CAPITOLO

4

Home and Town

Every home is a map, and every town is a story: you only need the right words to read them.

OBIETTIVI

1. I can name types of home, rooms, furniture and places in town.
2. I can describe a home or a town with *there is / there are* and *some / any*.
3. I can say where things are with prepositions of place, and how people move with prepositions of movement.
4. I can ask for and give directions, and give instructions with the imperative and *Let's*.
5. I can write a short description of my home or my town for a visitor.
6. I can talk about some famous places in London.

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Where do you live? It is one of the first questions people ask when they meet you, and the answer says a lot. A small flat in the centre of a city is a very different life from a farmhouse in the country or a terraced house in a quiet street. In this unit we go back to the weeks before Giulia's exchange in Bristol, when Sam sends her an email about his house and his neighbourhood. Then, on a school trip, Giulia needs to find her way across a small English town on her own.

To do all this in English you need a few key tools: words for homes, rooms, furniture and places; the structure *there is / there are* to say what exists in a place; small but powerful words like *in, on, opposite, across* and *past* to say where things are and where you go; and the imperative to give directions and instructions. At the end of the unit we visit London, a city of nine million people on the River Thames.

4.1 Vocabulary: homes, rooms and places in town

4.1.1 Types of home

In Italy many families live in a *condominio*. In Britain, most people live in houses, not flats, and there are special words for the different kinds of house. Look at Figure 4.1.

- A **detached house** stands alone: it is not joined to any other house. It usually has a garden all around it.
- A **semi-detached house** (informal: *a semi*) is one of a pair of houses joined together by one shared wall.
- A **terraced house** is one of a row of houses joined together, all in a line. There are millions of terraced houses in British towns and cities, and many of them are more than a hundred years old.
- A **bungalow** is a house with only one floor: there are no stairs.
- A **flat** (AmE *apartment*) is a set of rooms on one floor of a building. A tall building with many flats is a **block of flats** (AmE *apartment building*).

Other useful words: a *cottage* is a small, often old house in the country; a *farmhouse* is the house on a farm; your *neighbours* are the people who live next to you or near you, and your *neighbourhood* is the area around your home.

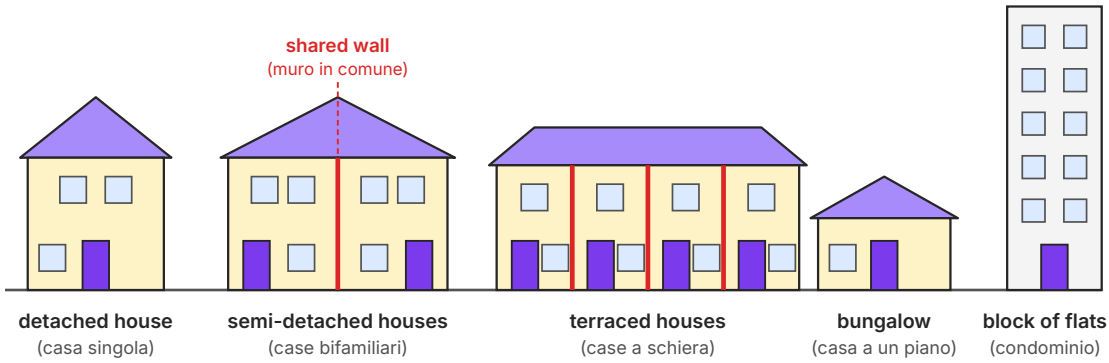


Figura 4.1 Types of home in Britain. A semi-detached house shares one wall with another house; each terraced house in the middle of a row shares two walls (shared walls in red).

4.1.2 Rooms and furniture

A typical British house has two floors. Downstairs, on the *ground floor*, there is usually a living room, a kitchen and sometimes a dining room. Upstairs, on the *first floor*, there are the bedrooms and the bathroom. Be careful: in American English the ground floor is the *first floor*, so the British first floor is the American *second floor*. At the top of some houses there is an *attic* (or *loft*), and under some houses there is a *cellar* (AmE *basement*).

Table 4.1 lists the rooms and the furniture and objects you usually find in them. Some words are tricky. A **cupboard** is a piece of furniture with doors and shelves, for plates, food or clothes; a **wardrobe** is a tall cupboard where you hang your clothes; a **chest of drawers** is a piece of furniture with drawers for clothes such as T-shirts and socks. In the kitchen you cook on a **cooker** (AmE *stove*), and you keep food cold in the *fridge*.

Tabella 4.1 Rooms, furniture and objects (AmE = American English)

Room	Furniture and objects
living room (also *sitting room, lounge*)	sofa, armchair, coffee table, TV, bookcase, shelves, lamp, rug, carpet, curtains, cushions
kitchen	cooker (AmE stove), oven, fridge, freezer, sink, cupboards, dishwasher, washing machine, table, chairs
bedroom	bed, pillow, wardrobe (AmE closet), chest of drawers, bedside table, desk, chair, mirror, poster
bathroom	bath (AmE bathtub), shower, washbasin (AmE sink), toilet, mirror, towel
hall	front door, stairs, coat hooks, doormat
other parts	dining room, study, garden (AmE yard), garage, attic / loft, cellar (AmE basement), balcony, roof, wall, floor, ceiling, window

Look at the plan of a flat in Figure 4.2. A plan shows a home *from above*, like a bird flying over it with no roof. Each room has a name, and each piece of furniture is drawn as a simple shape. We use this plan again in the grammar section and in the exercises, so look at it carefully: where is the sofa? Where is the fridge? What is next to the bed?

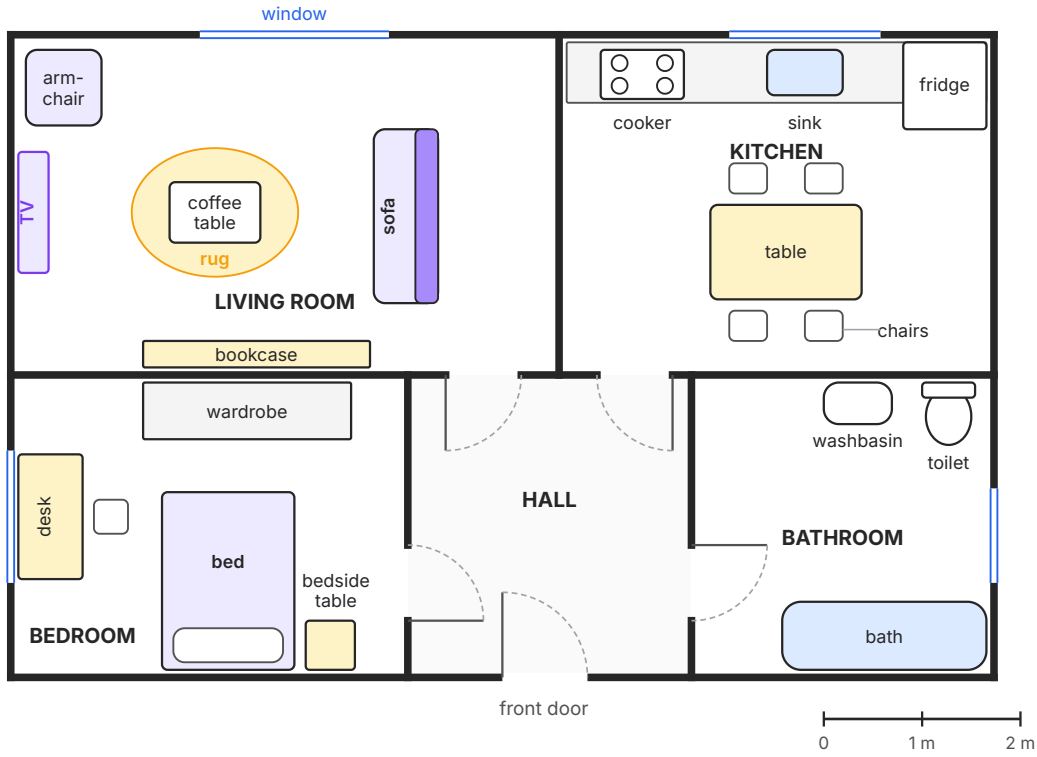


Figura 4.2 The plan of a flat, seen from above. There is one bedroom, a living room, a kitchen, a bathroom and a hall. Windows are blue; dashed arcs show how the doors open. Scale bar: 2 metres.

