-witted, with drinking of old sack,
and unbuttoning thee after supper, and sleeping
upon benches after noon, that thou hast forgotten to
demand that truly which thou wouldst truly know.

What a devil hast thou to do with the time of the day?

Unless hours were cups of sack, and minutes capons,
and clocks the tongues of bawds, and dials the signs
of leaping-houses, and the blessed sun himself a fair
hot wench in flame-colored taffeta, I see no reason
why thou shouldst be so superfluous to demand the
time of the day.

Falstaff Indeed, you come near me now, Hal for we take
ourselves go by the moon and the seven stars, and not
by Phoebus, he, that wand'ring knight so fair. And I
prithee, sweet wag, when thou art king, as God save
thy Grace- "Majesty," I should say for grace thou wilt
have none-

Prince What, none?

Falstaff No, by my troth, not so much as will serve to be pro-
logue to an egg and butter.

Prince Well, how then? Come roundly, roundly.

Questions: Hal seems to reflect Falstaff's question with questions of his own. Why, what is the motivation behind Hal's questions?