

English in everyday situations

Module 6: Around town

6 Exercises · Duration: 20 min.

Around town

English

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left, right, straight on

Form	Example	Meaning
left	Turn left at the corner.	Give a direction to the left.
on	Go straight on.	Tell someone to continue straight ahead.
to	Go to the station.	Name a destination.
at	Turn right at the second street.	Name the point where to turn.
home	I'm going home.	Use the home destination phrase without to.
from	The station is far from here.	Say the station is a long distance away.

Give directions with short commands: **Turn left, Go straight on, Turn right at the second street. At** identifies a point where something happens: **at the corner.**

For movement to an ordinary destination use **to: go to the station, walk to the post office.** Important everyday exceptions are **go home** and **come here**, without **to.**

Use **first, then** and **after that** to make the route easy to follow.
Near and **far from** describe distance: **near the station, far from here.**

by train, on foot, a bottle of milk

Form	Example	Meaning
by	I'm travelling by train.	Give the method of travel.
on	I'm going on foot.	Say you are walking.
on	I'm on the bus now.	Say you are aboard a particular bus.
in	I'm in the car now.	Say you are inside a particular car.
bottles	Two bottles of milk, please.	Ask for two containers of milk.
of	Half a kilo of cheese, please.	Name the substance in a measured amount.

For a method of travel use **by** plus the transport word without an article: **by train, by bus, by car, by bike.** Walking is the fixed phrase **on foot.**

For a particular vehicle, use a normal noun phrase: **on the bus, on the train, in the car.** Method and physical position are different patterns.

Review quantities when shopping: **a bottle of milk, half a kilo of cheese.** A number changes the container word: **two bottles of milk.**

when, what time, which

Form	Example	Meaning
does	What time does the train leave?	Ask a precise departure time.
leave	When does the train leave?	Ask about departure.
Which	Which platform is it?	Ask for a platform from the numbered choices.
does	Where does this train go?	Ask the train's destination.
tickets	Two return tickets, please.	Ask for two tickets covering both directions.
single	A single ticket, please.	Ask for a one-way ticket.

Ask **What time does the train leave?** for a precise clock time and **When does it leave?** for a more general departure time. After **does**, keep base **leave**.

Use **which** for a choice from a known set: **Which platform?**, **Which train?** Use **where** for a destination or location: **Where does this train go?**.

Ticket requests use a countable noun: **a single ticket**, **two return tickets**. British **return ticket** means an outward and return journey; **single** means one way.

can, can't, can you help?

Form	Example	Meaning
swim	I can swim.	Say you have the ability to swim.
can	She can sing.	Say a woman has the ability to sing.
Can	Can you help me?	Ask for help.
can't	I can't come today.	Say you are unable to come today.
help	Could you help me, please?	Use the polite request chunk.
know	I know Jack.	Say Jack is a person you know.

Can has the same form with every subject: **I can swim, she can swim.** The following verb is the base form without **to**. Negate with **can't** or the fuller **cannot**.

For a question put **can** before the subject: **Can you help me?** It can ask about ability or make a request. A polite alternative is the useful chunk **Could you help me, please?**

English does not need a separate verb for learned skills: **I can swim** can mean I know how to swim. **I know Jack** identifies familiarity with a person, not an ability.

between, opposite, behind

Form	Example	Meaning
between	The post office is between the bank and the chemist's.	Locate it in the space separating the two places.
opposite	The school is opposite the bank.	Say the school is across from the bank.
behind	Milo is behind the computer.	Say Milo is at the back of the computer.
under	The key is under the table.	Say the key is below the table.

Form	Example	Meaning
of	Anne is in front of the house.	Complete the place preposition.
upstairs	Jack is upstairs.	Say Jack is on a higher floor.

Common place prepositions include **in, on, under, behind, in front of, next to, opposite** and **between**. The following noun keeps its ordinary English form.

Between often links two places: **between the bank and the chemist's**. **Opposite the school** means across from it. British **chemist's** is an everyday word for a pharmacy.

Keep articles in a particular place phrase: **behind the computer, on the bench**. Direction words such as **upstairs** and **outside** can stand on their own.

GRAMMAR

G1) NOTICE THE PATTERNS

Underline the form described in this unit.

- 1 Turn left at the corner.

Meaning: Give a direction to the left.

2 I'm travelling by train.

Meaning: Give the method of travel.

3 What time does the train leave?

Meaning: Ask a precise departure time.

4 I can swim.

Meaning: Say you have the ability to swim.

5 The post office is between the bank and the chemist's.

Meaning: Locate it in the space separating the two places.

6 Lukas is my neighbour. He's from Hamburg.

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

7 Lena is my neighbour. She's from Hamburg.

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

8 Lukas is here. He lives in Millbrook.

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

9 Lena is here. She lives in Millbrook.

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

10 Go to the station.

Meaning: Name a destination.

11 I'm on the bus now.

Meaning: Say you are aboard a particular bus.

12 Which platform is it?

Meaning: Ask for a platform from the numbered choices.

G2) CHOOSE THE FORM

Choose the right word for the gap.