COLLEGAMENTI

Maths and geography. A plan is a drawing *to scale*: every metre in the real flat is the same length on the paper. Use the scale bar in Figure 4.2 to measure the living room. It is about 5.6 m long and 3.5 m wide, so its area is about 5.6 × 3.5 = 19.6 m² (*square metres*). The whole flat is about 10 m × 6.5 m, so it is about 65 m². The maps in your geography lessons use the same idea with much smaller scales: on a map at 1 : 100,000, one centimetre is one kilometre. The word *scale* comes from the Latin *scala*, a ladder or a flight of steps.

4.1.3 Places in town

Now let's go outside. Table 4.2 shows common places in a town and what you do there. Notice the British **chemist's** (AmE *drugstore* or *pharmacy*): the *'s* means "the chemist's shop", in the same way as *the baker's*, *the butcher's* and *the newsagent's*.

Tabella 4.2 Places in town

Place	What you do there	Place	What you do there
bank	get money, open an account	post office	send letters and parcels
chemist's (AmE drugstore)	buy medicine, toothpaste, shampoo	library	borrow books, study
museum	see old objects, art, science	cinema (AmE movie theater)	watch films (AmE movies)
supermarket	buy food and drink	newsagent's	buy newspapers, magazines, sweets
train station	catch a train	bus stop / bus station	wait for a bus
car park (AmE parking lot)	leave your car	sports centre (AmE center)	swim, play sports
town hall	visit the offices of the local council	square	meet friends, sit outside
hospital	see a doctor, visit a sick person	police station	report a problem to the police

Some words describe the streets themselves. You walk on the **pavement** (AmE *sidewalk*) and you cross the road at a *pedestrian crossing* (a *zebra crossing* has black and white stripes). Cars stop at the **traffic lights**, and where two roads cross there is a **crossroads** (AmE *intersection*). A **roundabout** is a circular junction where cars go round in a circle; in Britain they go round *clockwise*, because people drive on the left. Other useful words are *corner*, *bridge*, *one-way street* and *turning* (a road that goes off another road: *take the second turning on the left*).

4.1.4 Getting around

To say how you travel, use *by* + transport with no article: *by bus, by train, by car, by bike, by underground* (in London, *by Tube*). The exception is walking: you go *on foot*. Some verbs go with particular kinds of transport: you *get on* and *get off* a bus, a train or a bike, but you *get into* and *get out of* a car or a taxi. You *catch* or *take* a bus, and you *ride* a bike. At the station you can buy a *single* ticket (one way) or a *return* ticket (there and back); in American English they are *one-way* and *round-trip* tickets.

4.1.5 Pronunciation: tricky words

Some words in this unit do not sound the way they look. In *cupboard* /ˈkʌbəd/ the *p* is silent. *Museum* /mjuˈziːəm/ has the stress on the second syllable, but *library* /ˈlaɪbrəri/ and *opposite* /ˈɒpəzɪt/

have it on the first. *Chemist* starts with a /k/ sound: /ˈkemɪst/. Finally, *there*, *their* and *they're* are three different words with the same sound, /ðeə/: *There's a park. Their house is big. They're at home.*

APPROFONDIMENTO

Why is a flat "flat"? The word has nothing to do with the adjective *flat* (piatto). Dictionaries connect it with an old Scottish word, *flat*, meaning "a floor of a house", which comes from the Old English *flett*, "floor, home". A flat, in other words, is a home on one floor. The Americans prefer *apartment*, a word that comes from French and Italian: it is a relative of the Italian *appartamento*.

4.2 Reading: Welcome to Number 24!

Before you read. Imagine an exchange student is coming to stay with you. What does he or she need to know about your home and your neighbourhood? Make a list of three things. Then read Sam's email to Giulia, written two weeks before the exchange. Are your three things in it?

Welcome to Number 24!

Tabella 4.3 Reading — an email from Sam to Giulia

From	Sam Taylor
To	Giulia Ferraro
Subject	Welcome to Number 24!

Hi Giulia,

Only two weeks before you arrive! Mum says you need some information about our house and our neighbourhood, so here it is.

We live at 24 Elm Road, in a terraced house. It's quite old and it's got three floors. On the ground floor there's a living room, a kitchen and a small dining room. There isn't a garage, but there's a long, narrow garden at the back with a shed *(ita: capanno)* for our bikes. Lily's rabbit lives in the garden too. His name is Biscuit and he's the boss of the house!

On the first floor there are four bedrooms and a bathroom. Josh's room is next to mine (sorry about his music!). Your room is in the loft, at the top of the house. It's small but quiet. There's a bed, a chest of drawers and a desk under the window, so it's a good place for your homework. There's a bookcase next to the door, but there aren't any books on it at the moment. Please bring some Italian books! There's only one bathroom for six people, so don't spend an hour in it in the morning! (Just joking.)

Our road is quiet. There are some trees and about forty houses, all terraced, all with small front gardens. At the end of the road there's a corner shop. It's open every day, from seven in the morning to ten at night, and it sells everything: bread, milk, newspapers, sweets. Opposite the shop there's a bus stop. My school bus stops there, and there's a bus to the city centre too. It takes about twenty minutes.

Bristol is a big city, so there's a lot to do. In the centre there are museums, cinemas, parks and lots of cafés. My favourite museum is free, and it's got a room full of dinosaur bones. I love it! Are there any good museums in Turin? And are there any good pizzerias? There aren't any real Italian pizzerias near us, so you're our pizza teacher for the whole year.

That's all for now. Write back soon and tell me about your home!

Sam

P.S. Don't bring a towel — we've got lots of towels.

Language in context. Sam's email is full of the grammar of this unit. Find: (1) *there is / there are* in the affirmative, negative and question forms; (2) *some* and *any*; (3) five prepositions of place (*at the back, next to mine, under the window, next to the door, opposite the shop*); (4) two imperatives, one affirmative and one negative (*Please bring..., Don't spend...*).

4.2.1 Media text: a poster

Posters are everywhere: at school, at bus stops, in shop windows. Read this poster from the noticeboard at Sam's school.

Media text — Poster: Hillside Academy Open Day

HILLSIDE ACADEMY OPEN DAY
Saturday 13 March · 10.00–14.00
Come and see our school! There are activities for all the family:
science shows in the labs (Room 12, first floor) · a concert by the school orchestra in the main hall at 11.30 · games on the sports field · cakes and drinks in the canteen
Free entry · No need to book
How to get here: take the bus to Hill Street. The school is opposite the park, next to the library.
Don't miss it!

A poster must give its message in a few seconds, so look at how it works. The **headline** is short and in big letters. The key information answers four questions: *what? when? where? how much?* The sentences are short, often with no verb (*Free entry*), and the imperatives speak directly to the reader (*Come and see, Don't miss it*). On a real poster, pictures, colours and the size of the letters guide your eyes to the most important words.

4.3 Grammar: there is / there are, some / any, prepositions, imperatives

4.3.1 *There is* and *there are*

We use **there is / there are** to say that something exists in a place, often for the first time: *There's a park near my house. There are two cinemas in the town centre.* Use *there is* (short form *there's*) with a singular noun or an uncountable noun, and *there are* with a plural noun. Table 4.4 shows all the forms.

Tabella 4.4 *There is / there are*: form

	Affirmative	Negative	Questions	Short answers
singular	There is (There's) a bank.	There is not (There isn't) a bank.	Is there a bank?	Yes, there is. / No, there isn't.
uncountable	There is (There's) some milk.	There isn't any milk.	Is there any milk?	Yes, there is. / No, there isn't.
plural	There are some shops.	There are not (There aren't) any shops.	Are there any shops?	Yes, there are. / No, there aren't.

Four more points are important.

- **Short answers.** In affirmative short answers we never use the contraction: *Is there a lift? — Yes, there is.* (✗ *Yes, there's.*) The plural *there are* has no written short form.
- **Lists.** With a list, the verb agrees with the first noun: *There's a sofa and two armchairs. There are two armchairs and a sofa.*
- **How many…?** To ask about a number, use *How many* + plural noun + *are there*: *How many bedrooms are there? — There are three. / — There's one.*
- ***There is* or *it is*?** We use *there is* to introduce something new, then *it* or *they* to talk about it again: *There's a museum in the centre. It's free. There are some cafés in the square. They're very popular.*

You can often say the same thing with *have got* (Unit 2): *Our flat has got two bedrooms* = *There are two bedrooms in our flat.* The subject changes: with *have got* the subject is the place, with *there is / there are* the subject is the thing.

