

Giving directions make it clearer

What could be wrong with all of the directions below?

It's near the station

It's ten minutes from the station

Cross the road

... then turn left

A tall building

Next to a convenience store

Cross at the crossroads

I'll meet you in the station

Go out the station exit

Opposite the station

Change trains at Hibiya station

Take the Tozai line

You will see a Dennys

You will see a grey building

We are in the glass building

You will see the NEC building

Come out of the station and cross Oxford Street

Add something to each of the directions above to make them clearer. (You will have to use your imagination about what the extra details might be).

Compare your answers as a class or with the suggested answers. Many different improvements are possible, so please check if you wrote something different.

Freer practice

Give directions from here to somewhere, and your partner will try to add useful extra details.



Suggested answers

It's near the station – It's only one minute on foot from the station

It's ten minutes from the station – It's a ten-minute taxi ride from the station/ It's ten minutes on foot from the station

Cross the road – Cross the road at the traffic lights/ Cross the road at the zebra crossing

... then turn left – ...then take the first left/ ... then turn left straightaway

A tall building – A twenty-storey building/ The tallest building on that street

Next to a convenience store – Next to a Lawson convenience store (with a big blue sign)

Cross at the crossroads – Cross at the crossroads, keeping to the same side of the street/ Cross the crossroads diagonally

I'll meet you in the station – I'll meet you just past the ticket barriers

Go out the station exit – Go out the station exit (there is only one)/ Take the north exit/ Take exit A3

Opposite the station – On the opposite side of the road from the main entrance to the station

Change trains at Hibiya station – Change from the ... line to the ... line at Hibiya station

Take the Tozai line – Take an eastbound train on the Tozai line/ Take a Tozai line train from platform three/ Take a Tozai line train bound for... or...

You will see a Dennys – You will see a Dennys, a large restaurant with a bright yellow sign

You will see a grey building – You will see a grey building on the opposite side of the road/ You will see a four-storey grey building with black glass doors

We are in the glass building – We are in the glass building on your left/ We are in the glass building with a ... sculpture in the lobby

You will see the NEC building – You will see a big brown building with NEC written on it

Come out of the station and cross Oxford Street – Come out of the station and cross Oxford Street (the busy street that you will be standing on as you come out of the exit)