

This activity, which makes use of both speaking and listening skills, has been designed to give students extended practice in describing locations on a map.

The map shown here has twenty-five unmarked small squares. As these represent houses, up to twenty-five students can take part. Each student 'lives' in a different house on the map. To assign these houses, all the instructor has to do is to mark, preferably with coloured ink, a different house on each map. The maps can then be distributed to the students.

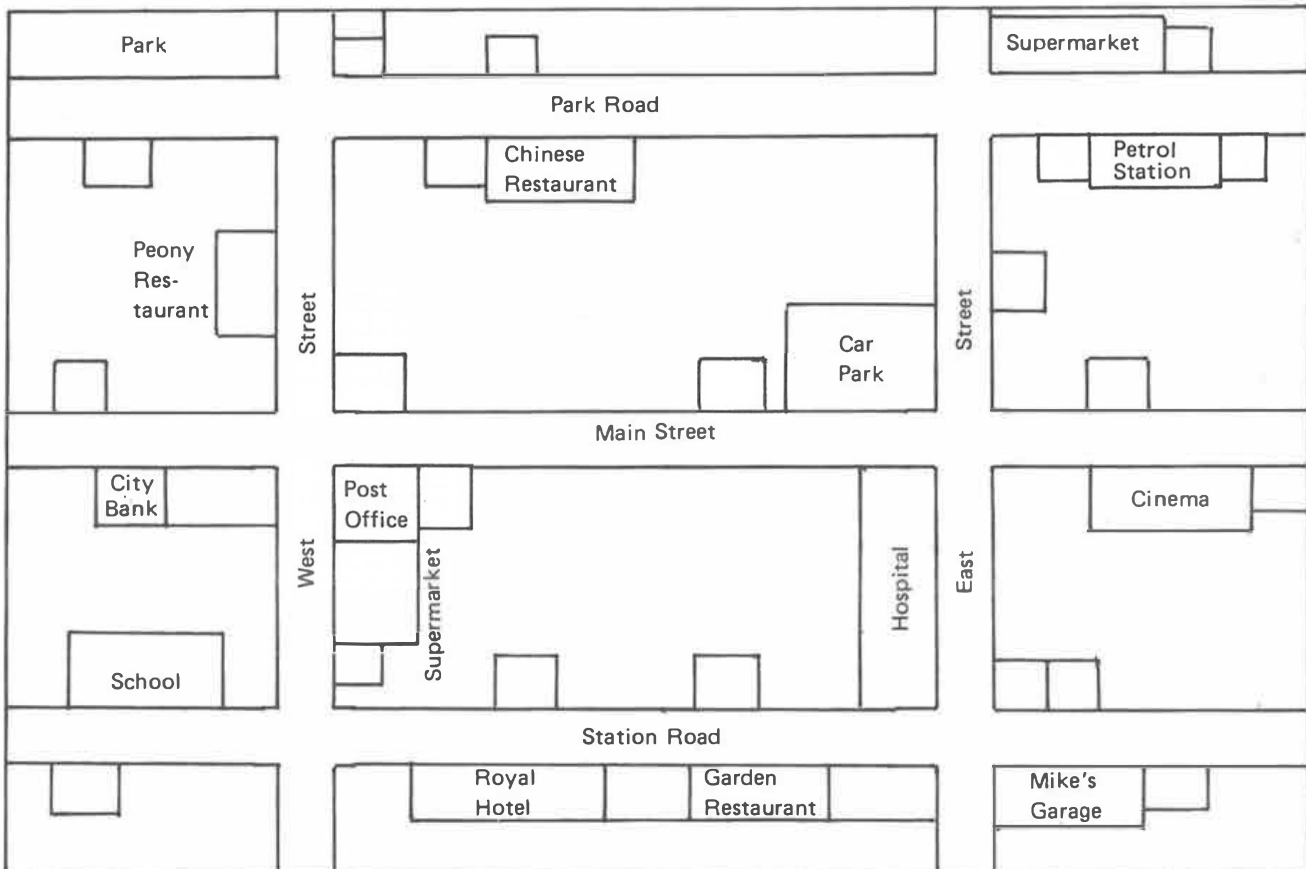
The student's task is to describe sufficiently clearly and precisely where he or she 'lives', without of course showing his or her map to other students. He or she should also mark on the map where the other students live, collecting this information by talking to as many other students as possible.

The next stage of the activity is for students to form groups of four or five and discuss the questions below the map, writing down their answers. To make sure that students work on these questions as a group, discussing their answers, it is useful to distribute just one copy of the question sheet to each group, and appoint one member of the group to be secretary.

The final stage can be a question and answer session with the instructor finding out where individual students live, and checking the answers to the questions.

The map can, of course, easily be adapted to suit the size of the class, the level of difficulty required, and the class's cultural and social interests.

Where's your house?



Find out where the other students in the class live. Do this without showing your maps. Write their names beside their houses. You will have ten minutes to find out as many names as possible. Then, return to your group and discuss the answers to the questions below.

In groups, discuss the answers to the following questions:

1. Who, in your group, lives nearest the park?
2. Who, in the whole class, lives nearest the park?
3. How many students in the class live on Park Road? Who are they?
4. Which students live in corner houses?
5. Who lives near the school?
6. Which is the most convenient restaurant for your group to meet for a meal together?
7. Your group is going to see a movie together. Who will have to leave home first?
8. The police are investigating a robbery at the City Bank. Who might be able to help them?
9. Everybody in your group shops at the supermarket nearest to his/her own house. Which members of the group use the same supermarket?
10. Finally, tell each member of your group how to get to your house from where he/she lives.