GRAMMAR IN ITALIANO

There is / there are = c'è / ci sono. Si usa *there is* (forma contratta *there's*) con un nome singolare o non numerabile (*nome non numerabile*, come *milk, bread, money*), e *there are* con un nome plurale. Nella forma negativa si aggiunge *not* (*there isn't, there aren't*); nella forma interrogativa si inverte l'ordine: *Is there...? Are there...?* Le risposte brevi riprendono la struttura: *Yes, there is / No, there isn't*.

Confronto con l'italiano. Come *ci* in *c'è*, anche *there* qui non indica davvero un luogo: è un soggetto "vuoto", obbligatorio perché in inglese ogni frase ha un soggetto. Per questo non si può tradurre *In città ci sono due cinema* con ✗ *In the town are two cinemas* o ✗ *In the town has two cinemas*: si dice ✓ *There are two cinemas in the town.* Attenzione all'ordine: di solito il luogo va alla fine della frase.

ESEMPIO SVOLTO

Building questions with *there is / there are*, step by step. Giulia wants to ask Sam about his town. Her notes say: *swimming pool? — cafés near school? — how many / cinemas?*

Step 1: singular or plural? *A swimming pool* is singular → *is*. *Cafés* and *cinemas* are plural → *are*.
Step 2: put the verb first. *Is there a swimming pool in your town? Are there any cafés near your school?* (plural questions usually take *any*, see 4.3.2).
Step 3: with a number, start with How many. *How many cinemas are there in your town?*
Step 4: answer briefly. *Yes, there is. / No, there aren't. / There's only one.*

ERRORE FREQUENTE

Concordanza e risposte brevi. Il verbo si accorda con il nome che segue, non con il luogo: ✗ *In my town there is two parks.* → ✓ *There are two parks in my town.* Nelle risposte brevi affermative non si usa la forma contratta: ✗ *Yes, there's.* → ✓ *Yes, there is.* E non si usa *it has* per dire "c'è": ✗ *In my street it has a bakery.* → ✓ *There's a bakery in my street.* Infine, non confondere *there* con *their* (il loro) e *they're* (essi sono): si pronunciano allo stesso modo ma si scrivono diversamente.

4.3.2 *Some* and *any* (introduction)

There is and *there are* often go with **some** and **any**. We use them with plural nouns and with uncountable nouns when the exact number or quantity is not important. The basic rule is simple: *some* in affirmative sentences, *any* in negative sentences and in questions. With a singular countable noun we use *a / an*, not *some*: *There's a chair*, but *There are some chairs*.

Tabella 4.5 *Some* and *any* with *there is / there are*

	Plural nouns	Uncountable nouns
Affirmative (+)	There are **some** trees in the street.	There's **some** bread on the table.
Negative (–)	There aren't **any** trees in the street.	There isn't **any** bread on the table.
Question (?)	Are there **any** trees in the street?	Is there **any** bread on the table?

The same rule works with *have got*: *I've got some posters on my wall. I haven't got any plants. Have you got any pets?* There is more to say about *some* and *any*, for example *some* in offers and requests, and the word *no*: you will study it in Unit 7, together with other words of quantity.

GRAMMAR IN ITALIANO

Some / any. *Some* corrisponde all'articolo partitivo italiano (*dei, degli, delle, del, della*) o a *alcuni, un po' di*: *There are some shops* = Ci sono dei negozi; *There's some milk* = C'è del latte / un po' di latte. Si usa nelle frasi affermative, con nomi plurali e non numerabili.

Any si usa nelle frasi negative e interrogative. Nelle negative corrisponde a *nessun / nessuna* o spesso non si traduce: *There aren't any shops* = Non ci sono negozi; *Is there any milk?* = C'è del latte? Attenzione: in inglese la negazione è una sola (*not … any*), non doppia come in italiano (*non … nessun*).

4.3.3 Prepositions of place

Prepositions of place tell us *where* something or somebody is. Figure 4.3 shows the nine prepositions of this unit with a box and a ball. Learn them as pictures, not as translations.

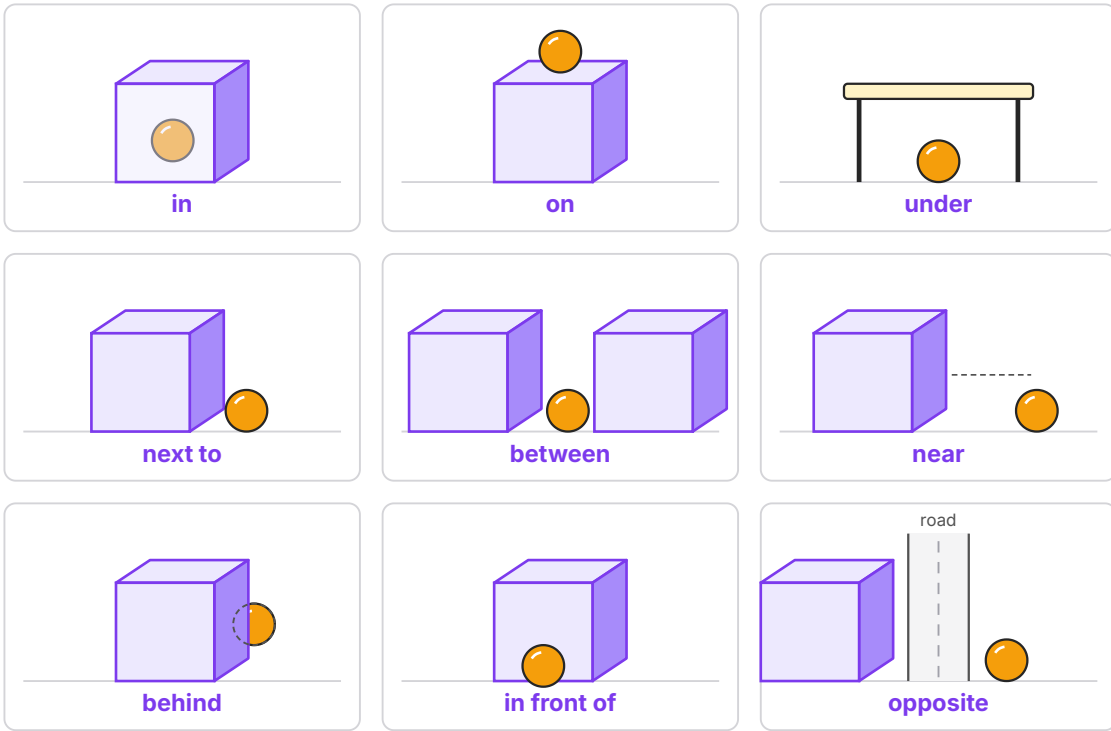


Figura 4.3 Prepositions of place. The ball is *in*, *on*, *under*, *next to*, *between*, *near*, *behind*, *in front of* and *opposite*. In the "behind" picture the dashed line shows the part of the ball we cannot see.

- **in** = inside a space: *in the kitchen, in a drawer, in the park, in London*.
- **on** = touching a surface: *on the table, on the wall, on the floor, on the first floor*; also *on the left / on the right*.
- **under** = lower than something, below it: *The cat is under the bed.*
- **next to** = at the side of, very close: *The bank is next to the café.*
- **between** = in the space in the middle of two things: *between the bank and the café*.
- **near** = not far from (but not necessarily touching): *We live near the station.*
- **behind** = at the back of: *There's a garden behind the house.*
- **in front of** = before the front of something, on the same side: *Let's meet in front of the cinema.*
- **opposite** = on the other side of something, usually a street or a table, facing it: *The shop is opposite the bus stop.*

Now look again at the flat in Figure 4.2. *The TV is opposite the sofa. The coffee table is between the TV and the sofa, and the rug is under the coffee table. In the kitchen the sink is under the window, between the cooker and the fridge. In the bedroom the desk is under the window, and the bedside table is next to the bed.*

GRAMMAR IN ITALIANO

Le preposizioni di luogo. *In* = in, dentro; *on* = su, sopra (a contatto); *under* = sotto; *next to* = accanto a; *between* = tra, fra (due cose); *near* = vicino a; *behind* = dietro (a); *in front of* = davanti a; *opposite* = di fronte a, dall'altra parte.

