

Asking for and Giving Directions Lesson

When traveling, from time to time you need to find the way around places you have never been.

Take a look at the structures for asking for and giving directions in the table below:

Asking for Directions

Excuse me . . .

**** This is always the most polite way to begin your request for directions****

Would/Could you tell me how to get to . . . *Anderson Construction?*

How do I find . . . *suite 305?*

What is the best way to get to . . . *business office?*

Would/Could you direct me to . . . *Ms. Sumidata's office?*

Which way do I go to get to . . . *the Nobunaga Building?*

Giving Directions

Go straight

Make a U turn

Turn left

Turn right

Continue on (keep going)

Follow this *hall . . . road . . . path*

Take the elevator

It's about 150 meters

I

t's next to . . . across from . . . opposite . . . beside . . . between (*two things*)

Cross the . . . street . . . road . . . park . . . lobby . . . intersection . . .

Go past the . . .

It's on . . . the left . . . the right . . . the third floor . . . the corner

Prepositions to use with Directions

Go straight	Go to	Right	left
Cross	On your right	On your left	beside
Next to	Behind	Across from	In front of
On the corner of			

* Don't forget to say "Thank you" after someone has given you assistance.

When Giving Directions in English

Giving directions usually consists of two sets of instructions.

In the first set:

Say "Go to" and tell the listener what street, building, office number, etc – or – how far they need to go.

In the second set:

Say "Then" and tell the listener what to do when they get there. (turn left, turn right, it's on the left, etc.)

Giving even very complicated directions is just a repetition of these two steps.