

1.

I travel a lot, and I find out different “styles” of directions every time I ask “How can I get to the post office?”

Foreign tourists are often confused in Japan because most streets there don't have names; in Japan, people use landmarks in their directions instead of street names. For example, the Japanese will say to travelers, “Go straight down to the corner. Turn left at the big hotel and go past a fruit market. The post office is across from the bus stop.”

In the countryside of the American Midwest, there are not usually many landmarks. There are no mountains, so the land is very flat; in many places there are no towns or buildings within miles. Instead of landmarks, people will tell you directions and distances. In Kansas or Iowa, for example, people will say, “Go north two miles. Turn east, and then go another mile.”

People in Los Angeles, California, have no idea of distance on the map; they measure distance in time, not miles. “How far away is the post office?” you ask. “Oh,” they answer, “it's about five minutes from here.” You say, “Yes, but how many miles away is it?” They don't know.

It's true that a person doesn't know the answer to your question sometimes. What happens in such a situation? A new Yorker might say, “Sorry, I have no idea.” But in Yucatan, Mexico, no one answers “I don't know.” People in Yucatan believe that “I don't know” is impolite. They usually give an answer, often a wrong one. A tourist can get very, very lost in Yucatan!

21. When a tourist asks the Japanese the way to a certain place, they usually _____.

- A. describe the place carefully
- B. show him a map of the place
- C. tell him the names of the streets
- D. refer to recognizable buildings and places

22. What is the place where people measure distance in time?

- A. New York.
- B. Los Angeles.
- C. Kansas.
- D. Iowa.

23. People in Yucatan may give a tourist a wrong answer _____.

- A. in order to save time
- B. Los Angeles.
- C. so as to be polite
- D. for fun

24. What can we infer from the text?

- A. It's important for travelers to understand cultural differences.
- B. It's useful for travelers to know how to ask the way properly.
- C. People have similar understandings of politeness.
- D. New Yorkers are generally friendly to visitors.

2.

My friends, Emma Daniels, spent the summer of 1974 traveling in Israel. During her monthlong stay in Jerusalem she often went to a café called Chocolate Soup. It was run by two men, one of whom—Alex—used to live in Montreal. One morning when Emma went in for coffee, while chatting with her new friend Alex, she mentioned that she had just finished the book she was reading and had nothing else to read. Alex said he had a wonderful book she might like, and that he'd be happy to lend it to her. As he lived just above the café, he quickly ran up to get it. The book he handed to Emma just minutes later was *Markings*, a book by a former Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN).

Emma had never read it, nor had she ever bought a copy. But, when she opened it up, she was floored to see her own name and address inside the cover in her own handwriting. It turned out that the summer before, at a concert back in Montreal, Emma had met a Californian who was in town visiting friends. They decided to exchange addresses, but neither of them had any paper. The man opened up a book he was carrying in his backpack and asked Emma to write her name and address inside. When he returned to California, he left the book behind in Montreal, and his friend Alex kept it. When Alex later moved to Jerusalem, he took the book along.

25. Alex lent Emma the book, *Markings*, _____.

- A. to show his friendliness to her
- B. to show his interest in reading
- C. to tell her about the importance of UN
- D. to let her write her name and address inside

26. How did Emma feel the moment she opened the book?

- A. Pleased.
- B. Satisfied.
- C. Worried.
- D. Surprised.

27. We can learn from the text the Californian _____.

- A. met Emma at a concert
- B. invited Emma to a concert
- C. introduced Emma to his friend