Confronto con l'italiano. Molte preposizioni italiane si costruiscono con *a* (*accanto a, vicino a, davanti a*); in inglese invece alcune hanno *to* o *of* (*next to, in front of*) e altre nessuna particella (*near, opposite, behind*): ✗ *behind of the house* → ✓ *behind the house*; ✗ *in front the cinema* → ✓ *in front of the cinema*. Attenzione anche a *on*: un quadro è *on the wall* (appoggiato alla superficie), non ✗ *in the wall*.

ERRORE FREQUENTE

"Davanti" non è sempre *in front of*. In italiano diciamo "la banca è davanti alla scuola" anche quando si trova dall'altra parte della strada. In inglese, se c'è una strada (o un tavolo) in mezzo e le due cose si guardano, si usa *opposite*: ✗ *The bank is in front of the school* (se è sull'altro lato della strada) → ✓ *The bank is opposite the school. In front of* significa "proprio davanti, dalla stessa parte": ✓ *I'm waiting in front of the school gate.* Altri errori tipici: ✗ *next the window* → ✓ *next to the window*; ✗ *The keys are on the drawer* → ✓ *in the drawer* (dentro il cassetto).

4.3.4 Prepositions of movement

Prepositions of movement tell us *where somebody or something goes*: they follow verbs like *go, walk, run, drive, cycle* and *come*. Look at Figure 4.4.

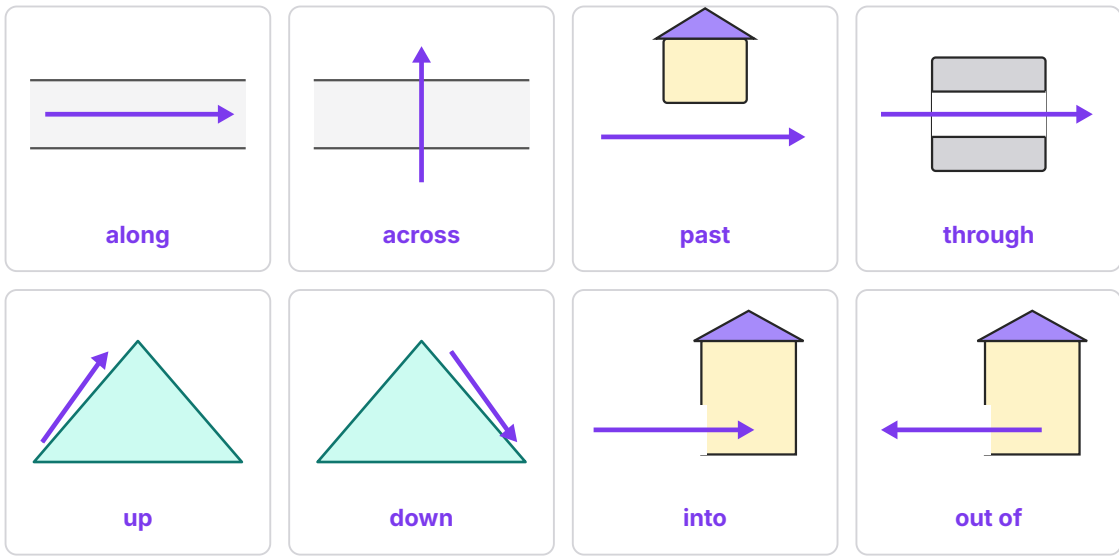


Figura 4.4 Prepositions of movement. The violet arrow shows the movement: *along* a road, *across* a road, *past* a house, *through* a tunnel, *up* and *down* a hill, *into* and *out of* a building.

- **along** = following the length of a road, a river or a line: *We walk along the river every Sunday.*
- **across** = from one side to the other side: *Go across the road at the crossing.* (You can also say *cross the road*.)
- **past** = beside something and then further on, without stopping: *Go past the post office.*
- **through** = in at one side and out at the other side of a space: *through the park, through a tunnel, through the door*.
- **up / down** = to a higher / lower place: *up the hill, down the stairs*. In directions, *go up / down the road* often just means "go along the road".
- **into / out of** = entering / leaving a space: *She goes into the kitchen. He runs out of the house.*

Compare *in* and *into*: *in* describes a position (*Mum is in the kitchen*), *into* describes a movement (*Mum goes into the kitchen*).

GRAMMAR IN ITALIANO

Le preposizioni di moto. *Along* = lungo; *across* = attraverso (da una parte all'altra di una superficie: strada, piazza, fiume); *through* = attraverso (dentro qualcosa: un tunnel, un parco, una porta); *past* = oltre, davanti a (passando senza fermarsi); *up / down* = su, in salita / giù, in discesa; *into* = dentro, in (entrando); *out of* = fuori da (uscendo).

Confronto con l'italiano. L'italiano usa spesso il verbo per indicare il movimento (*entrare, uscire, attraversare, salire, scendere*); l'inglese preferisce un verbo generico + preposizione: *go into* (entrare), *go out of* (uscire), *go across* (attraversare), *go up / down* (salire / scendere). Inoltre l'italiano ha una sola parola, *attraverso*, per due idee che l'inglese distingue: *across* (sopra una superficie) e *through* (dentro uno spazio).

4.3.5 Imperatives and *Let's*

The **imperative** is the form of the verb we use to give directions, instructions, orders, advice and warnings. It is very easy: it is the base form of the verb, the same for one person or many people, and there is no subject. For the negative, put *Don't* (formal and written: *Do not*) before the verb. To make a suggestion that includes you and the other person, use **let's** (*let us*) + base form; the negative is *let's not*.

Tabella 4.6 The imperative and *Let's*

Affirmative	Negative	*Let's* (suggestions)
Turn left.	Don't turn left.	Let's go to the park.
Sit down, please.	Don't sit there.	Let's take the bus.
Be careful!	Don't be late!	Let's not walk — it's raining.

We use imperatives for many everyday purposes: directions (*Go straight on. Take the second left.*), instructions (*Open your books. Mix the eggs and the flour.*), invitations (*Come in! Have a seat.*), warnings (*Be careful! Look right!*) and signs and notices (*Keep off the grass. Do not enter.*). An imperative can sound rude, so in conversation we often add *please*, or we soften it: *Please sit down*, *Sit down, please*.

GRAMMAR IN ITALIANO

L'imperativo. L'imperativo (*imperative*) inglese è la forma base del verbo, senza soggetto e uguale per il singolare e il plurale: *Listen!* = Ascolta! / Ascoltate! La forma negativa si fa con *don't* + forma base, sempre: *Don't listen!* = Non ascoltare! / Non ascoltate! Anche il verbo *be* segue la regola: *Don't be late.*

Let's (*let us*) + forma base corrisponde alla prima persona plurale dell'imperativo italiano: *Let's go!* = Andiamo! *Let's not wait.* = Non aspettiamo. A differenza dell'italiano, dove l'imperativo negativo singolare usa l'infinito (*non toccare*), in inglese non si usa mai *to*: *Don't touch.*

ERRORE FREQUENTE

Imperativo negativo e *Let's*. Pensando all'italiano "non toccare", molti studenti scrivono ✗ *Not touch!* o ✗ *Don't to touch!* → ✓ *Don't touch!* Dopo *Let's* c'è solo la forma base: ✗ *Let's to go*, ✗ *Let's going* → ✓ *Let's go.* Con gli aggettivi serve *be*: ✗ *Don't worry you* e ✗ *Don't nervous* → ✓ *Don't worry*, ✓ *Don't be nervous.*

4.4 Listening and Speaking: asking for and giving directions

On Saturday, Sam's class goes on a trip to a small town near Bristol. Giulia arrives on a later train, and the class is waiting for her at the town museum. She asks a woman for directions. Read the script and follow the route on the map in Figure 4.5: start at the red dot.

Tabella 4.7 Listening script — Excuse me, how do I get to the museum?

