

Write On!
How Do I Get There?



Writing Warm Up

Spend at least five minutes writing about the topic below. Do not worry about spelling or grammar.



If you could visit anywhere in the world, where would you go and why?

Write On! How Do I Get There?

Writing Directions

If you visit a different state or country, you might need directions to get around. Have you ever gotten directions from someone? *Turn left in a mile, go past the church and turn right, then make another right and then a left...* It can feel like you're going in circles, especially if you don't know the area.

Have you ever looked at a building map, such as one you would see at a shopping mall? Those can be very confusing, too. Many times a health clinic or hospital may have maps. It can be very hard to find your doctor's office. What would happen if you had an emergency? Could you find an Emergency Room on a city map?

In this lesson, you will learn how to give and get directions. If you can GIVE good directions, you can GET good directions. You will learn to tell someone to *go left, turn right* or *walk past the bank*. Likewise, when you get directions, you will learn to ask, "Do I turn left?" "Do I go past the bank?" You will ask questions to get clear directions and to make sure you understand.

Brainstorming: Coming Up with Ideas

There are some things you can do to make getting directions easier. Following is a list of suggestions. Can you think of anything else to add to the list?

- Write directions down when you can. This is the best thing to do. Whether you are giving or getting directions, you should write them down.
- Use **landmarks** (permanent fixtures) to keep you on track. It is helpful to use a building, statue, or village park to guide your way.
- Use words that show direction like *left, right, north, or south*.
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

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Did you add anything to the list? Did you write down that you could record them on your cell phone? Did you write down that you could get directions from the Internet? Have you used MapQuest or Google Maps to get directions? Did you mention that you could stop at a gas station and buy a map? What about asking a friend or a stranger? These are all good ideas that you could add to your list.



Check it Out!

Reasoning and Logic in the **Reading on the Move** lesson series can help you with writing directions.

Find it on the Internet at

www.migrant.net/migrant/publications/index.htm

Street Maps

Some maps are easy to read and some are difficult to understand. We will look at both in this exercise. It helps to get or give directions if you are familiar with the area. Sometimes you don't need to look at a map to get or give directions. Give it a try.

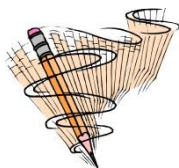


Your Turn

Write down the directions from your house to the nearest grocery store. Remember to use landmarks and **directional words** like *right* and *left*.

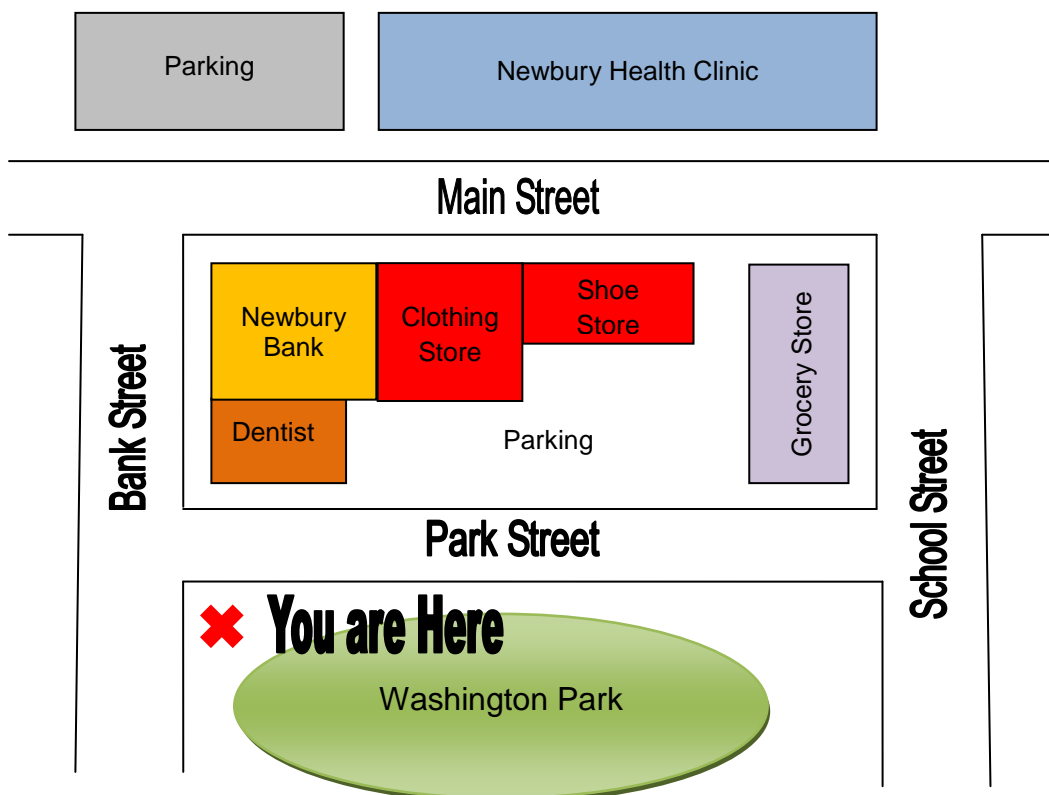
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How did you do? Let's find out. Give your directions to your teacher or a classmate. Ask that person to draw a map based on your directions. Does the map look like how you get to the store?



