

# 15

## ASKING FOR DIRECTIONS AND GIVING DIRECTIONS

If you do not know the way to a place, you usually ask someone how to get there. You also have to explain how to reach a place if someone asks you the way. This unit will help you learn how to ask politely for and give clear directions in English. Note that whether you are talking to complete strangers or to people whom you know, there is not much difference in the kind of language you will use to ask for and give directions.

एखाद्या ठिकाणी जायचा रस्ता माहीत नसला की तुम्ही साधारणपणे कोणालातरी तेथे कसे जायचे ते विचारता. कोणी तुम्हाला पत्ता विचारला की तेथे कसे जायचे हे तुम्हालाही कोणालातरी समजावून सांगावे लागते. इंग्लिशमधून नम्रपणे पत्ता कसा विचारावा किंवा कसा समजावून सांगावा हे या पाठात शिकता येईल. लक्षात ठेवा की पत्ता विचारताना किंवा समजावून सांगताना तुम्ही अगदी अनोळखी व्यक्तीशी बोलत असलात किंवा ओळखीच्या व्यक्तीशी तरी तुमच्या भाषेत फारसा फरक पडत नाही.

Listen to the dialogues below and follow them in the book.

### DIALOGUE 1

*(Ratan is a new student in the college. He asks Varun for directions to the library.)*

**Ratan** : Excuse me, could you tell me the way to the library?

**Varun** : **Sure. Go straight down this path and you'll reach the new block. To the left of the reception desk is a staircase. Go up the stairs to the second floor and turn right. You will find the library at the end of the floor.**

**Ratan** : **Thanks a lot.**

**Varun** : **You're welcome.**

**DIALOGUE 2**



*(Asma calls Bharat from the bus depot, asking for directions to his house.)*

**Asma** : (on the phone) **Hi, Bharat.**

**Bharat** : **Oh, hi, Asma! Where're you calling from?**

**Asma** : **From the Saket bus depot. How do I get to your house?**

**Bharat** : **First, turn right, then turn left and walk down\* the road until you come to the traffic lights at the crossroads. There, take the right turn. Got it?**

**Asma** : **Yes. And then?**

**Bharat** : **Keep walking till you see the Shubham Hotel on your left. Right opposite the hotel is a lane leading to my house. It's the second house in the lane. There's a big mango tree in the garden. Okay?**

**Asma** : **Yes, thanks. I'll be there soon. See you.**

**DIALOGUE 3**



*(Paul asks a passerby where he can find a stationery shop.)*

**Paul** : **Excuse me, would you mind telling me where I can find a stationery shop here?**

**Passerby** : **Not at all. Turn left at the chemist's, go down the road and take the second right. Walk on till you**

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\* The sentences *Walk up the road* and *Walk down the road* do not always mean that the road is sloping up or down. We usually use the sentences to mean *Walk along the road*.

**reach** Ganesh department store. **The stationer's is the third shop from** the department store.

*Paul* : **Third shop from** the department store?

*Passerby* : **Yes, that's right.**

*Paul* : **Thank you so much.**

*Passerby* : **You're welcome.**

**DIALOGUE 4**



*(Reena wants Suma to work with her on a project at the weekend. But Suma does not know the way to Reena's house.)*

*Reena* : Could you come home on Saturday, Suma? We can work on the science project.

*Suma* : I can come, Reena, **but I don't know the way.**

*Reena* : **I'll tell you how to get here. Take** bus number 9 from Tarnaka. **Get off at** Shanti cinema. **Right opposite the cinema is** Sharada Apartments. **Walk in and take the lift** to the second floor. **Our flat is** B 6.

*Suma* : That's easy. See you at ten, then.

*Reena* : Okay.