1 Turn _____ at the corner.

- ☐ (A) leaving
- ☐ (B) left
- ☐ (C) lefts

Meaning: Give a direction to the left.

2 I'm travelling _____ train.

- ☐ (A) with
- ☐ (B) by
- ☐ (C) on

Meaning: Give the method of travel.

3 What time _____ the train leave?

- ☐ (A) do
- ☐ (B) does
- ☐ (C) is

Meaning: Ask a precise departure time.

4 I can _____.

- ☐ A to swim
- ☐ B swim
- ☐ C swims

Meaning: Say you have the ability to swim.

5 The post office is _____ the bank and the chemist's.

- ☐ A inside
- ☐ B between
- ☐ C under

Meaning: Locate it in the space separating the two places.

6 Lukas: Lukas _____ my neighbour. He's from Hamburg.

- ☐ A are
- ☐ B is
- ☐ C am

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

7 **Lena: Lena _____ my neighbour. She's from Hamburg.**

- ☐ A am
- ☐ B is
- ☐ C are

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

8 **Lukas: Lukas is here. _____ lives in Millbrook.**

- ☐ A They
- ☐ B He
- ☐ C We

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

9 **Lena: Lena is here. _____ lives in Millbrook.**

- ☐ A We
- ☐ B She
- ☐ C They

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

10 Go _____ the station.

- ☐ A in
- ☐ B at
- ☐ C to

Meaning: Name a destination.

11 I'm _____ the bus now.

- ☐ A by
- ☐ B on
- ☐ C of

Meaning: Say you are aboard a particular bus.

12 _____ platform is it?

- ☐ A Who
- ☐ B Which
- ☐ C How much

Meaning: Ask for a platform from the numbered choices.

G3) COMPLETE A SHORT MESSAGE

Fill the gaps with the words from the box.

leaving left

Turn _____ at the corner.

Meaning: Give a direction to the left.

on by

I'm travelling _____ train.

Meaning: Give the method of travel.

do does

What time _____ the train leave?

Meaning: Ask a precise departure time.

to swim swim

I can _____.

Meaning: Say you have the ability to swim.

under between

The post office is _____ the bank and the chemist's.

Meaning: Locate it in the space separating the two places.

are is

Lukas: Lukas _____ my neighbour. He's from Hamburg.

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

are is

Lena: Lena _____ my neighbour. She's from Hamburg.

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

They He

Lukas: Lukas is here. _____ lives in Millbrook.

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

They She

Lena: Lena is here. _____ lives in Millbrook.

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

at to

Go _____ the station.

Meaning: Name a destination.

by on

I'm _____ the bus now.

Meaning: Say you are aboard a particular bus.

Who Which

_____ platform is it?

Meaning: Ask for a platform from the numbered choices.

G4) BUILD USEFUL SENTENCES

Put the words in order.

- 1 at the left Turn corner.
-

Meaning: Give a direction to the left.

- 2 train. by I'm travelling
-

Meaning: Give the method of travel.

- 3 the What leave? does train time
-

Meaning: Ask a precise departure time.

- 4 can I swim.
-

Meaning: Say you have the ability to swim.

- 5 The the bank between office post the is
and chemist's.
-

Meaning: Locate it in the space separating the two places.

- 6 is neighbour. Lukas my He's Hamburg. from
-

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

- 7 my neighbour. from is Lena Hamburg. She's
-

Meaning: Refer to the learner as your neighbour.

- 8 Lukas in is lives here. He Millbrook.
-

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

9 lives Millbrook. in She here. is Lena

Meaning: Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun.

10 station. the Go to

Meaning: Name a destination.

11 now. the I'm bus on

Meaning: Say you are aboard a particular bus.

12 Which platform is it?

Meaning: Ask for a platform from the numbered choices.

G5) WHAT WOULD YOU SAY?

Choose the right words for the situation.

1 Give a direction to the left. You say:

- ☐ A Turn left at the corner.
- ☐ B Turn leaving at the corner.

2 Give the method of travel. You say:

- ☐ A I'm travelling on train.
- ☐ B I'm travelling by train.

3 Ask a precise departure time. You say:

- ☐ A What time does the train leave?
- ☐ B What time do the train leave?

4 Say you have the ability to swim. You say:

- ☐ A I can swim.
- ☐ B I can to swim.

G6) CONNECT MESSAGES AND MEANINGS

Match the pairs.

- | | |
|--|---|
| ① Lena is my neighbour. She's from Hamburg. | ① A Name a destination. |
| ② Lena is here. She lives in Millbrook. | ② B Locate it in the space separating the two places. |
| ③ Turn left at the corner. | ③ C Ask a precise departure time. |
| ④ I can swim. | ④ D Give a direction to the left. |
| ⑤ The post office is between the bank and the chemist's. | ⑤ E Give the method of travel. |
| ⑥ What time does the train leave? | ⑥ F Say you have the ability to swim. |
| ⑦ I'm travelling by train. | ⑦ G Refer back to Lukas or Lena with the appropriate pronoun. |

- ⑧ Go to the station.
- ⑨ Refer to the learner as your neighbour.