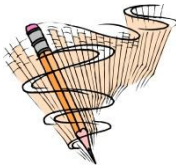
Your Turn

Look at the street map below. This is a simple map and easy to understand. Write directions that start at Washington Park and take the reader to Newbury Health Clinic. Exit the park on Park Street and give your directions from there. Remember to use direction words. Also, use landmarks. Landmarks are fixed markers such as a building, a tree, or a stop sign. Landmarks can help someone understand the directions better. When you write your directions for this exercise, use landmarks to help guide your reader from one spot to the next.



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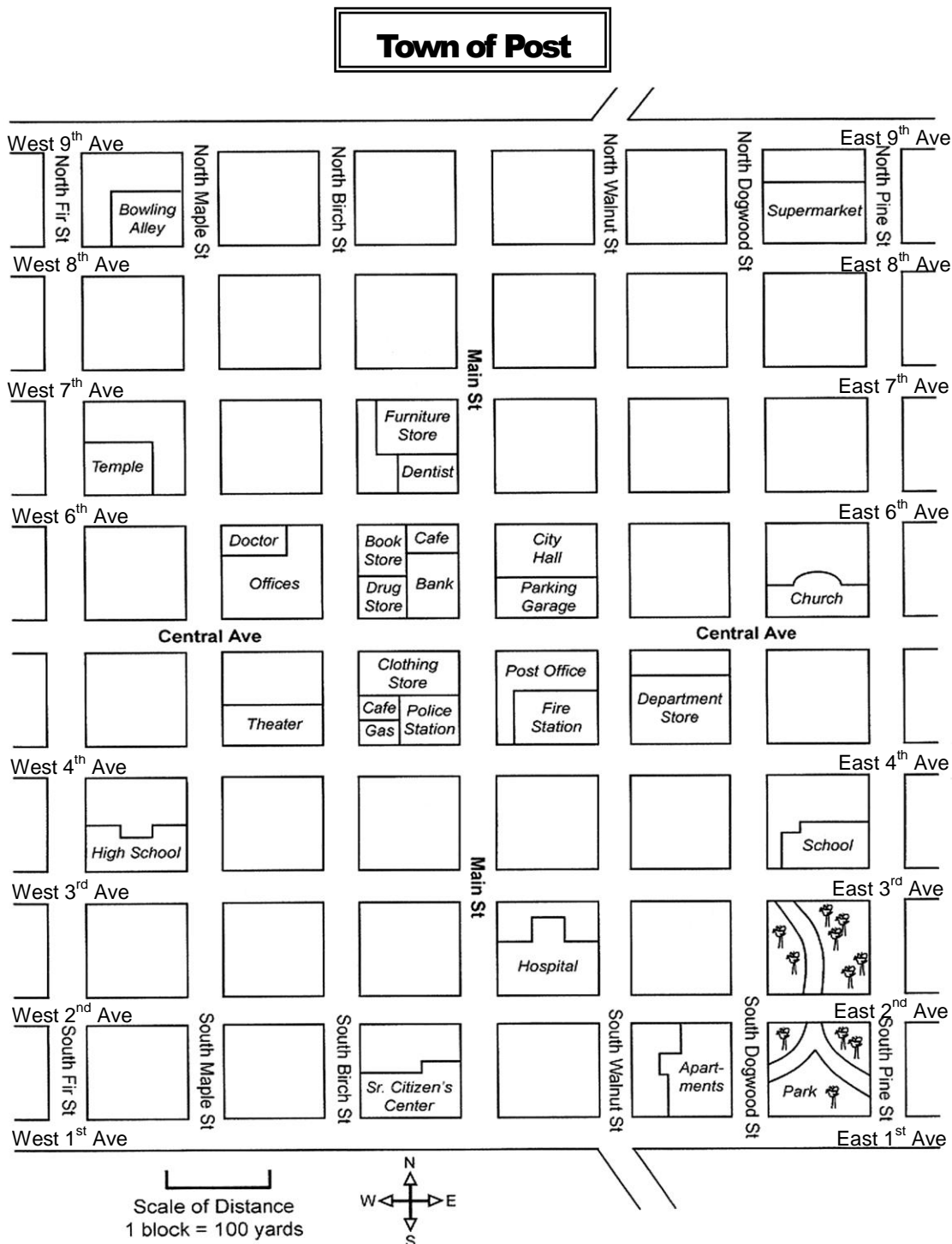
Write your directions here.



