

Unit 10

Asking the Concierge for Sightseeing Advice



Listening for information

- Listen to the dialogue between Naomi and the concierge and try to understand it without looking at the words in your book.
- Now you can look at the Key Words while the teacher explains them.

(At the hotel)

Naomi: The front desk told me to ask you for sightseeing advice.

Concierge: Of course. I'd be more than happy to help. I am the hotel's concierge. Every good hotel has a concierge like me.

N: Concierge? I'm not familiar with that word.

C: A concierge directs hotel visitors to popular places to visit, shop, and eat. You know London is full of museums, galleries, and historic landmarks to visit.

N: Very good. So where should I start my sightseeing?

C: How about starting at Big Ben, one of London's most famous landmarks? Big Ben is the name given to the massive bell inside the clock tower. It is the largest four-faced chiming clock in the world. The clock tower looks spectacular at night when the four clock faces are illuminated. In fact, people say don't leave London without visiting Big Ben!

Key Words

be familiar with museum

have a good knowledge of a building where important cultural, historical, or scientific objects are kept and shown to the public

gallery

a building where people can see famous pieces of art

landmark

something that is easy to recognize and that helps you to know where you are

massive

very large and heavy

chiming clock

a clock that makes a ringing sound to tell you what time it is

spectacular

very impressive

illuminate

light up

in fact

in reality;

© Role-playing

Conversation Tips

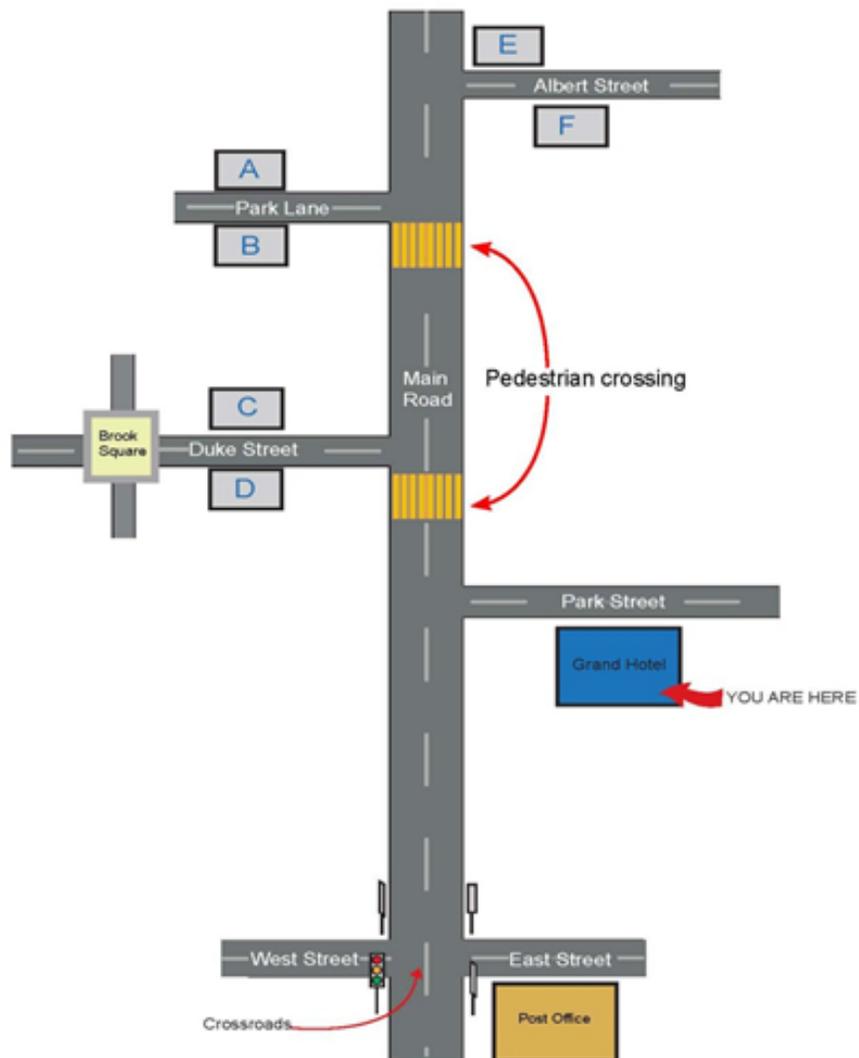
In fact

We use this expression to emphasize what we have just said.

E.g. I know the mayor really well. In fact, I had dinner with him last week.

Asking for and Giving Directions





Dialogue 1. Listening for information

- a) Listen to the dialogue between Naomi and a receptionist and try to understand it without looking at the words in your book.
- b) Now you can look at the Key Words while the teacher explains them.

Naomi wants to go to the post office to send some post cards to Japan. She asks one of the hotel receptionists the way to the post office.

Naomi: Excuse me. Could you tell me the way to the post office, please?

Receptionist: Turn left outside the hotel and go straight ahead until you get to the main road. Turn left and keep on the main road. You'll come to the first traffic lights. Turn left there and you'll easily find the post office. You can't miss it.

N: What's the name of the road?

R: East Street.

N: And which side of the road is it on?

R: On the right hand side. It's opposite the theatre.

N: Is it far to walk?

R: It's within walking distance. It's a ten-minute walk, I think.

N: Thank you very much.

Key Words

traffic lights

a set of red, yellow, and green lights that control traffic

opposite

facing each other

© Role-playing

Dialogue 2.

Listening for information

a) Listen to the dialogue between Naomi and a pedestrian and try to understand it without looking at the words in your book.

b) Now you can look at the Key Words while the teacher explains them.

After the post office, Naomi decides to go to a bank. So she asks a pedestrian to give her directions to the nearest bank.

Naomi : Excuse me. Could you tell me the way to the nearest bank, please?

Pedestrian : Well, it's in Duke Street, near Brook Square.

N : Is it far to walk?

P : It isn't far from here. It's a fifteen-minute walk, I think. Go back to the main road. Turn right and keep on the main road. You'll come to the first pedestrian crossing. Walk over the crossing, and there's a turning to the left. It's Duke Street. Go up there and the bank is about fifty meters up there on the right hand side. It is next to the Library.

N: Thank you very much indeed.

Key Words

pedestrian

a person walking

directions

(pl.) instructions about how to get from one place to another

pedestrian crossing (UK)

a specially marked place for people to walk across the road; zebra crossing;

=cross walk (US)

◎ **Role-playing**

Exercise 1

Listen to Dialogue 2 again and answer the following questions without looking at the text.

1. Where is the turning to the bank? Is it at the first pedestrian crossing or at the second pedestrian crossing?
2. Do you need to turn right or left?
3. What is the name of the street that you need to turn into?
4. Which side of the road is the bank on?
5. Find the bank on the map. Is it A, B, C, D, E, or F?

Exercise 2

With your teacher, ask for and give directions to F and then A. Start from YOU ARE HERE on the map.

Vocab Review

Match the words with the meanings.

intimate

illuminated

vehicle

available

taxi

madam (UK)

performance

barrier

slot

change

cab

small coins

a long narrow hole in a surface

gate

detailed

an act of presenting a play, concert, or other form of entertainment to a group of people

ma'am (US), used to address a woman in a polite way

able to be used

a machine with an engine used for transporting people, such as a car, bus, or truck

lit up by lights

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