Unit 5
Asking for and Giving Directions

Contents

This lesson teaches students how to give directions in English by using a map to let students practice describe where buildings are located and then give and follow directions to locate specific buildings.

Behavioral Objectives

The students should be able to:
1. To be able to learn how to give and follow directions around VRU
2. To be able to give authentic practice in asking for and giving directions in a town or a city

Warm-up

a. What are your general impressions of the pace of life in a small town?
b. What are the advantages and disadvantages of living in a fast or slow paced area?
Vocabulary

Exercise 1. Fill in the blanks with the locations from the box.

1. 
2. 
3. 
4. 
5. 
6. 
7. 
8. 
9.
Practice the conversations.

➤ Dialogue 1

James: Excuse me?

Ben: Yes?

James: How do I get to the bakery?

Ben: Go past the hotel and turn left onto Main Street. Go one block and turn right. It's across from the library.

James: Thank you very much.

➤ Quick Practice:

Practice the conversation with your partner.
Conversation 1

Exercise 1: Listen and complete the conversation

June: Excuse me?

Man: Yes?

June: Do you know where the ........................................... is?

Man: It’s next to the ....................................................

June: That sounds easy enough. Thank you very much.

Man: No problem.
Practice the conversations. Using the map above, choose any location to complete the conversation below.

➤ Dialogue 2

A: Excuse me. Do you know where the ................. is?

B: Yes, I do. It’s .....................

A: That sounds easy enough. Thank you very much.

B: No problem.

➤ Role-play

Now practice the conversation with a partner.
Listening

Practice the conversations

Dialog 3

Man: Excuse me. How do I get to the supermarket?

Bob: It's easy. Turn left at the corner onto Apple Street. Go one block. The supermarket is on the corner of First Avenue and Apple Street, next to the police station.

Man: Thank you so much.

Bob: You’re welcome.
Conversation 2

Exercise 2: Listen and complete the conversation.

Jay: Excuse me?
June: Yes?
Jay: How do I get to the _____________?
June: Go past the _____________ and turn left onto Main Street. Go one block and turn right. It's across from the _____________.
Jay: Thank you so much.
June: You’re welcome.

Conversation 3

Exercise 3: Listen and complete the conversation.

Boy: Excuse me. Is there a _______________ near here?
Ann: Yes. There's _______________ near here.
Boy: How do I get there?
Ann: At the _____________, take the first left and go ___________ on. It’s on the left.
Boy: _______________
Ann: You’re welcome.
Useful expressions

➤ Preposition of places
  • Where is the hotel?
  • I’m looking for the library
  • Can / could you tell me how to get to the canteen, please?

➤ Where is it?
  • Between
  • On
  • Close to
  • Near

➤ Where is the hotel?
  • The hotel is between the zoo and the bakery.
  • There is a hotel between the zoo and the bakery.

➤ Where is the bus stop?
  • The bus stop is close to the park.
  • There is a bus stop near the park.

➤ Where is the school?
  • There is a school on First Avenue.
Exercise 4: Fill the gap from the box.

across, in front of, next to, opposite, beside

➢ Where is the hotel?

1. The hotel is ................................ the zoo.
2. There is a hotel ................................ the zoo.

➢ Where is the museum?

3. The museum is ............................ from the school.
4. There is a museum .......................... the school.

➢ Where is the cinema?

5. The cinema is ............................. the shop.

• Just before
• Behind
• Just after
Where is the ice cream shop?
- The ice cream shop is *just before* the swimming pool.

Where is the basketball court?
- There is a basketball court *behind* the park.

Where is the school?
- The school is *just after* the hotel.
Practice the conversation

 Dialogue 4

Ann: Excuse me. Is there a school near here?

Boy: Yes. There's one near here.

Ann: How do I get there?

Boy: At the ice cream shop, go straight on. The school is just after the hotel.

Ann: Thank you.

Boy: You’re welcome.

Pair work.

Practice the conversation again. Use the ideas above. And add your own ideas.

Useful hints on asking and giving directions

1. Giving directions expressions

- Turn left
- Turn right
- Go straight ahead
- Go past
- At the corner of... and...
- It’s between the ... and the.....
- It’s across from / in front of....
2. Transitions

Use these words to connect the ideas

➢ After that ....
➢ Then.....
➢ Next...
➢ When you get to... go....
➢ Finally.....
Practice the conversation

➤ Dialogue 5

Jones: Excuse me. Is there a canteen near here?

May: Yes. There's a canteen behind the 100-Year Building, and the canteen is between the auditorium and the gymnasium.

Jones: Is it far?

May: Not so far.

Jones: Thank you.

May: No. Problem.

➤ Role-play: Look at the map above.