Now, just for fun, start at any point on the map and give directions to another location on the map.

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This is the map for the town of Post. It is more complicated than the last map. Can you find the bowling alley in the top left corner? Give your reader directions to go from there to the apartments on South Dogwood Street. Use the skills you've learned in this lesson.



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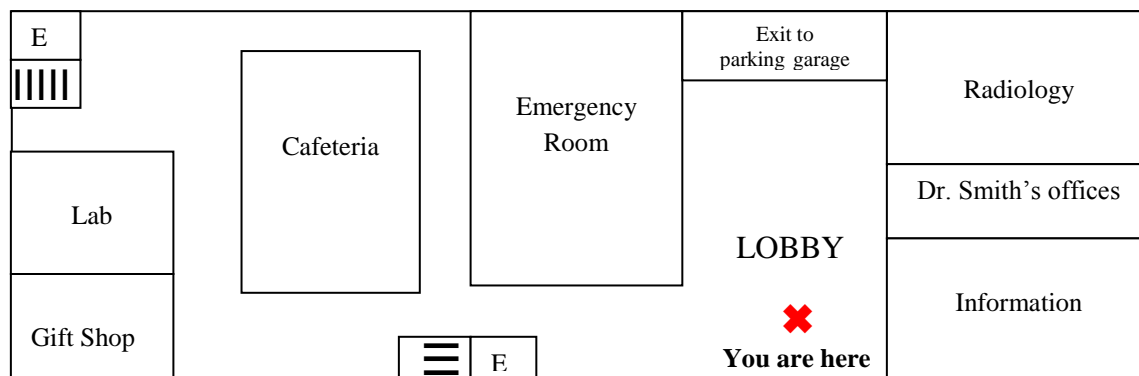
Write your directions here. In these directions, try to give an estimate on how far the distance is between turns and locations.

Remember:
Think about the easiest way to get there.

