

I think we're lost! **LEARNING OUTCOME** learn how to ask for and give directions

Everyday life

1 Look at the photo and answer the questions.

Where are the people and what are they doing?

What do you think the problem is?



Everyday vocabulary

2 Look at the words and phrases in the box. Put them in two categories: directions and road traffic words.

carry on straight • cross the road • crossroads
go past • main road • pavement • pedestrian
crossing • straight on • take the second turning on
the right • three blocks up • traffic lights • underpass

directions	road traffic words
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.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

3 Add any other words you know to the two categories in 2.

.....
.....

Dialogue

4 02 Listen to the dialogue. Where is the Big Ben Language School?

Sandra and Tom are staying in the UK. They are trying to find their English school.

Tom: I don't understand this map. I think we're lost!
We should ask someone.

Sandra: OK. Look, that woman looks friendly,
(1)

Tom: Er, excuse me. Could you help us please?
We're a bit lost.

Woman: (2)

Tom: Are we going the right way for the Big Ben
Language School?

Woman: I'm sorry. (3) Do you
know which street it's on?

Sandra: Yes, it's on London Avenue.

Woman: Oh, I know London Avenue. From here, you
need to carry on walking, stay on this side of
the pavement, er, go straight on until you reach
a busy main road. (4)

When you come out of the underpass, go right
and take the second turning on the left.

Tom: (5)

Woman: No, it's about a five-minute walk.

Tom: OK. Thank you very much.

Sandra: OK. This is London Avenue. Let's ask this man
where the school is. Excuse me, could you tell us
where the Big Ben Language School is, please?

Man: Sure. Go straight on. Cross the road at the
traffic lights, then carry on straight for about
four minutes.

Sandra: Is it next to anything?

Man: (6) You can't miss it. If
you reach the library you've gone too far.

Sandra: Thanks. That's very kind of you.

Man: You're welcome.

5 Read and complete the dialogue with the phrases (a–f). Then listen again and check.

a Of course.

b Here you'll need to take the underpass.

c Is it far?

d ... let's ask her.

e It's next to a massive supermarket.

f I've never heard of it.

⚙️ EVERYDAY ENGLISH TOOLKIT: ASKING FOR AND GIVING DIRECTIONS

Look at the expressions from the dialogue. Which are used for asking for directions and which are used for giving directions? Write **ASKING** or **GIVING** next to each expression.

Who says each one: Sandra, Tom, the woman or the man?

Number the sentences 1–11 so that they are in the correct order.

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|-------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 | Could you help us please? We're a bit lost. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Excuse me, could you tell us where the Big Ben Language school is, please? | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Are we going the right way for the Big Ben Language School? | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Is it far? | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Is it next to anything? | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Do you know which street it's on? | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Thanks. That's very kind of you. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Go straight on until you reach a busy main road. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Take the second turning on the left. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cross the road at the traffic lights. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | It's next to the supermarket. | |

Over to you!

- 6 Work in pairs. You are in an English town. One of you is a student abroad, and the other is a member of the public. Follow the steps below and role-play a conversation. Then change roles. Use the expressions in the Everyday English Toolkit.**

Student: Ask for directions to the library and the post office. Follow your partner's directions and then check that you have found the right place.

Member of the public: You are with the student at point X on the map. Choose a location for the library and post office on your map. Give directions how to get to the places that the student asks for.

Change roles: This time the student asks for directions to the supermarket and the school and you are both at point Y.