Giulia	Excuse me. Sorry to bother you.
Woman	Yes?
Giulia	How do I get to the museum, please?
Woman	The museum? It's on Park Lane. Is this your first time here?
Giulia	Yes, it is. I'm from Italy. I'm on a school exchange.
Woman	Oh, welcome! Well, it isn't far. It's about five hundred metres. Go down Station Road to the traffic lights.
Giulia	Down this road to the traffic lights. OK.
Woman	Then turn left into the High Street. Go straight on, past the post office and the chemist's.
Giulia	Past the post office and the chemist's...
Woman	That's right. Then take the second turning on the right. That's Park Lane.

Giulia	Sorry, the second on the left?
Woman	No, on the *right*. The first turning on the right is Church Street, and the second is Park Lane. The museum is on your left, opposite the park. It's between a café and a bank.
Giulia	Opposite the park, between a café and a bank. Great. Is there a cash machine near the museum?
Woman	Yes, there is. There's one outside the bank.
Giulia	Perfect. Thank you very much!
Woman	You're welcome. Enjoy your visit!

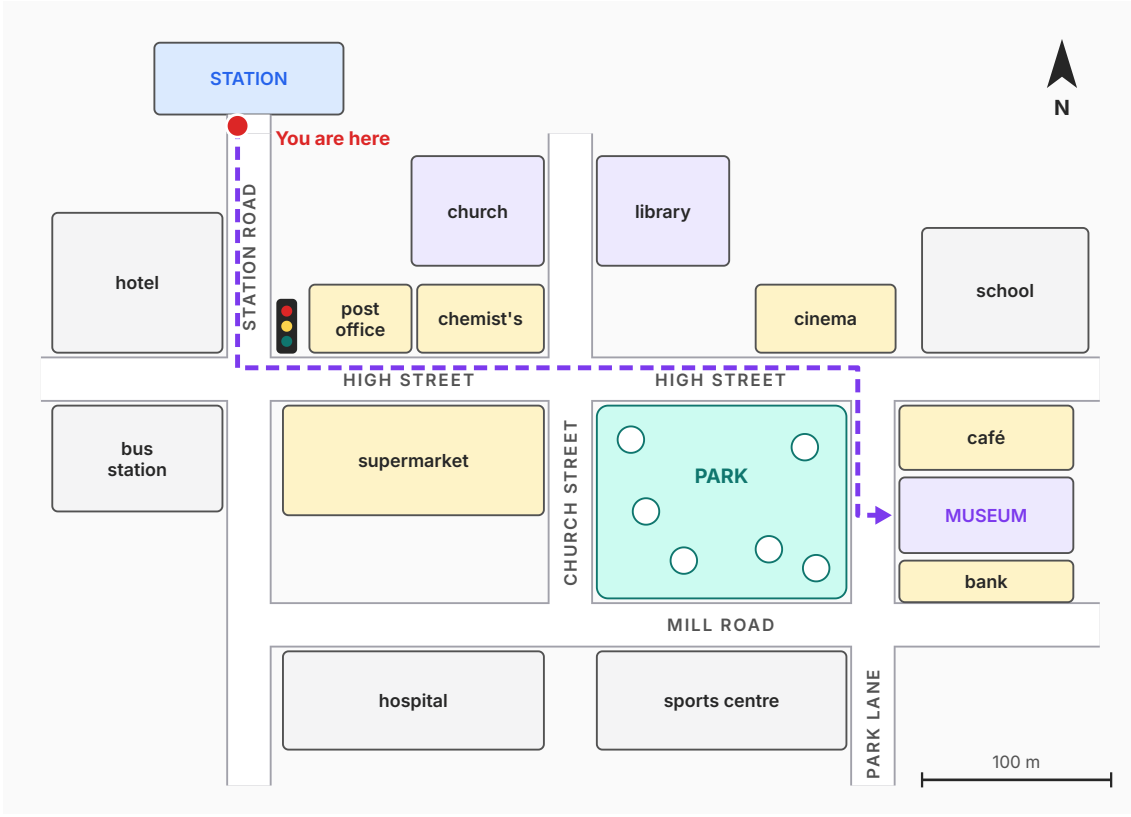


Figura 4.5 A map of the centre of a small town. The dashed violet line shows the route in the listening script, from the station (red dot) to the museum: down Station Road, left into the High Street, then the second turning on the right (Park Lane). Scale: 100 metres.

Notice how the conversation works. Giulia starts politely with *Excuse me*; she repeats the important parts of the directions to check them (*Down this road to the traffic lights*); when she is not sure, she asks again (*Sorry, the second on the left?*); and she says thank you at the end. The woman uses imperatives (*Go down…, Turn left…, Take…*) and prepositions of place and movement. Table 4.8 collects the useful language.

Tabella 4.8 Useful language — asking for and giving directions

Function	Expressions
Asking the way	Excuse me, how do I get to the station? · Excuse me, where's the post office, please? · Is there a bank near here? · Is it far?
Giving directions	Go straight on. · Go along / down / up the High Street. · Turn left / right (into Park Lane). · Take the first / second turning on the left / right (= take the second left). · Go past the church. · Go across the bridge / Cross the road. · Turn left at the traffic lights / at the roundabout / at the end of the road.
Saying where it is	It's on the left / on your right. · It's on the corner (of Church Street and the High Street). · It's opposite / next to / near / between… · You can't miss it.
Checking	Sorry, the second on the left? · So I go down here, then turn left? · Sorry, can you say that again, please?
Thanking and replying	Thanks a lot. · Thank you very much. — You're welcome. · No problem. · Sorry, I'm not from here.

DA RICORDARE

Directions: the right little words. turn left **into** a street · take the second turning **on** the right · go **straight on** (AmE *go straight ahead*) · **at** the traffic lights / **at** the roundabout / **at** the end of the road · it's **on** your left · **on** the corner **of**… · how do I get **to**…? (but *get home*, with no *to*).

Speaking

1. **Pair work (Figure 4.5).** Student A is at the station and wants to go to the library, the cinema or the sports centre. Student B gives directions. Then swap roles and start from the bus station.
2. **Role play: a visitor in your town.** Student A is a British tourist in your town and asks for directions to three places (the station, a good café, a famous building). Student B answers. Use the language in Table 4.8 and remember to check and to say thank you.
3. **My way to school.** Describe the route from your home to your school to a partner. Your partner draws a simple map while you speak. Then compare the map with reality: is it correct?

4.5 Writing: describing your town for a visitor

Sam is curious about Giulia's city, so she writes a short description of Turin for the exchange page of his school website. Read her model text.

Welcome to Turin!

Turin is a big city in the north-west of Italy, on the River Po, and it's the capital of Piedmont. It's big, but it isn't chaotic, and on a clear day there's a great view of the Alps.

In the centre there's a big square, Piazza Castello, with a royal palace and an old castle. Around the square and along the main streets there are long arcades *(ita: portici)*, so you walk in the shade when it's hot and you stay dry when it rains. Near the square there's the Mole Antonelliana, a very tall building with a pointed top. Inside it there's the National Cinema Museum. Don't miss it!

My flat is in a quiet street near the river. There's a park opposite our building, and there are some nice cafés next to it. My school is about twenty minutes away on foot.

Getting around is easy: there are trams and buses, and there's also a metro line.

When you come, bring comfortable shoes. And let's have a hot chocolate in a historic café on your first day!

Analysing the model text

Organisation. The text has five short paragraphs. (1) Introduction: where the city is and a general opinion. (2) The centre: the most important places, organised in space, from the main square outwards. (3) Giulia's own neighbourhood: home, park, school. (4) Transport. (5) Conclusion: advice and an invitation for the reader.

Spatial language. Giulia moves the reader around the city with prepositions and expressions of place: *in the centre, around the square, along the main streets, near the square, inside it, near the river, opposite our building, next to it*.

Grammar and linkers. *There is / there are* introduce each new place; *it* refers back to it. Simple linkers join the ideas: *and, but* (a contrast: *It's big, but it isn't chaotic*), *so* (= *quindi*, a consequence: *...there are long arcades, so you walk in the shade*) and *also*.

Register. The text is friendly and direct: contractions (*it's, there's, isn't*), imperatives (*Don't miss it! Bring...*) and a final suggestion with *Let's*.

