

Chapitre 9

Giving Directions Indications de directions

Compétence à acquérir : comprendre les indications de direction pour se rendre à un endroit proche

Dans le test du TOEIC, vous pourrez entendre des gens qui demandent et qui donnent des indications pour se rendre à un endroit proche. Les personnes qui demandent ces renseignements se déplacent à pied (**pedestrian**), en voiture ou en métro. Lorsqu'une personne en renseigne une autre, elle mentionne souvent des points de repère (**landmarks**) dans les environs (**in the vicinity**) pour l'aider à s'orienter. Elle peut évaluer la distance à parcourir en termes de pâtés de maisons (**blocks**) et décrire la rue. Cette dernière est peut-être large (**broad**) ou escarpée (**steep**). La personne qui renseigne dit aussi où il faut tourner, où il faut traverser la rue et combien de temps il faut pour arriver à destination.

A person who is new to your city may ask you for directions. It is best to explain the easiest way to the destination, even if it is not the shortest. Because this person is not familiar with the **vicinity**, it is a good idea to mention **landmarks**, such as any **noticeable** stores or **apartment** buildings, parks, or even **billboards**. If the person is on foot and has to cross a traffic-filled street, it is nice to explain where the easiest place to cross is (and always in a **crosswalk**, of course!). It is also a good idea to tell a **pedestrian** how many **blocks** he or she will have to walk to arrive at the destination. Then, if it seems too far, you can always suggest taking the bus or subway. An even better solution might be a taxi as in that case, no directions are needed at all!

Vocabulaire

Apartment (n.) : *appartement, logement*

It is a small building with only twenty apartments.

Billboard (n.) : *panneau d'affichage*

On that street you will see a large billboard with an advertisement for an airline.
(... avec une publicité pour une compagnie aérienne)

Block (n.) : *pâté de maisons*

There are several cafes and restaurants on this block.

III► Homonymes

Le mot **block** a plusieurs significations :

1. (n.) section of a street bordered by two cross streets : *un pâté de maisons entre deux intersections de rues*
2. (n.) group of apartment buildings : *un immeuble, un groupe d'immeubles, de bâtiments*
3. (n.) large piece of solid material : *un bloc*
4. (v.) create an obstacle : *bloquer*

Broad (adj.) : *large, vaste*

The street is very broad and has a lot of traffic.

v. broaden : *élargir, s'élargir*

The city has plans to broaden that street.

Crosswalk (n.) : *passage pour piétons*

The crosswalk is the safest place to cross the street.

Expanse (n.) : *étendue*

On your left you will see an expanse of grass and flowers.

n. expansive : *grand, vaste, étendu*

v. expand : *développer, élargir, agrandir, s'agrandir*

The city park is quite expansive.

They had to expand the parking lot because so many people use it.

Keep on (v.) : *continuer*

After you turn the corner, keep on walking for three more blocks.

Landmark (n.) : *point de repère*

People often mention my house as a landmark when giving directions because of its bright pink color.

Noticeable (adj.) : évident, visible, remarquable

The house is small and not very noticeable.

v. notice : remarquer

adv. noticeably : de manière évidente, nettement, visiblement

You will notice the house because it has a bright yellow door.

The building is noticeably large.

Pedestrian (n.) : piéton

No bicycles are allowed on this sidewalk; it is for pedestrians only.

Spot (v.) : voir, remarquer, découvrir, repérer

As soon as you turn the corner, you will spot the building.

Homonymes

Le mot **spot** a plusieurs significations :

1. (v.) see : repérer, remarquer, voir
2. (n.) place : un endroit, un coin
3. (n.) small mark : une tache, un bouton, un point, une petite marque

Steep (adj.) : abrupt, escarpé, raide, à pic

The street goes up a steep hill.

n. steepness : pente, pente raide

v. steepen : devenir plus raide, plus escarpé ; grimper plus, monter plus

It was difficult to walk up the hill because of its steepness.

The hill steepens near the top.

Story (n.) : étage, niveau

Our apartment is on the second story.

Homonymes

Le mot **story** a plusieurs significations :

1. (n.) tale : une histoire, un conte
2. (Am.) (n.) floor in a building : un étage

Vendor (n.) : marchand

It is a fun street for shopping since there are so many vendors on the sidewalk.

Vicinity (n.) : voisinage, proximité, alentours, environs ; **in the vicinity** : dans les environs, à proximité

The hotel is located in the vicinity of the train station.

Différences US/GB

Orthographe :

• étage

Anglais américain : **n. story**

Anglais britannique : **n. storey**

Vocabulaire :

• appartement

Anglais américain : **n. apartment**

Anglais britannique : **n. flat**

• passage piétons

Anglais américain : **n. crosswalk**

Anglais britannique : **n. pedestrian crossing**

• trottoir

Anglais américain : **n. sidewalk**

Anglais britannique : **n. pavement**

• À quel étage sommes-nous ?

Aux États-Unis, l'étage qui se trouve au niveau de la rue s'appelle **the first floor** (le rez-de-chaussée), et celui qui se trouve au-dessus s'appelle **the second floor** (le premier étage).

En Grande-Bretagne, l'étage qui se trouve au niveau de la rue s'appelle **the ground floor** (le rez-de-chaussée), et celui qui se trouve au-dessus s'appelle **the first floor** (le premier étage).

• Où garez-vous votre voiture ?

Aux États-Unis, un parking à l'extérieur s'appelle **a parking lot**.

En Grande-Bretagne, il s'appelle **a car park**.

Attention

Il ne faut pas confondre **beside** et **besides**.

Beside est une préposition de lieu qui signifie **next to** (à côté de, près de).

My desk is beside the window.

