

Perdón, ¿el parque, por favor?

Understanding directions given in the street can be challenging in any language, so it pays to give learners plenty of practice in asking the way to places of interest and key landmarks – and in listening to the answers. The activity outlined here introduces familiar landmarks, common to many Spanish towns, and practises asking the way to those places and understanding very simple directions.

Getting ready

Display page 2 to present and practise the names of the Spanish landmarks. Then, when you feel your learners are comfortable with the vocabulary, present the directions on page 3. After going through the first two rows, you could invite them to work out the Spanish for the third row.

For the activity, you'll need to blank out the words on pages 2 and 3, print the pages onto thin card and cut into sets of individual pictures. The activity is easier to handle if you use different coloured card for the landmarks and the directions.

Getting them talking

Learners can practise in pairs or small groups. Give each group a set of the directions and landmark cards, face down in two piles. One player picks up a landmark and asks the other(s), e.g.

Perdón, ¿la oficina de turismo por favor?

Another person picks up a directions card and replies accordingly, e.g.

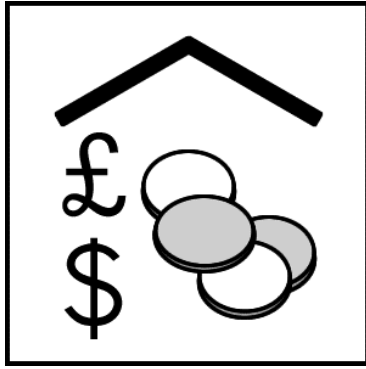
La segunda a la izquierda

Since directions rarely come singly, remind them after a while of ***Todo recto y al final de la calle*** in Kevin's Spanish Steps dialogue, and ask them to start picking two directions cards at a time, e.g.

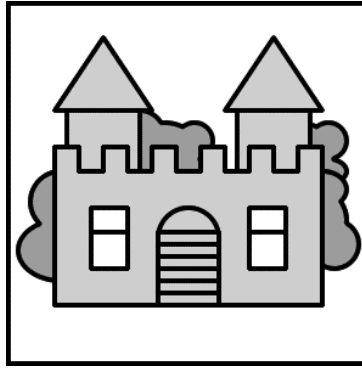
Todo recto y la tercera a la izquierda

Encourage them to use ***¿Puede repetir?*** if they need more time to understand.

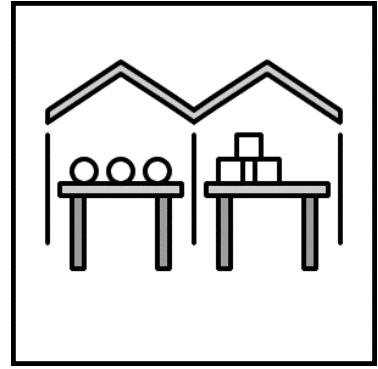
The combination of landmarks and directions is infinitely variable, so the groups can have plenty of practice, building confidence.