Checklist. Before you hand in your description, check:

- Have you got an introduction, a few paragraphs on different areas or topics, and a conclusion?
- Do you introduce new places with *there is / there are*, and use *some* and *any* correctly?
- Have you used at least four prepositions of place (*opposite, next to, behind, between...*)?
- Have you joined your ideas with *and, but, so, also, because*?
- Is there an imperative or a *Let's* suggestion for the reader at the end?
- Have you checked capital letters (*Italy, Italian, Piazza Castello*) and spelling?

Writing task. Write a description of your town or your neighbourhood for a British student who is coming to visit (100–120 words). Use Giulia's text as a model, but write about your own

places. If you prefer, describe your home: start from the front door and take the reader from room to room.

4.6 Culture: London, a city on the Thames

London is the capital of England and of the United Kingdom. About nine million people live in Greater London, and it is one of the biggest cities in Europe. It is also very old: its history begins almost two thousand years ago with a Roman town on the north bank of the River Thames, called *Londinium*.

The river. The Thames /temz/ is about 346 km long. It flows east, through the centre of London, to the North Sea. Look at the map in Figure 4.6: the river makes big curves, and there are many famous places along it. On the north bank there are the Houses of Parliament and the Tower of London, an old castle where visitors see the Crown Jewels; on the south bank there are the London Eye, a giant observation wheel, and Tate Modern, a gallery of modern art inside an old power station. Tower Bridge, next to the Tower of London, dates from 1894. Its road opens in the middle to let tall ships through.

Big Ben is a bell! Many visitors think that Big Ben is the famous clock tower at the Houses of Parliament. In fact, Big Ben is the nickname of the great bell inside the tower. The tower itself has a name too: its official name, since 2012, is the **Elizabeth Tower**, a name chosen for Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee (her sixty years on the throne).

The Tube. Londoners often travel on the **Underground**, or *the Tube*. It is the oldest underground railway in the world: its first line dates from 1863. Today there are eleven Tube lines, and on the platforms a famous recorded voice says *"Mind the gap!"* (be careful of the space between the train and the platform).

Boroughs and neighbourhoods. Greater London is divided into 32 **boroughs**, local areas with their own councils, plus the City of London. The City, also called "the Square Mile", is the oldest part of London and today a centre for banks and businesses. The West End is the area of theatres, shops and Trafalgar Square. Camden is famous for its markets and music, and Greenwich, in south-east London, is home to the Royal Observatory and the Prime Meridian, the line of longitude 0° that gives its name to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

Green and free. London is a green city, with large parks such as Hyde Park and St James's Park, near Buckingham Palace. And many big museums, such as the British Museum, the Natural History Museum and Tate Modern, are free.

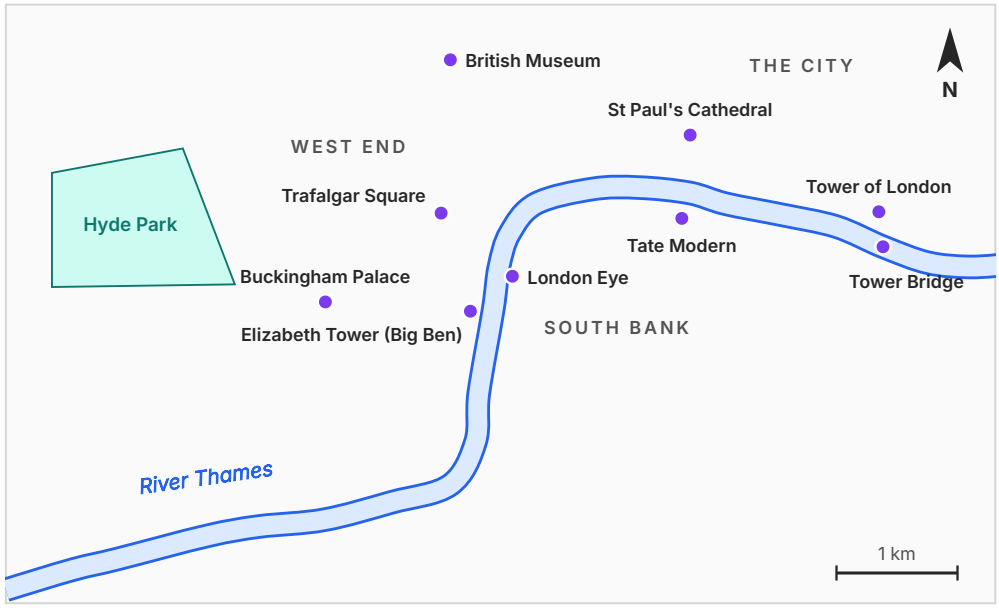


Figura 4.6 Central London and the River Thames, with some famous landmarks (violet dots). North is at the top; the scale bar shows 1 km.

Compare with Italy. Which Italian cities have got an underground (a *metropolitana*)? Is there a river in the centre of the nearest big city to you, and what is there along it? Think of a famous Italian building with a popular nickname, like Big Ben. Prepare three sentences and compare your ideas with a partner.

SINTESI

- Homes: *detached, semi-detached, terraced house, bungalow, flat / block of flats* (AmE *apartment*).
- Rooms and furniture: *living room, kitchen, bedroom, bathroom, hall*; *cupboard* (p silent), *wardrobe, chest of drawers, cooker*. BrE *ground floor* = AmE *first floor*.
- Places in town: *bank, post office, chemist's, library, museum…*; streets: *pavement, traffic lights, crossroads, roundabout*.
- *There is* + singular / uncountable noun, *there are* + plural noun (c'è / ci sono); questions *Is there…? Are there…?*; short answers *Yes, there is* (never ✗ *Yes, there's*).
- *How many* + plural noun + *are there?* Introduce something with *there is*, then refer to it with *it / they*.
- *Some* in affirmative sentences, *any* in negatives and questions, with plural and uncountable nouns.
- Place: *in, on, under, next to, between, near, behind, in front of, opposite*. *Opposite* = on the other side, facing; *in front of* = on the same side.
- Movement: *along, across, past, through, up, down, into, out of*; *in* = position, *into* = movement.
- Imperative = base form (*Turn left*); negative *Don't* + base form; suggestions with *Let's / Let's not* + base form.
- Directions: *How do I get to…? Go straight on, turn left into…, take the second turning on the right, it's on your left.*
- London: capital of England and the UK, on the Thames; Big Ben is the bell of the Elizabeth Tower (renamed in 2012); the Underground, from 1863, is the oldest in the world.

ESERCIZI

Vocabulary

1. ● Where do you usually find a cooker and a fridge?
   - **A.** in the bathroom
   - **B.** in the kitchen
   - **C.** in the hall
   - **D.** in the bedroom

2. ● A house that is joined to one other house by a shared wall is a…
   - **A.** detached house
   - **B.** bungalow
   - **C.** semi-detached house
   - **D.** block of flats

3. ● In British English, you buy medicine and toothpaste at the…

   A. newsagent's
   B. butcher's
   C. baker's
   D. chemist's

4. ●● The American English word for *pavement* is…

   A. sidewalk
   B. crosswalk
   C. parking lot
   D. subway

5. ● Odd one out. Circle the word that does not belong, and say why.
   (a) wardrobe – chest of drawers – bedside table – bath
   (b) bank – library – roundabout – museum
   (c) along – across – between – through
   (d) attic – cellar – garage – crossroads
   (e) fridge – sink – cooker – shower

6. ●● Complete the sentences with the words in the box: *bookcase, curtains, mirror, shelves, stairs, washbasin*.
   (a) I keep my books in a tall _____ in my bedroom.
   (b) Close the _____ — it's dark outside.
   (c) Look in the _____ before you go out!
   (d) Our flat is on the second floor and there isn't a lift, so we always use the _____ .
   (e) Wash your hands in the _____ .
   (f) There are three _____ on the kitchen wall for the cups and plates.

7. ●● Match the places (1–6) with the activities (a–f). 1 post office · 2 library · 3 bank · 4 cinema · 5 bus stop · 6 museum —
   (a) watch a film · (b) wait for the bus · (c) see old objects and art · (d) borrow books · (e) send a parcel · (f) get money

Grammar

8. ● Look at Figure 4.2. Complete with *there's, there are, there isn't, there aren't*.
   (a) _____ a bookcase in the living room.
   (b) _____ four chairs in the kitchen.
   (c) _____ a TV in the bedroom.
   (d) _____ any armchairs in the kitchen.
   (e) In the bathroom _____ a bath, but _____ a shower.
   (f) _____ only one bedroom in the flat.