Besides est un adverbe qui signifie **also** ou **in addition** (en outre, de plus). C'est aussi une préposition signifiant **in addition to** (outre, en plus de).

There are many other cafes in this neighborhood besides the one downstairs.

Beside peut parfois s'employer avec le même sens que **besides**. Mais **besides** ne peut jamais s'employer comme préposition de lieu avec le sens de *près de*.

Pratquez votre vocabulaire

Complétez ces indications de directions avec le mot de la liste qui convient. Vous trouverez les corrigés à la page 317.

spot keep on crosswalk billboard landmark

The Grand Hotel is located at 185 Maple Avenue. To get there, go to the corner and cross the street at the (1) _____. Go right and (2) _____ walking for about five minutes until you (3) _____ a large (4) _____. That's your (5) _____. When you see it, you are very close to the hotel. Just take a left there and you will see a tall brick building. That is the hotel.

broad vendors noticeable pedestrians block

To get to the shopping district, take the #3 bus to State Street. You will know it because it is a very (6) _____ street with a lot of traffic and a lot of stores. This is the shopping district. Get off the bus and walk north, then take a right at the corner. On the next (7) _____ there is a special shopping area. It is (8) _____ because there are no cars. It is for (9) _____ only. It is enjoyable to walk down the street and shop. There are a lot of (10) _____ on the sidewalk selling a variety of things that you can't normally find in stores.

steep vicinity apartment stories expanse

I live in a very nice neighborhood. There are several excellent restaurants and lots of stores in the (11) _____. My (12) _____ is just five minutes from the subway station. Walk up Chilton Street for two blocks, then take a left onto Oak Street. It goes up a hill and it is a little bit (13) _____, but short. Near the top of the hill you will see on your right an (14) _____ of grass and trees. That is Oak Street Park. Just past the park is a building that is several (15) _____ high. That's my building. Take the elevator up to the seventh floor, number 705.

Grammaire

Les prépositions de lieu

On utilise certaines prépositions pour indiquer la place d'un objet par rapport à un autre.

in



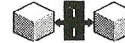
**above
over**



**next to
beside
by**



**across the street from
opposite**



on



**under
below
beneath**



between



De plus, on utilise certaines prépositions dans des cas spécifiques.

On utilise **at** devant une adresse.

The office is *at* 5603 Constitution Avenue.

On utilise **on** avant les noms de rues ou de pâtés de maisons.

The office is *on* Constitution Avenue.

The office is *on* this block.

On utilise **in** pour les plus grands espaces ou lieux comme des quartiers, des villes, des états, des provinces, des régions et des pays.

The Sears Tower is the tallest building *in* Chicago.

Our company has several offices *in* China.

Pratquez votre grammaire

Choisissez le mot qui convient pour compléter les phrases suivantes. Vous trouverez les corrigés à la page 317.

- The office is _____ a ten-story building.
(in/on)

2. The bank is _____ Main Street.
(at/on)
3. The restaurant is _____ 45 Main Street.
(at/on)
4. The café is on the first floor and _____ it, on the second floor, is our office.
(on/above)
5. There are a lot of interesting stores _____ the shopping district.
(in/at)
6. The post office is _____ a clothing store and a café.
(between/at)
7. The bookstore is _____ the street from our office.
(beside/across)
8. Next year we will open a new office _____ Vienna.
(on/in)
9. The library is next _____ the park.
(to/from)
10. Our company does not have any offices _____ Asia.
(in/on)

Révision lexicale et grammaticale

Vous trouverez les corrigés à la page 317.

Phrases à compléter

Choisissez le mot qui convient pour compléter les phrases suivantes.

1. I can never get any sleep because my apartment is _____ a noisy nightclub.
(A) on
(B) in
(C) at
(D) over

2. They _____ this road last year and that is why it is so broad now.
(A) expands
(B) expanse
(C) expanded
(D) expansive
3. A very tall building is _____ in the middle of the block.
(A) noticeable
(B) noticeably
(C) noticing
(D) notices
4. You will see a small café _____ to our building.
(A) next
(B) on
(C) over
(D) across the street
5. _____ sell things on the street every Saturday and Sunday.
(A) Stories
(B) Vendors
(C) Landmarks
(D) Pedestrians
6. There is a large _____ hanging on the side of the building.
(A) apartment
(B) vicinity
(C) crosswalk
(D) billboard
7. Our office has a nice view because it is _____ the park.
(A) below
(B) across
(C) beside
(D) between
8. You might have a difficult time walking up the hill because it is very _____.
(A) spot
(B) steep
(C) broad
(D) short

9. Our main office is located _____ 3487 South Windsor Street.
- (A) on
 - (B) at
 - (C) in
 - (D) to
10. I will be _____ South America next month on a business trip.
- (A) at
 - (B) on
 - (C) in
 - (D) by

Exercice de compréhension

Lisez les indications suivantes, puis répondez aux questions.

Directions to the Milton Company office

The office is located at 567 Green Street. Take the subway to the North Street Station. When you exit the station, cross the street and walk up North Street. After three blocks you will see the City Library next to a small park. Keep on walking for one more block, then turn right on Green Street. Walk up a steep hill for one block. At the end of the block is our office building. It is easy to spot because it has a very noticeable large red door. It is across the street from the National Bank building.

1. What is beside the library?
 - (A) A park
 - (B) A bank
 - (C) An office
 - (D) A parking lot
2. How far is the Milton Company office from the subway station?
 - (A) One block
 - (B) Three blocks
 - (C) Four blocks
 - (D) Five blocks
3. The phrase *keep on* is closest in meaning to
 - (A) stop
 - (B) enjoy
 - (C) begin
 - (D) continue
4. The word *spot* is closest in meaning to
 - (A) place
 - (B) see
 - (C) mark
 - (D) dot