Here are some more expressions you can use to ask directions and to give them:

Asking for directions	Giving directions
1. <b>Can you tell me where the Bata shoe shop is?</b>	1. <b>It's opposite</b> the State Bank of Hyderabad, <b>next to</b> the Kamath Hotel.
2. <b>Could you direct me to the principal's office, please?</b>	2. <b>Go along the</b> corridor and <b>turn left. It's just round the corner.</b>
3. <b>How far is the Navrang theatre from here?</b>	3. <b>It's about a three-minute walk from here. Cross the road and go straight on.</b>

*(contd...)*

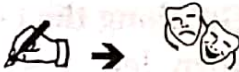


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|---|---|
| <p>4. <b>Can you help me find the bus pass counter, please?</b></p> | <p>4. <b>It's on the other side</b> (of this bus stand), <b>near the main entrance, facing the fresh fruit juice stall. You can't miss it.</b></p>  |
| <p>5. <b>Can you show me the way to the Skyline cinema?</b></p>     | <p>5. <b>It's in Basheer Bagh. From the crossing, go towards Hussain Sagar. On your right, you'll see the Shanbagh. Take the lane next to the hotel and walk down it about ten yards. You'll see Skyline on your left. You can't miss it.</b></p> |
| <p>6. <b>Excuse me, is this Shivaji Park?</b></p>                   | <p>6. <b>No, I'm afraid you've come to the wrong place. This is Shivaji Nagar. Shivaji Park is at the other end of the city, near the Secretariat.</b></p>  |

ACTIVITY 1 

Listen again to dialogues 1-4 and repeat each line for practice.

PAIR WORK

ACTIVITY 2 

Working in pairs, change the situation in dialogue 1 and rewrite it using any of the expressions in bold letters to ask for and give directions. You can, for example, begin the dialogue like this: *Excuse me, could you tell me the way to the canteen?* After you finish writing the dialogue, enact it with your partner, taking turns so that each of you plays the two roles.

Ratan : .....  
 Varun : .....  
 .....

Ratan : .....  
 Varun : .....

ACTIVITY 3  → 




Fill in the blanks in the dialogue with any one of the expressions given in brackets. All the expressions would be acceptable. After you complete the dialogue, enact it with your partner, taking turns so that each of you plays the two roles.

Namita : Excuse me,..... (could you tell me the way / which is the way / how do I get) to the Gandhi Nagar bus stop?

Anandi : Go .....(straight / till the traffic lights), then...  
 .....[take the first right turn / turn to your left] and the bus stop is.....(next to / in front of / opposite) the Taj Hotel.

Namita : Thank you so much. It's really kind of you to help.

Anandi : Not at all. You're welcome.

ACTIVITY 4  →  → 

Working in pairs, complete the dialogue below, in which Vincent gives Anand directions to reach his house for lunch. Use some of the expressions you have learnt in this unit to complete it. After you finish, compare it with the dialogue you will hear on CD and enact it with your partner.

Vincent : I hope you're coming over to my place for lunch tomorrow.

Anand : Of course, I am. But I'm not sure if I know the way to your house. ....  
 .....

Vincent : .....

.....

.....

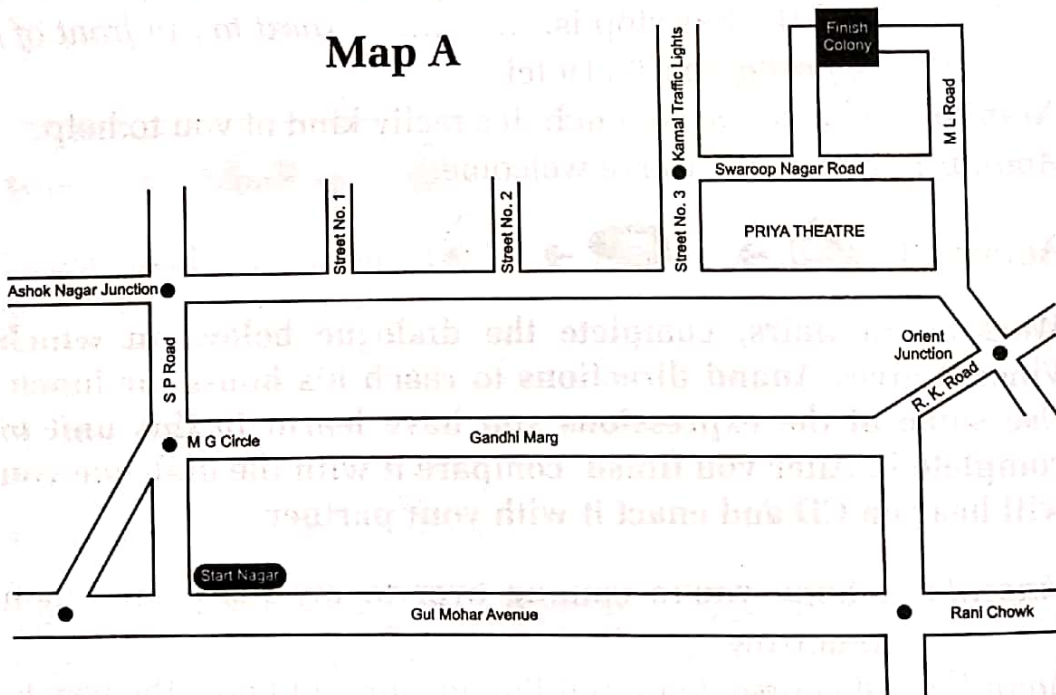
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Anand : Thanks. That sounds simple. I think I'll be able to find my way.