9. ● Choose *some* or *any*.
   (a) There are (some / any) cafés in the High Street.
   (b) Are there (some / any) good shops near your house?
   (c) There isn't (some / any) milk in the fridge.
   (d) There's (some / any) bread on the table.
   (e) We haven't got (some / any) posters in our classroom.
   (f) I've got (some / any) friends in London.

10. ●● Look at Figure 4.2. Complete with *in, on, under, next to, between, opposite*. Use each word once.
   (a) The rug is _____ the coffee table.
   (b) The TV is _____ the sofa.
   (c) The coffee table is _____ the TV and the sofa.
   (d) The fridge is _____ the kitchen.
   (e) The bedside table is _____ the bed.
   (f) Put the plates _____ the kitchen table, please.

11. ●● Rewrite each sentence in the negative and as a question.
   (a) There's a swimming pool in our town.
   (b) There are some cafés in the square.
   (c) There's some juice in the fridge.

12. ● Write short answers (✓ = yes, ✗ = no).
   (a) Is there a bank near here? (✓)
   (b) Are there any trains on Sunday? (✗)
   (c) Is there any milk? (✗)
   (d) Are there any shops in your street? (✓)

13. ●● Find and correct the mistake in each sentence.
   (a) ✗ In my town there is two cinemas.
   (b) ✗ Is there a post office? — Yes, there's.
   (c) ✗ The keys are in the table, next to the lamp.
   (d) ✗ Don't to run in the corridor!
   (e) ✗ The bus stop is next the bank.
   (f) ✗ Let's to go to the park.

14. ●● Choose the correct preposition of movement.
   (a) We walk (along / into) the river every Sunday.
   (b) Look left and right, then go (across / past) the road.
   (c) The train goes (through / up) a long tunnel.
   (d) Walk (past / into) the bank and turn left at the corner.
   (e) She runs (out of / along) the house because she's late.
   (f) It's hard to cycle (up / across) this hill!

15. ●● Complete the signs and instructions with an affirmative or negative imperative of the verbs in the box: *be, eat, feed, open, turn off, walk*.
    (a) (at the zoo) _____ the animals.
    (b) (in the library) _____ quiet, please.
    (c) (in the cinema) _____ your mobile phone.
    (d) (in the park) _____ on the grass.
    (e) (in class) _____ your books at page 40.
    (f) (in the computer room) _____ food here.

16. ●● Put the words in the correct order.
    (a) any / near / there / are / here / restaurants / ?
    (b) the / is / opposite / station / the / library
    (c) turn / don't / at / lights / left / the / traffic
    (d) go / let's / park / the / through

17. ●● Make suggestions with *Let's* or *Let's not*.
    (a) It's hot. (go swimming)
    (b) We're hungry. (make some sandwiches)
    (c) It's raining. (not walk / take the bus)

18. ●●● Translate into English.
    (a) C'è un supermercato di fronte alla stazione.
    (b) Non ci sono negozi nella mia via.
    (c) Gira a destra al semaforo e attraversa il ponte.

19. ●●● Look at Figure 4.2. Write questions with *How many...?* and answer them.
    (a) chairs / in the kitchen
    (b) bedrooms / in the flat
    (c) windows / in the flat

Reading and Listening

20. ● Read Sam's email (4.2). Are the sentences true (T), false (F) or doesn't say (DS)?
    (a) Sam's house has got three floors.
    (b) There's a garage next to the house.
    (c) Giulia's room is next to Sam's room.
    (d) There are some books on the bookcase in Giulia's room.
    (e) Biscuit is Sam's dog.
    (f) The corner shop is open on Sundays.
    (g) Sam's mum works in the city centre.
    (h) Sam's favourite museum is free.

21. ●● Answer the questions about Sam's email.
    (a) Where are the family's bikes?
    (b) What furniture is there in Giulia's room?
    (c) How does Giulia get from Elm Road to the city centre, and how long does it take?
    (d) Why does Sam ask Giulia to bring some Italian books?

22. ● Find words in Sam's email that mean:
    (a) a small shop near your home that sells food and newspapers;
    (b) a small wooden building in a garden;
    (c) not noisy;
    (d) it costs nothing.

23. ●● Complete the directions from the listening script (Table 4.7) without looking. Then check. Go _____ Station Road to the traffic _____ . Turn _____ into the High Street. Go straight on, _____ the post office and the chemist's. Take the _____ turning on the right. The museum is on your _____ , _____ the park.

24. ●●● Look at the map in Figure 4.5 and answer.
    (a) Is the museum on Church Street?
    (b) What is on the other side of Church Street, opposite the library?
    (c) What is between the café and the bank?
    (d) About how far is it from the station to the museum? Use the scale bar.
    (e) Write directions from the museum to the library (4–5 sentences).

25. ● Read the Open Day poster in Section 4.2. a What is the event, and when is it? b How much does it cost? c Where is the concert, and what time does it start? d Find three imperatives. e Find a sentence with *there is* or *there are*. f Where is the school? Answer with two prepositions of place.

Writing and Speaking

26. ●● Describe your bedroom or your favourite room at home (60–80 words). Use *there is / there are*, *some / any* and at least four prepositions of place.

27. ● Complete the sentences about you.
    (a) In my street there's...
    (b) Near my school there are...
    (c) There isn't a ... in my town, but...
    (d) In my bedroom, opposite the door, there's...

28. ●● Role play with a partner, using Figure 4.5. (a) A is at the bus station and wants to go to the sports centre: B gives directions. (b) Swap roles: A is at the hotel and wants to go to the cinema.

29. ●● Picture description. Look at the living room in Figure 4.2 and describe it to a partner in 5–6 sentences, with *there is / there are* and prepositions of place.

Towards B1

30. ●● Read the text and choose the correct word (A, B, C or D) for each gap. *My grandparents live (1) _____ a small bungalow near the sea. (2) _____ are two bedrooms and a big kitchen with a table (3) _____ the window. In the garden there (4) _____ a lot of flowers, but there aren't (5) _____ trees. When I visit, we always walk (6) _____ the beach to the old lighthouse.*
(1) A on · B at · C in · D into
(2) A It · B They · C Their · D There
(3) A next to · B into · C through · D along
(4) A is · B are · C has · D have
(5) A some · B a · C any · D one
(6) A along · B into · C out of · D under

31. ●● Open cloze. Write ONE word in each gap. *Welcome to our school! The main entrance is (1) _____ Park Road. When you come in, the office is on (2) _____ left. (3) _____ are two floors. The library is (4) _____ the first floor, next (5) _____ the computer room. Please (6) _____ run in the corridors!*

32. ●●● Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first. Use the word in capitals and 2–5 words.
(a) My flat has got three bedrooms. THERE → _____ in my flat.
(b) The café is on one side of the street, and the bank is on the other side, facing it. OPPOSITE → The café _____ .
(c) The cinema is on the left of the bank, and the post office is on the right of it. BETWEEN → The bank _____ and the post office.
(d) I suggest we take the bus. LET'S → _____ the bus.
(e) Please arrive on time. LATE → Please _____ .

33. ●● Short message. An English friend is arriving at the station in your town tomorrow. Write a message (35–45 words): say where you can meet, give directions from the station, and tell your friend what to bring.

34. ●● What does each notice say? Choose A, B, C or D.

(a) **KEEP LEFT ON THE STAIRS**

A. Leave the stairs on the left.
B. Walk on the left side of the stairs.
C. Don't use the stairs.
D. The stairs are on the left.

(b) **NO PARKING IN FRONT OF THESE GATES**

A. Don't leave your car here.
B. Park your car in front of the gates.
C. The car park is behind these gates.
D. There aren't any cars here.

(c) **MUSEUM SHOP — 2nd FLOOR, NEXT TO THE CAFÉ**

A. The shop is opposite the museum.
B. The café is on the ground floor.
C. The shop is between two cafés.
D. The shop and the café are on the same floor.

PER APPROFONDIRE

- MUR — R. Murphy, *Essential Grammar in Use*: the units on *there is / there are*, *some / any*, prepositions of place and movement, and the imperative, with many extra exercises.
- SWA — M. Swan, *Practical English Usage*: the entries on *there is*, *opposite* and *in front of*, *across* and *through*, and *let's*.
- OAL — *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary*: look up *flat*, *cupboard* and *chemist* to see definitions, pronunciation and British / American differences.
- CED — D. Crystal, *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language*: the pages on British and American vocabulary.
- ROA — P. Roach, *English Phonetics and Phonology*: silent letters and word stress.

