

(11) UNUSUAL CITIES

ACTIVITY 1: Read the texts (A - C) and match them with the photos (1 - 4). One of the texts matches two photos.



A Green city

Curitiba is a medium-sized city in the south of Brazil, the largest country in South America. Why is it unusual? Because many South American cities are very polluted. But Curitiba is the opposite: it is one of the cleanest and "greenest" cities in the world. In most cities, cars cause a lot of pollution. But in Curitiba, only a quarter of the 1.7 million inhabitants use a car – the others use public transport. That is because the bus system is probably the best in the world. It is called the BRT (Bus Rapid Transport) and it carries two million passengers a day. Tickets are cheap and journeys are fast. And nobody in the city lives further than 400 metres from a bus stop. There are lots of parks in the city: in fact, there are 50 square metres of green space per person!

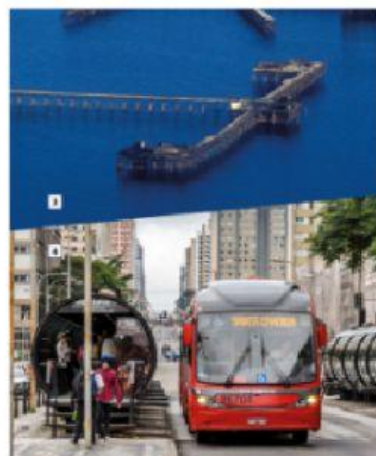


PHOTO 1

TEXT A

PHOTO 2

TEXT B

PHOTO 3

TEXT C

PHOTO 4

B Artificial city

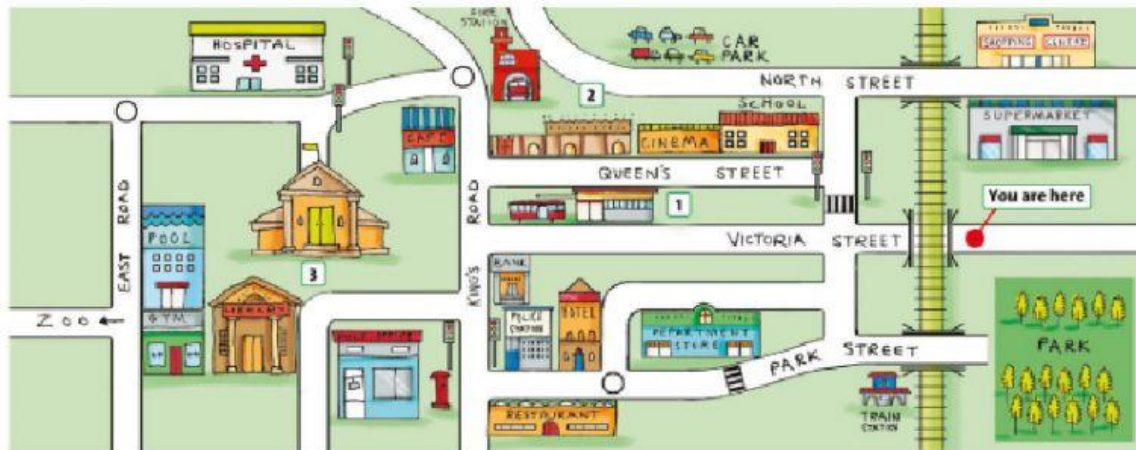
Neft Dashiari is a man-made city in the Caspian Sea. It is about 65 kilometres from the east coast of Azerbaijan, in Asia, and it has a population of about 2,000. The most unusual thing about the city is its location – it is in the sea, but not on an island. The ground below the city is completely artificial. Neft Dashiari is about 70 years old and it exists for one reason: oil. The city is in very bad condition. For example, it has 300 kilometres of roads, but only 45 kilometres are safe to use. The bridges are falling into the sea and some of the apartments are under water. But people still live and work there. It is probably one of the worst cities in the world for its inhabitants, but salaries are much higher than in other places.

C Recycling city

Cairo, in the north of Egypt, is one of the biggest cities in Africa. It is the capital and has a population of nearly eight million. Like any city, it creates tonnes of rubbish every day. But amazingly, the city does not employ anybody to collect rubbish. Instead, a group of people called the Zabbaleen collect it. The inhabitants of Cairo pay them a small amount of money for doing this. The Zabbaleen take the rubbish back to their town on the edge of Cairo. It is called Manshiyat Naser and has a population of about 60,000. There, the women and children sort the rubbish by hand. It seems a very slow system, but in fact it works very well. They recycle nearly 90% of the rubbish, which is far better than recycling centres in most western countries. Manshiyat Naser certainly is not one of the most attractive places in Egypt. But thanks to a 2009 film about it, *Garbage Dreams*, it is quite famous – and quite popular with tourists!

ACTIVITY 2: Find these things on the map.

bridge crossroads roundabout traffic lights

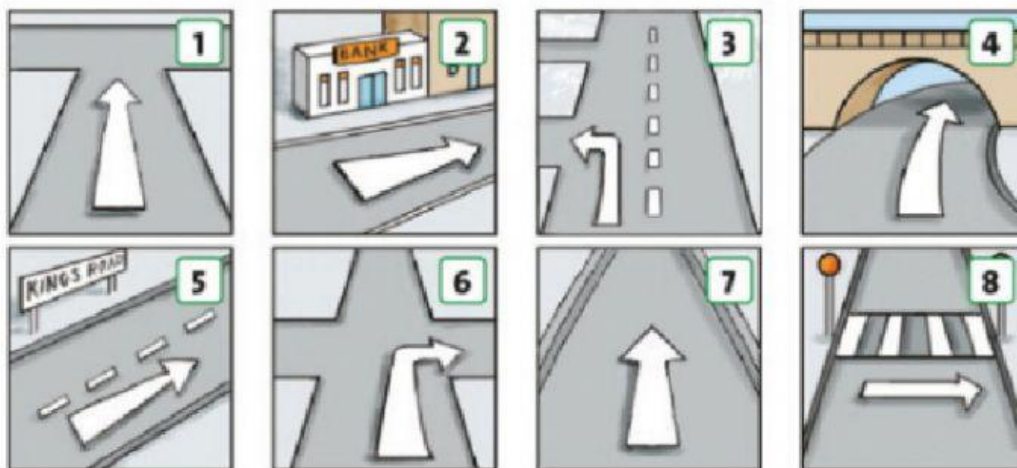


ACTIVITY 3: Match the phrases for giving directions with the diagrams.

Giving directions	Location
Go straight on. Go along King's road. Take the first left. Go to the end of the road. Go past the bank. Turn right at the crossroads. Cross the road. Go under / over the bridge.	The ... is next to the ... It's between the ... and the ... It's opposite the ... It's on the corner. It's on your right / left.

3 AÑO

NAME



1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8

ACTIVITY 4: Read and listen to the dialogue. Follow the directions and find the museum on the map. [AUDIO](#)

THE MUSEUM IS 1

THE MUSEUM IS 2

THE MUSEUM IS 3

Girl Excuse me. Can you direct me to the museum, please?

Man Sure. Go along Victoria Street, under the bridge. Take the first right. Then turn left at the traffic lights. Go past the cinema and the museum is on the corner, opposite the café.

Girl Sorry, could you repeat that, please? Go along Victoria Street, under the bridge, ...

Man Yes. Take the first right and turn left at the traffic lights. Go past the cinema and it's opposite the café, on the corner.

Girl Thanks very much.

Man You're welcome.