

Asking For and Giving Directions

We use fixed phrases to ask for directions to somewhere. Here are some examples:

<i>Where is (the) ... ?</i>	<i>Can you give me directions to (the) ... ?</i>
<i>How do you get to (the) ... ?</i>	<i>Where can I find the nearest ... ?</i>
<i>How do I get to (the) ... ?</i>	<i>Is there a ... near/around here?</i>
<i>Can you tell me how to get to (the) ... ?</i>	<i>What's the best/quickest/easiest way to get to (the) ... ?</i>

Some sample questions and responses

Question	Response
<i>Excuse me. Is there a chemist around here?</i>	Yes, there is one just across the street.
<i>Can you give me directions to the station?</i>	Of course, follow this road until you come to the main road. Turn left and continue for about 200 metres. You will see the station on the right.
<i>Can you tell me how to get to the Focus Building?</i>	Sorry, I am not from around here.
<i>Where's the nearest taxi rank?</i>	It's on the corner of High St and Rose Lane. Next to the library.
<i>How do you get to the post office?</i>	Go straight along this road for about 400 metres. Turn left when you get to Lemon Lane. Keep going until you reach the church. The post office is opposite the church.
<i>Is there a bank near here?</i>	Yes, there is one in Bank Street. Bank Street is the second road on your left.
<i>Excuse me. Could you tell me where I can find the nearest 24-hour shop?</i>	Yes, there is one next to the station. Go back the way you came. Turn left after you go under the railway bridge and there is one on your right.

Useful words and phrases

Asking	Directions
<p>How do I get to ... ? Where is ... ? What's the best way to ... ? Is there a ... near here? Where can I ... ?</p>	<p>Go straight on (until you come to ...) Turn back / Go back. Turn left/right (into '... Street') Go along ... Cross ... Take the first/second road on the left/right. Go back the way you came. Go under/over the bridge. Take the second exit at the roundabout.</p>
Position	Landmarks
<p>It's on the left/right straight on opposite near next to between at the end (of) on/at the corner (of) behind in front of (just) around the corner</p>	<p>traffic lights crossroads, junction level crossing signpost roundabout T-junction dead end underpass flyover (railway) bridge dual carriageway pedestrian/zebra crossing</p>