Practice the conversation with your partner.
Speaking Practice

Pronunciation Tip (Falling intonation ) (Rising intonation )

- Excuse me. How do I get to the bakery?
- Where is the hotel?
- Excuse me. Do you know where can I find supermarket?
- Is there a canteen near here?

Practice: Ask your partner about the location of these places on the map. If you can’t find the place, say that you don’t know where it is.

Student A: asks about:

1. Bank
2. Bus stop
3. Hotel
4. Pet shop
5. Museum
6. Swimming pool
Student B: asks about:

1. Traffic light
2. Gymnasium
3. Science Center
4. Police station
5. Family Mart
6. Language Center

➢ Practice: Look at the map above. Ask your partner how to get to the following places.

➢ Where is the hospital?
➢ Where is the bank?
➢ Where is the drug store?
➢ Where is the zoo?
➢ Where is the cinema?
Practice: Work in a pair. Give direction to the following places.

1. To a Post office

   Foreigner: ..........................................................?
   Policeman: Certainly ...................... for about 500 meters and you’ll see the post office ............. side.

2. To the Bank

   Foreigner: ..........................................................?
   Policeman: Of course ............ and ............ at the corner and you’ll see .................
Communicative activities

Practice: Write directions from (1) the School to the Supermarket, and (2) hospital to the library.

[You are at the school ‘A’]

.................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................

[You are at the hospital ‘D’]

.................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................................
Exercise 5: What is the best way to the post office? Use the map above.

1. Excuse me, where is the post office, please?

2. ......................... at the next corner.

3. Then ......................... until you come to the traffic lights.

4. ......................... there.

5. The post office is ......................... the cinema.
Exercise 6: Fill in the words below correctly. Use the map above.

continue, end, excuse, get, left (2x), next, opposite, second, right, straight on, thank, turn, welcome

1. ................ me, how do I get to the cinema?

2. Go ..................

3. Turn ................ at the corner.

4. Then take the second road on your right.

5. .................. to the ............... of the road.

6. Turn left there.

7. The cinema is on your ..........., ............ the castle.

8. .................... you very much.

9. You're .....................
Exercise 7: Read the directions and write the name of the places in the blanks. Use the map above.

1. Excuse me, how can I go to the .........................?

   Walk along Violet Street. Take the first turning on the right. Go straight on. It’s on your left between the restaurant and the hospital.

2. Sir, can you tell me the way to the .........................?

   Of course. Walk along Lily Street. Turn left into Daisy Street. Go straight on. Take the second turning on the left. It’s on your left between the amusement park and the greengrocer.

3. Can you help me please? I want to go to the .....................?

   Certainly. Walk along Violet Street. Take the first turning on the left. It’s on your right opposite the park.
4. Excuse me, is there a ................... near here?

Yes. Walk along Lily Street. Take the first turning on the left. It’s on your right next to the bank.

5. Excuse me, how can I go to the ...................?

Walk along Violet Street. Take the second turning on the left. It’s on your left.

Practice the conversation

➤ Dialogue. 7

Student A: Excuse me. Can you tell me how can I get to the cinema?

Student B: Yes. Walk along Lily Street. Take the first turning on the left. It’s on your right next to the bank.

Student A: That’s sound easy enough. Thank you.

Student B: You’re welcome.

➤ Pair work.

Practice the conversation again.
Exercise 8

a. Think of a place you go to a lot (for example: mall, cinema, school, a friend’s house ...).
   How do you get there?
   Draw a simple map, but do not mark the route.

b. Give your map to a partner and describe your route.
   Can your partner draw the correct route on your map?
Quiz

Directions: Choose the most appropriate answer.

1. Excuse me! ....... is the post office, please?
   a. How  
   b. What  
   c. When  
   d. Where

2. Could you tell me ....... to get to the History Museum, please?
   a. how  
   b. what  
   c. when  
   d. where

3. Can you tell me where ......., please?
   a. is the bank  
   b. the bank  
   c. the bank is  
   d. there a bank

4. Would you mind ......... me some directions, please?
   a. explaining  
   b. giving  
   c. helping  
   d. offering

5. I am .............. for the new children's library.
   a. asking  
   b. finding  
   c. looking  
   d. trying

6. Walk two blocks and turn left ..............
   a. around the bank  
   b. at the traffic light  
   c. in the corner  
   d. into a large hotel
7. Go ...... the flower shop, the drugstore, and the supermarket.
   a. across       b. behind
   c. opposite     d. past

8. The library will be on your left. It's a large red-brick building. You can't ......it.
   a. find         b. forget
   c. miss         d. see

9. Could you tell me where ................. some souvenirs, please?
   a. can I buy    b. could I buy
   c. I can buy    d. should I buy

10. There are several souvenir shops on Apple Street, about three blocks ............... 
    a. away from    b. from here
    c. near here    d. not far
References