ACTIVITY 5   

There are two maps A and B below, each with two routes that could be taken to go from Start Nagar to Finish Colony. Working in pairs, choose a map each, and first mark one of the routes and then give your partner clear directions to take that route to Finish Colony. Your partner will mark the route you give in his/ her book. Compare your map with your partner's to check if the two routes match. Next your partner will give you directions, and you can mark the route in the second map. Again, follow the steps explained above.







## THANKING SOMEONE AND RESPONDING TO THANKS

We often need to use language in our everyday social and professional lives to thank people and also to respond when others thank us. It is important to do this in a way that will please the other person and show that you recognise what he/she was done for you. This unit will help you learn and practise using English for this purpose.

रोजच्या सामाजिक आणि कार्यक्षेत्रीय जीवनात लोकांचे आभार मानण्यासाठी आणि इतरांनी आभार मानल्यावर त्याला उत्तर देण्यासाठी आपल्याला भाषेचा वापर करावा लागतो. दुसऱ्या व्यक्तीने तुमच्यासाठी जे केले त्याची तुम्हाला जाणीव आहे हे तिला कळवे आणि समाधान वाटावे अशा पद्धतीने बोलणे महत्त्वाचे असते. यासाठी इंग्लिश भाषेचा वापर कसा करावा हे शिकण्यासाठी, त्याचा सराव करण्यासाठी या पाठाची मदत होईल.

### a. Thanking someone for doing something for you

Listen to the dialogues below and follow them in the book.

#### DIALOGUE 1 (FORMAL)



*(Rajini and Salim thank their teacher after they get back from a class trip.)*



- Teacher* : Are you happy we went to Osman Sagar?  
*Rajini* : Oh, **we had a wonderful time**, ma'am.  
*Salim* : **It was a great picnic. Thank you for taking such good care of us.**  
*Teacher* : **I'm glad you enjoyed yourselves.** I had a good time too.

**DIALOGUE 2 (FORMAL)**

*(Mrs Venkat is waiting at a bus stop with a junior colleague. Someone snatches her handbag and runs away. Her colleague runs after the man and gets the handbag back. Mrs Venkat thanks him for the help.)*

- Prabhu* : Here's your bag, Mrs Venkat.  
*Mrs Venkat* : Prabhu, **I can't thank you enough** for acting quickly. **If you hadn't run after him, I'm sure I'd have lost my bag.**  
*Prabhu* : **I'm glad I could be of help.** Oh, there's your bus, Mrs Venkat. Goodbye!  
*Mrs Venkat* : Bye, and again, **thank you so much.**  
*Prabhu* : **You're welcome**, ma'am.