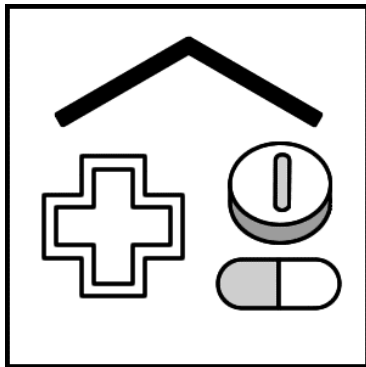
el banco



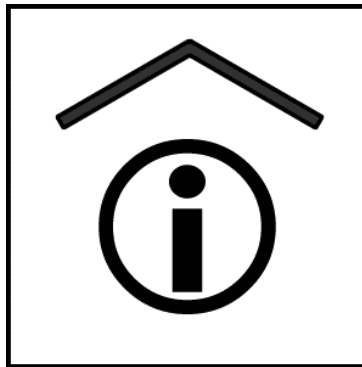
el palacio



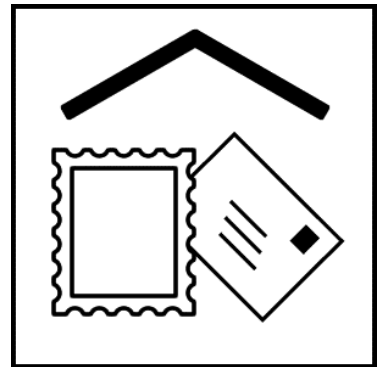
el mercado



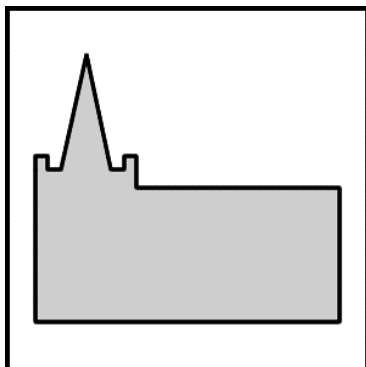
la farmacia



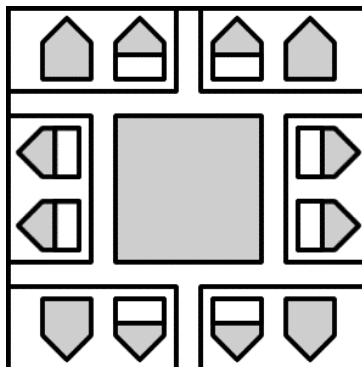
la oficina de turismo



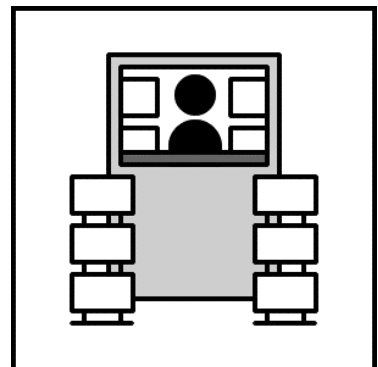
la oficina de correos



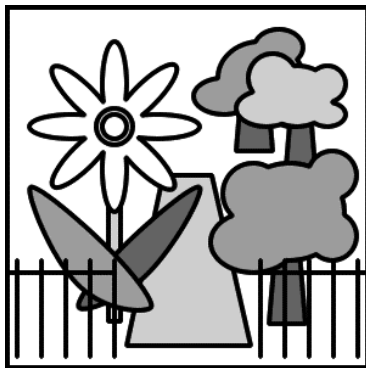
la iglesia



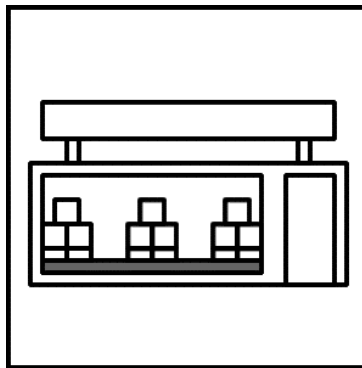
la plaza



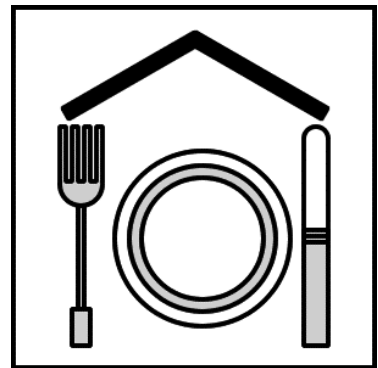
el quiosco



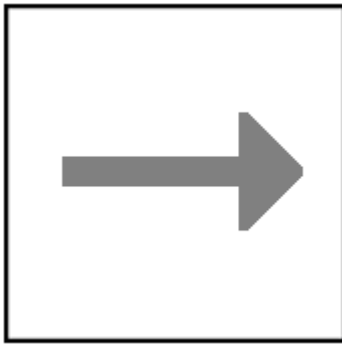
el parque



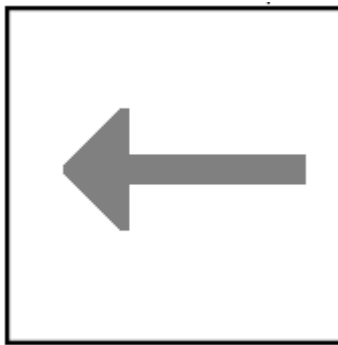
el supermercado



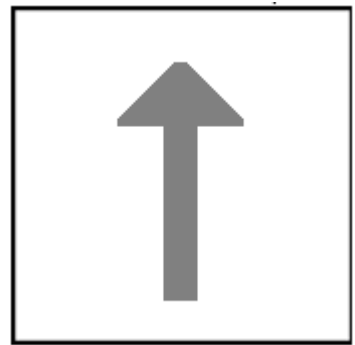
el restaurante



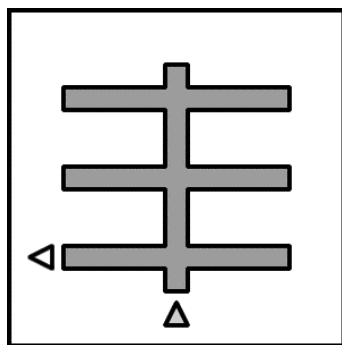
a la derecha



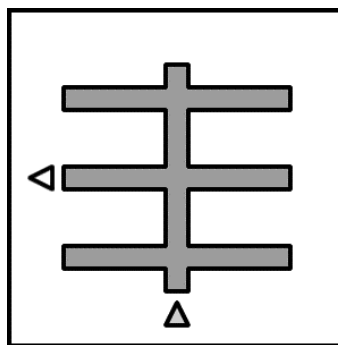
a la izquierda



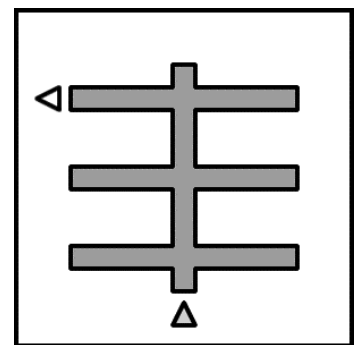
todo recto



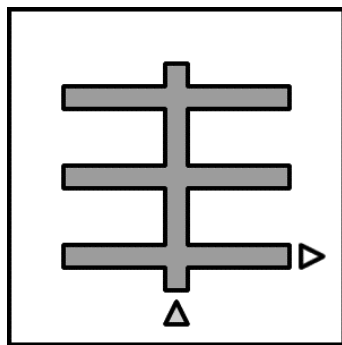
la primera a la izquierda



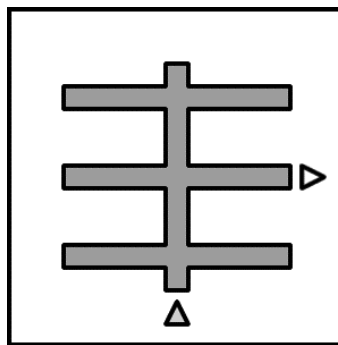
la segunda a la izquierda



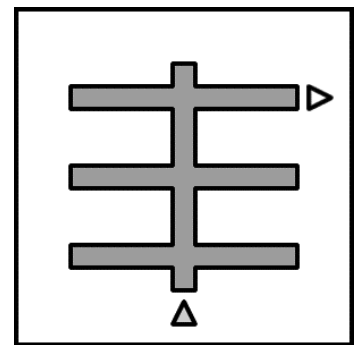
la tercera a la izquierda



la primera a la derecha



la segunda a la derecha



la tercera a la derecha