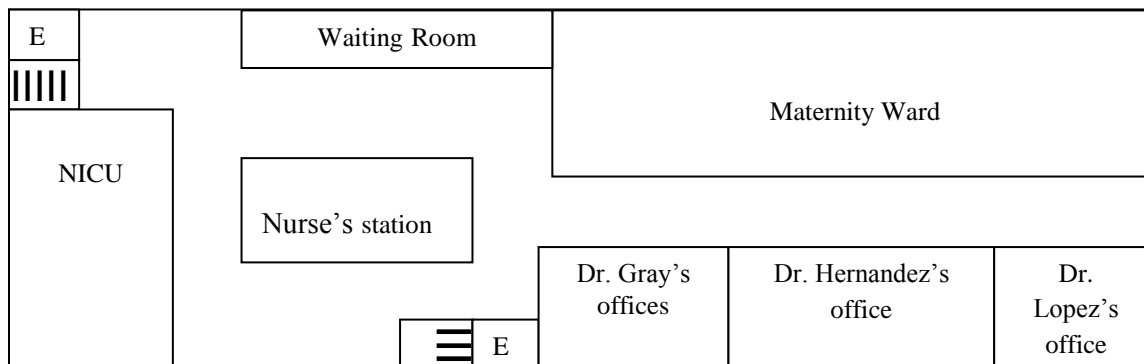
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Building Maps

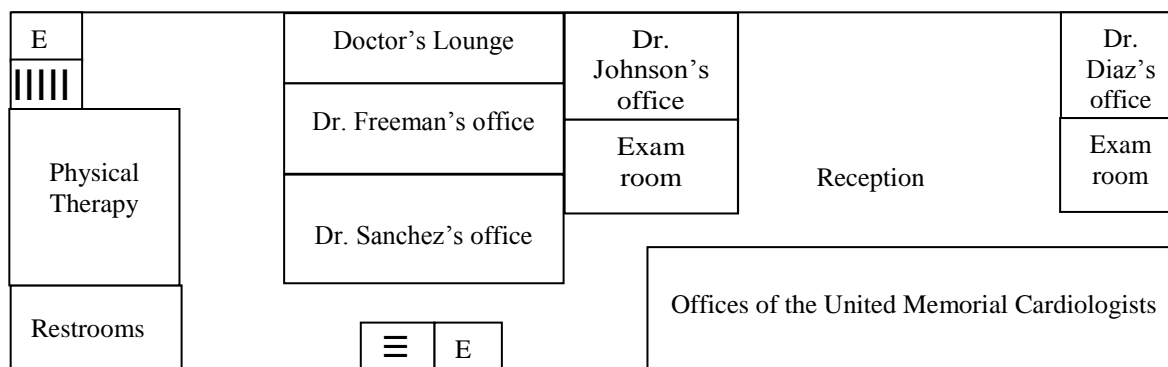
One of the hardest things to do is follow directions in a building. Maps in buildings with many levels will show all the floors. It can be confusing. Look at the hospital map below. It is helpful to know that this symbol, **||||**, means there are stairs there. The **E** shows where there is an elevator. Let's look at an example.



First Floor (Main Street)

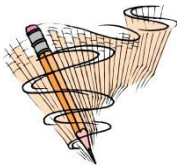


Second Floor



Third Floor

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Finishing Up

Pretend that you must visit Dr. Diaz on the third floor. Find the ✖ on the map. Write the directions from that mark up to your doctor’s office.

If you do not stop on a certain floor, you can skip over it. For example, you can say, *Take the elevator from the first floor to the third floor.*

Remember:
Building maps are like street maps. Use landmarks and directional language to help guide you.

Now pretend that the elevators (E) and stairs (III) closest to the ✖ are closed for repairs. You must use the elevators and stairs in the back of the building. Write the directions from the ✖ to Dr. Diaz’s office now.

You’ve done a great job!

Use these skills every time you need to give or get directions.

Direction-writing Checklist

- I used landmarks to give directions.
- I used indicators such as *left*, *right*, *north*, or *south*.
- I wrote the directions down so that I could remember them.

Writing Traits Scored in this Lesson

	Great Job 5 points	Almost There 3 points	Keep Working 1 point
Ideas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The message is clear. • It is interesting to read. • There is enough information. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The message is clear. • Some parts are interesting to read. • More information is needed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The message is not clear. • There is no solid information.
Organization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a strong beginning. • Points are in order. • The message is clear. • There is a strong conclusion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a beginning. • There is a middle, but it runs together. • There is no conclusion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no beginning, middle, or end. • The message is not clear.

Words to Know

landmark: a stationary marker such as a building, a tree, a fountain, a statue, or a stop sign

directional words: words that indicate a direction such as *right*, *left*, *east*, or *west*