**DIALOGUE 3 (INFORMAL)**

*(Uma thanks her neighbour Tina for taking care of her baby for a while.)*

- Uma* : Tina, I'm back from the market. **Thanks for taking care of Neha while I was away.**  
*Tina* : Oh, **it was a pleasure.**  
*Uma* : **Hope she was not a problem?**  
*Tina* : **Not at all.** She had lunch, played with Rahul and has had a nap too.  
*Uma* : **Thanks again, Tina.**  
*Tina* : **You're welcome.**

ACTIVITY 1  → 

Listen again to dialogues 1–3 on CD and repeat each line for practice.

b. Thanking someone at the end of a meal or party you have been invited to

DIALOGUE 4 (FORMAL) 

*(Bindu thanks her boss before leaving a party at his house.)*

**Bindu** : I think I should be leaving now, Mr Prasad. Thank you very much for inviting me to the party. It was a lovely evening.

**Mr Prasad** : I'm glad you enjoyed yourself, Bindu. Do come again.

**Bindu** : I'd love to. Thank you very much. Good night.

**Mr Prasad** : Good night.

DIALOGUE 5 (INFORMAL) 

*(Hamid thanks his friend after lunch at a restaurant.)*

**Hamid** : Oh, I'll have to run! It's three o'clock. Pankaj, that was a great treat.

**Pankaj** : I'm happy you liked the place and the food.

**Hamid** : Yes, I really did. Thanks so much.

**Pankaj** : You're welcome. We'll do it again sometime.

**Hamid** : Yes, let's. I'll take you to the new coffee shop near the beach.

**Pankaj** : Hey, that'll be nice!

ACTIVITY 2  → 

Listen again to dialogues 4 and 5 on CD and repeat each line for practice.

c. Thanking someone for a gift

DIALOGUE 6 (FORMAL)



(Shailu thanks the director of her company for his New Year gift.)

- Shailu : Good afternoon, Mr Sharma.  
Mr Sharma : Good afternoon, Shailu.  
Shailu : Sir, I'd like to thank you for the planner you sent me. It really helps me work more efficiently.  
Mr Sharma : It's something I picked up from Mumbai when I went there last week. I'm glad you find it useful.  
Shailu : I do, sir. Thank you so much.  
Mr Sharma : You're welcome, Shailu.

DIALOGUE 7 (INFORMAL)



(Kaveri thanks her friend for his birthday gift.)

- Kaveri : Thanks a lot for the painting, Sudhir. It has brightened up my room.  
Sudhir : My pleasure. I'm so glad you like it.  
Kaveri : Why don't you come home and see how good it looks?  
Sudhir : I sure will. Thanks.

ACTIVITY 3



Listen again to dialogues 6 and 7 on CD and repeat each line for practice.

Useful points to remember

- ✎ When you thank someone, it is nice to add a positive comment such as *It has brightened up my room* or *It was a lovely evening* or *We had a lovely time*.



- ✍ When someone thanks you, you could respond with more than just *You're welcome* or *My pleasure*. For example, you could say *I'm glad you enjoyed yourself* or *I'm happy you liked the place*.
- ✍ You could repeat expressions of thanks if you want to emphasise just how thankful you are. For example, you could say *Thanks for helping me with my chemistry project. Thanks so much*.
- ✍ You can also express your gratitude by offering to return a favour or a good turn. For example, *I'll take you to the new coffee shop near the beach* or *Why don't you come home and see how good it looks?*

Here are a few other ways of thanking people. Some of them are direct and use the words *Thanks* or *Thank you*, while others are indirect ways of expressing gratitude.

Situations	Expressions of thanks
1. for a gift	1. <b>Thank you so much for the book. I love detective stories.</b>
2a. when accepting an offer of help	2a. I'm very grateful to you for <b>taking me to the hospital. I don't think I could've gone alone.</b>
2b. when refusing an offer of help	2b. <b>Thanks, but I think I can manage.</b>
3. in response to a wish	3. <b>Thank you very much. I really need your good wishes for my exams.</b>
4a. when accepting an invitation	4a. <b>It's nice of you to invite me to your party. I'll look forward to it.</b>

(contd...)

