

THE LANGUAGE FUNCTION USED IN GIVING DIRECTIONS

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A. Introduction

One of the agenda in Campus Grand Tour Program for the students of SMPN 5 is practicing English dealing with the language function used in giving direction. As the students explore the campus, they will use English to label the maps provided and to mention some important sites. Thus, the material related to this language function needs to be given first.

B. The Material Related to the Language Function in Giving Direction

1. Dialogue

Larry : Uh, excuse me. I'm trying to find the post office. Can you help?

Woman : The post office? Let's see now. Oh, yes. You go straight down this street to the corner. Turn left and go one block until you come to the tennis court. Go straight ahead and turn right. It's on the right side of the street just past the grocery store. You can't miss it.

Larry : I see. Straight to the corner. Left and then right.

Woman : That's it.

Larry : Thanks a lot.

Woman : You're very welcome.

2. Simple Commands

(a) Walk two blocks west

(b) Turn right.

(c) Drive south for two kilometers, then follow the signs to Mount Merapi.

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- (d) Stop at the third house.
- (e) Look for a store that sells bicycles.
- We might add “you”: You walk two blocks west, and then you turn right.

3. Examples

- (a) The pet store is beside/next to the shop.
- (b) The movie theater is between the post office and the coffee shop.
- (c) The coffee shop is across from/across the street from the cleaners.
- (d) A parking lot is adjacent to the bank.

4. Asking directions: responding negatively

Excuse me.	Which way is to	the post office?
Pardon me.	How do I get to	

The post office? Sorry,	I'm not sure where it is.
	I don't know

➤ Well, thanks anyway.

5. Asking more politely: responding negatively

Excuse me	do you know	how to get to the post office?
	could you tell me	where the post office is?

Sorry,	I'm not sure where it is.
	I don't know.

➤ Well, thanks anyway.

6. Asking more politely: responding positively

➤ Excuse me. Could you tell me where the post office is?

Uh, let me	see now	It's down this street about two blocks.
	think (for a moment)	

➤ Thanks a lot.

➤ You're (very) welcome.

7. Some expressions commonly used

- (a) a) on street b) near not far from c) opposite
- (b) d) on the corner ofand street
- (c) e) at the end/beginning of the (next) block
- (d) f) (just) before
- (e) g) betweenand Streets
- (f) h) around the corner to the right/left
- (g) in the middle of the (next) block
- (h) just past
- (i) go/ walk/ drive
- (j) head for
- (k) First (second, third, etc)
- (l) Next/ Then
- (m) After that
- (n) Afterward
- (o) Finally

8. Giving simple directions.

(You) go (straight)	Down	this street.
	Up	

(You) go (straight)	Down	this street.		
	Up			
It's	the second right.			
	on the	left	next to	the drugstore.
		Right		
	Just	Past		
		Before		
	Opposite			

9. Giving longer directions

Go (straight) down	this street	to the end of the block.
	Jefferson St.	Two blocks to McKinley.

- (You) go down this street (for two blocks) until you come to the high school.
Make a left and go two blocks (more). Cross the street, and it's at the end of the block just past

10. Confirming and correcting

- I see. Straight to the corner.

Left until I come to the end of the block and then right as far as the police station.

- ❖ That's right.
- ❖ That's it.
- ❖ That's correct.
- ❖ You've got it.

11. Practice 1

Follow the direction and mention what rooms or places you find.

1. Come out of this room (C13.301A) and turn right. Walk along the corridor till you find the stairs and go down to the first floor of this building. Then turn left and stop there. What room do you see in your left side?

2. Go down the stairs and come out of this building and turn left. Take the right turn and come out of the lobby. Walk ahead around 30 m. What building do you see?

3. Come out of this room and turn right. Find the stairs and go down to the second floor of this building. Take the left turn. Walk along the corridor. Find the second room in the left side. Which room do you see?

4. Come out of this room and turn right. Find the stairs and go down to the second floor of this building. Take the left turn. Walk along the corridor. Find the third room in the left side. Which room do you see?

5. Find the stairs and go down. What building do you find behind this building?
6. Come out of your this room and turn left. Go down the stairs to the first floor and come out of the lobby. Take the right turn, till the end of the building. The building you are looking for is in front of you. What building is that?
7. Come out of this room and turn left. Go down the stairs to the first floor and come out of the lobby. Walk across the parking lot and turn right. Walk straight ahead. What facility do you see on the corner of that building?
8. Come out of this room and turn right. Go down the stairs to the first floor and come out of the lobby. Walk across the parking lot and walk straight ahead. What facility do you see behind the building in front of you?

12. Practice II

Tell the location of these places.

1. Pendopo Tejokusumo is.....the parking lot.
2. The parking lot isthe C.15 building.
3. The post office isthe bank.
4. The UNY Library is.....the Rectorate Hall
5. The IKA Health Center is.....
6. The Rector's office is.....
7. The FBS Dean's office is.....
8. The Sanaco Lab is.....
9. The Tennis court is.....
10. The basketball court is

