

Asking for and Giving Directions

There are times when you need to find a **certain** place and ask an English speaker for help. You **probably** get a short and quick sentence and you need to understand the **directions** you were given. If you are unsure of what was said, ask him or her to speak slowly or **repeat** the **directions** for you. Most people always do their best to help out others.

A good way to start the **conversation** is by saying **excuse me** or hello sir / madam. **For example:** "Excuse me madam. Do you know where nearest super market is from here?" Or, "Excuse me sir. I **seemed** to be lost I am trying to get to the **local mall**?"

What happens when an English speaker asks you for **directions**? Here are some helpful tips. First, use basic English when giving the **directions**. Do the best you can and give only **basic directions** with short **phrases**. Second, speak slowly and use very careful **pronunciation**. **Spell out** a word if **necessary**. Also, you can tell the person what to **watch** for. **For example**, you will see a large clock on the right. Or, you will **pass** a gas station.