Glossario del capitolo

Block of flats
condominio, palazzo — a tall building with many flats (AmE *apartment building*)

Bungalow
casa a un piano — a house with only one floor and no stairs

Chemist's
farmacia — a shop that sells medicine and toiletries (AmE *drugstore, pharmacy*)

Chest of drawers
cassettiera, comò — furniture with drawers for clothes

Cooker
cucina (fornelli e forno) — the thing you cook on (AmE *stove*)

Cupboard
armadietto, credenza — furniture with doors and shelves; the p is silent: /ˈkʌbəd/

Detached house
casa singola, villetta — a house that is not joined to any other house

Imperative
imperativo — the base form used for instructions: *Turn left. Don't run.*

In front of
davanti a — just before the front of something, on the same side

Let's
(facciamo / andiamo...) — *let us* + base form, for suggestions: *Let's go!*

Loft
soffitta, mansarda — the room or space under the roof of a house (also *attic*)

Opposite
di fronte a (dall'altra parte) — on the other side, facing: *The bank is opposite the school.*

Pavement
marciapiede — the path at the side of a road for people on foot (AmE *sidewalk*)

Preposition of movement
preposizione di moto — along, across, past, through, up, down, into, out of

Roundabout
rotatoria, rotonda — a circular junction where cars go round in a circle

Semi-detached house
casa bifamiliare — one of two houses joined by a shared wall

Terraced house
casa a schiera — one of a row of houses joined together (AmE *row house*)

There is / there are
c'è / ci sono — There's a park. There are two cinemas.

Traffic lights
semaforo — red, amber and green lights that control traffic: *turn left at the traffic lights*

Wardrobe
armadio — a tall cupboard where you hang your clothes (AmE *closet*)

Soluzioni

1. B (in the kitchen).

2. C (semi-detached house). *La casa singola (detached) non è unita ad altre; il bungalow ha un solo piano.*

3. D (chemist's).

4. A (sidewalk). *Crosswalk = strisce pedonali; parking lot = parcheggio; subway = metropolitana (AmE).*

5. a bath (bathroom; the others are in a bedroom) · b roundabout (not a building) · c between (a preposition of place; the others are prepositions of movement) · d crossroads (not part of a house) · e shower (bathroom; the others are in a kitchen).

6. a bookcase · b curtains · c mirror · d stairs · e washbasin · f shelves.

7. 1 e · 2 d · 3 f · 4 a · 5 b · 6 c.

8. a There's · b There are · c There isn't · d There aren't · e there's ... there isn't · f There's. *In bagno ci sono vasca, lavandino e WC, ma non la doccia.*

9. a some · b any · c any · d some · e any · f some.

10. a under · b opposite · c between · d in · e next to · f on.

11. a There isn't a swimming pool in our town. / Is there a swimming pool in our town? · b There aren't any cafés in the square. / Are there any cafés in the square? · c There isn't any juice in the fridge. / Is there any juice in the fridge? *Nelle frasi negative e interrogative some diventa any.*

12. a Yes, there is. · b No, there aren't. · c No, there isn't. · d Yes, there are.

13. a In my town there are two cinemas. (There are two cinemas in my town.) · b Yes, there is. · c The keys are on the table, next to the lamp. · d Don't run in the corridor! · e The bus stop is next to the bank. · f Let's go to the park.

14. a along · b across · c through · d past · e out of · f up.

15. a Don't feed · b Be · c Turn off · d Don't walk · e Open · f Don't eat. *Sui cartelli si trova anche la forma formale Do not.*

16. a Are there any restaurants near here? · b The library is opposite the station. (also correct: The station is opposite the library.) · c Don't turn left at the traffic lights. · d Let's go through the park.

17. a Let's go swimming. · b Let's make some sandwiches. · c Let's not walk. Let's take the bus.

18. a There's a supermarket opposite the station. · b There aren't any shops in my street. (also: There are no shops in my street.) · c Turn right at the traffic lights and go across the bridge. (also: ...and cross the bridge.) *"Di fronte" con una strada in mezzo = opposite; "semaforo" = traffic lights, sempre plurale.*

19. a How many chairs are there in the kitchen? — There are four. · b How many bedrooms are there in the flat? — There's one. (There is only one.) · c How many windows are there in the flat? — There are four (one in the living room, one in the kitchen, one in the bedroom and one in the bathroom).

20. a T · b F (there isn't a garage) · c F (her room is in the loft; Josh's room is next to Sam's) · d F (there aren't any books on it) · e F (Biscuit is Lily's rabbit) · f T (it's open every day) · g DS · h T.

21. a In a shed in the garden at the back of the house. · b A bed, a chest of drawers, a desk under the window and a bookcase next to the door. · c By bus, from the bus stop opposite the corner shop at the end of the road; it takes about twenty minutes. · d Because there aren't any books on the bookcase in her room (and he is curious about Italian books).

22. a corner shop · b shed · c quiet · d free.

23. down · lights · left · past · second · left · opposite.

24. a No, it isn't. It's on Park Lane. · b The church. *(Dall'altra parte della High Street, di fronte alla biblio-*

teca, c'è anche il parco: per questo la domanda specifica Church Street.) · c The museum. · d About 500 metres (Station Road about 130 m + High Street about 330 m + Park Lane about 90 m ≈ 550 m). · e Model answer: Turn right out of the museum and go up Park Lane to the High Street. Turn left into the High Street. Take the first turning on the right: that's Church Street. Go up Church Street. The library is on your right, opposite the church.

25. a The Hillside Academy Open Day, on Saturday 13 March from 10.00 to 14.00. · b Nothing: entry is free. · c In the main hall, at 11.30. · d Any three: *come, see, take, Don't miss*. · e *There are activities for all the family.* · f It's opposite the park and next to the library.

26. Model answer (71 words): My favourite room is my bedroom. It isn't very big, but it's bright. There's a big window, and my desk is under it. Next to the desk there's a bookcase with some books and comics. My bed is opposite the window, and there's a small lamp on the bedside table. There are some posters on the walls, but there isn't a TV. Under the bed there's a box of old games.

27. Open answers. Check the grammar: *there's* + singular, *there are* + plural; e.g. a In my street there's a bakery and a small park. · b Near my school there are some cafés and a bus stop. · c There isn't a cinema in my town, but there's one in the next town. · d In my bedroom, opposite the door, there's a big window.

28. Model answers. (a) A: Excuse me, how do I get to the sports centre? — B: Go out of the bus station and turn right into Station Road. Go down Station Road to Mill Road and turn left. Go along Mill Road, past the hospital. The sports centre is on your right, opposite the park. It's about 350 metres. (b) A: Excuse me, where's the cinema, please? — B: Go out of the hotel and turn left into the High Street. Go straight on, across Station Road at the traffic lights and past the post office and the chemist's. Go across Church Street. The cinema is on your left, next to the school. — A: Thanks a lot! — B: You're welcome.

29. Model answer: In the living room there's a sofa, an armchair, a TV, a coffee table and a bookcase. The TV is opposite the sofa. The coffee table is between the TV and the sofa, and there's a rug under it. The armchair is in the corner, next to the TV and near the window. The bookcase is against the wall, near the door to the hall. There isn't a desk in the living room.

30. 1 C (in) · 2 D (There) · 3 A (next to) · 4 B (are: *a lot of flowers* is plural) · 5 C (any) · 6 A (along).

31. 1 on (also: in) · 2 the (also: your) · 3 There · 4 on · 5 to · 6 don't.

32. a There are three bedrooms (in my flat). · b The café is opposite the bank. · c The bank is between the cinema (and the post office). · d Let's take (the bus). · e Please don't be late.

33. Model answer (44 words): Hi Tom! Let's meet at the café in Piazza Garibaldi at 10.30. From the station, go straight on along Via Roma and take the second turning on the left. The café is on the right, opposite the church. Bring an umbrella! See you, Luca

34. a B · b A · c D. *Nei cartelli l'imperativo (Keep left) e la forma No + -ing (No parking) indicano obblighi e divieti.*