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| 4b. when refusing an invitation               | 4b. <b>I'd love to come to your party, but I have to take my mother to a music concert. Thanks anyway for inviting me.</b> (It is polite to give a reason when we cannot accept an invitation. You will see this in a later unit.) |
| 5. to a person who accepts your invitation    | 5. <b>I really appreciate the trouble you've taken to be here today. Thank you for coming to the reception.</b> (formal)   |
| 6. when thanking someone at a public function | 6. <b>I take this opportunity to thank . . . / It's my privilege to propose a vote of thanks . . .</b> (very formal)   |
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Here are some more expressions you can use to respond when someone thanks you:

*You're always welcome.*

*Don't mention it.*

*The pleasure's mine. (formal)*

*It gives me great pleasure to . . . (very formal)*

### PAIR WORK




#### ACTIVITY 4



**Enact dialogues 1–7 with a partner, taking turns to play the roles of the person expressing thanks and the one responding to it.**

ACTIVITY 5  → 

Rewrite the first two lines of dialogue 7, keeping the highlighted expressions but changing the reason for thanking. For example, you could say: *Thanks a lot for the handbag, Sudhir, It's just what I needed. My pleasure. I'm so glad you like it.* After you finish, enact the dialogue with your partner.

ACTIVITY 6  →  → 

Complete the dialogues below with the lines spoken by the persons expressing thanks or by others responding to them. Compare your dialogues with those that you will hear on CD and enact them with your partner.

a. *Secretary* : *Dr Rajaram, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for accepting our invitation to inaugurate the new auditorium.*

*Dr Rajaram* : .....

b. *Student* : .....

*Teacher* : You're welcome, Babu. I was happy to help you prepare for the debate. I'm glad you did so well. Congratulations!

c. *Annie* : Thanks for the lovely dupatta you got me from Chandigarh, Rehana. It's really so sweet of you.

*Rehana* : .....  
.....

d. *Nitish* : .....  
..... to my sister's wedding.

*Ramesh* : My pleasure, Nitish. Everything went so well!

e. *Mrs Nair* : ..... me a lift, Balan.  
Without your help, .....  
reached the station on time.

*Balan* : ....., auntie. ....



GROUP WORK

ACTIVITY 7  → 

Form groups of five or six. The teacher will make slips, each having the number of one of the outlines below. The number of slips will be the same as the number of groups in the class. Pick from the teacher's desk one of the folded slips of paper. Use the outline matching the number on your slip to write a dialogue. Each group can enact its dialogue before the class.

a. Shilpa meets Fatima after her wedding.

Shilpa's lines	Fatima's lines
i. Thanks her for the wedding gift (mention the gift)	i. Responds to Shilpa's thanks.
ii. Says why she likes it.	ii. Says she's glad Shilpa liked the gift.
iii. Invites her home.	iii. Thanks Shilpa for inviting her home.
iv. Says goodbye.	iv. Responds.

b. Santosh gets ready to leave his friend Jai's house after staying with him for a month.

Santosh's lines	Jai's lines
i. Thanks Jai for the lovely stay he had.	i. Says that it was great having him and that he is glad Santosh enjoyed the visit.
ii. Says how much he enjoyed the food, the outings and the fun he had with Jai's parents and brother.	ii. Says everyone in his family would miss him too.

(contd...)

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| <p>iii. Invites Jai to visit him during the summer vacation.</p> <p>iv. Says that it is time to leave for the bus depot and bids goodbye.</p> | <p>iii. Thanks Santosh for the invitation.</p> <p>iv. Responds.</p> |
|---|---|

c. Joseph's daughter had to miss classes for two months because of an illness. He thanks the principal of his daughter's college for allowing her to take the final exams on submission of a medical certificate for the period.

Joseph's lines	Principal's lines
<p>i. Greets the principal and asks her if his daughter, Ritu, would be allowed to take the final exams.</p>	<p>i. Returns the greeting and says that Ritu could take the exams after submitting a medical certificate from the doctor who had treated her.</p>
<p>ii. Thanks the principal for granting Ritu permission to take the exams.</p>	<p>ii. Says that it is all right because Ritu had been too ill to attend college.</p>
<p>iii. Promises to send the medical certificate in two days time.</p>	<p>ii. Says that that would be fine.</p>