

Team Members: John Powell, Khanh Dao, Ananth Madan, Jerry Kurtin

ACTIVITY 1

Instruction by Khanh Dao:

- 1) Walk out the door
- 2) Turn left and walk down a small set of stairs.
- 3) Turn left again and walk out the door.
- 4) Walk toward the street
- 5) Walk until you reach Ross St and turn left
- 6) Walk until you reach Houston St and turn left
Walk until you reach Jones St and turn right
- 7) Walk until you reach the 4 way intersection or the Albritton Bell Tower and turn right onto Old Main Dr
- 8) Walk until you reach Wellborn St and turn left
- 9) Walk straight and then when you reach Lot 62 on your left, the Student Recreation Center is on the right
- 10) You have reached the Student Recreation Center

Comment by John:

- ☐ State where the staircase is once you exit the classroom
- ☐ Specify where Ross St is once you “walk toward the street”
- ☐ I like the clarity nonetheless

Comments by Jerry:

- Very concise and clear
- Relative locations would help those of us that are directionally challenged

Instructions by Ananth Madan:

1. Go down staircase
2. Turn right
3. Exit door
4. Turn left about 45 degrees
5. Turn SE onto Spence Street
6. Continue straight until the intersection with Ross Street
7. Turn right onto Ross Street
8. Continue on the road until Houston Street
9. Turn left Houston Street
10. Turn right onto Jones Street
11. Take Jones street until the Roundabout
12. At the roundabout, take the counterclockwise path to Old Main Drive
13. Take Old Main Drive until the intersection with Wellborn Road
14. Turn left onto Wellborn Road

15. Take the road until Pickard Pass
16. Take a right onto Pickard Pass
17. Take the left branch
18. Take the path until Corrington Road
19. Turn right onto Corrington Road, then turn left

Your destination will be on your left

Comment by John:

- ☐ Where is the staircase?
- ☐ Is the door ahead of me? Behind me?
- ☐ I like how you used counterclockwise to describe direction of travel.
- ☐ Instructions are very clear and simple to understand and follow

Comments by Jerry:

- Thank you for telling us to go counterclockwise so we don't break the law
- A task like "exit the door" would be better paired with instructions like "take the exit straight ahead of you"
- The left branch of what?

Comments by Khanh:

- Am I walking or driving because I am on the road a lot.
- What path are we talking about, what if there is more than one path?
- Very broad instruction but is probably enough to follow

Instruction by Jerry Kurtin

1. Exit the classroom
2. Turn right, walk forward until you can see the iconic stairs to your left.
3. Turn left (don't go down the stairs) and walk down the main hallway
4. When you pass the starbucks and reach the large entryway, take the large exit to the left
5. Keep walking until you reach spence street (the road with the annoying people on mopeds smoking you to your next class)
6. Take a right on spence and follow the main road straight until you see the commons building smack dab in front of you
7. Take a right, and take a breather (the rec is still a ways away).
8. Walk straight until you see a T, then take a left.
9. Follow this road as it curves back right, continue on it until you get to kyle field
10. You should see an underpass to your left, take it (it looks cool)
11. After leaving the underpass, take a left
12. Go straight until you literally run into the rec center
13. It's grind time :)

Comments by Ananth:

- What if I've never seen the stairs before?
- What's the Commons Building look like?
- The dab died in 2017, all uses of it

- Unspecified length of breather
- Requires too much object recognition
 - Probably possible in this day and age, but for a basic computer with regular Google Maps....maybe too many landmarks

Comment by John:

- ☐ I like the funny comments you added (adds character) - they also add good description ("the rec is still a ways away")
- ☐ Maybe a better description than "smack dab"
- ☐ Be more descriptive than a "T"

Comment by Khanh:

- What is grind time?
- How do you know if it's the commons building? Do I have to walk around it to find a sign?
- How do you know that a moped will smoke me on a bicycle?
- Should I sit down and breathe until I am not tired anymore?
- Great instruction for people to follow but probably not a computer

Instructions for John Powell:

1. Exit the classroom and turn right.
2. Walk forward until you reach a hallway perpendicular to your path of travel.
3. At this hallway, turn right and walk forward until you reach a set of stairs on your left.
4. Fully descend the stairs, turn left, and walk out of the building.
5. When you reach an outdoor pathway, turn right and walk forward to a street perpendicular to your path of travel.
6. At this street (Spence Street), turn left and walk forward until you reach Ross St.
7. At Ross St, turn right and walk forward until you reach Houston St.
8. At Houston St, turn left and walk forward until you reach Joe Routt Blvd.
9. At Joe Routt Blvd, turn right and walk past Kyle Field and take the pedestrian underpass slightly to your left.
10. Go past the underpass and turn left to walk up a sloped road.
11. When you reach the peak of this road, go beyond the bike racks and the Student Recreation Center should be right in front of you.

Comments by Jerry:

- I'm a big fan of "path of travel," it makes me feel like I'm headed to a business meeting or something.
- Very precise (ex: "slightly to your left")
- Good mix of precise instructions and relative landmarks to follow

Comments by Khanh:

- Exactly how many feet do I have to walk out of the classroom to turn right. What if I run into the wall?

- Slightly left is not enough to tell me where to turn.
- Included a lot of street names which are helpful in showing the direction to a place.

Comments:

- Perpendicular gives you big points
- Specified the underpass
- Has many specifiers

Questions for the team to answer:

a. Which set of your team's sequences of steps did you identify as being the best? Why?

We identified John Powell's direction to be the best because it was simple and clear to the point where it included a lot of landmarks and streets to follow. Each step had a specific objective and steps were not mixed together.

b. In what ways were the sets of sequences that were produced different?

Khanh and Ananth used map-style directions, Jerry used only relative locations, and John used a mix of both. Each route had different directions and directions of travel, as well as what surfaces to travel on (walkway, street, etc.)

c. In what ways were the sets of sequences that were produced the same?

All the sequences had a common destination (SREC) and starting point (ZACH). All sequences also have defined instructions like walking forward, turning every which way, etc. Many of the instructions mentioned the street and the nearby building in the instructions.

d. Consider whether your choice of which of these would be the best set of instructions might change depending on the person following them. For example (you may think of other examples), would the best set change if:

i. The person following them was already very familiar with campus or had never set foot on campus.

If they were very familiar with campus, general locations and shorter directions would be easier to remember and follow. If they were brand-new, very specific and lengthier instructions would be needed. The instructions would need to be exhaustive enough to trace on a map, as they have no prior experience to fill in gaps in information.

ii. The person following the instructions was using a wheelchair, or the person following the instructions was interested in jogging.

A person in a wheelchair might need wheelchair specific instructions, like where to find an elevator or a ramp up to a building. Additionally, one might try to reduce the number of street crossings, steep slopes, etc. that might prove to be too difficult for someone in a wheelchair to manage. A jogger might want instructions that have the least amount of turns but also, at the same time, avoid heavy foot and road traffic. The jogger might even want a longer route to get a better workout in.

iii. The weather was dark and raining outside, or it's a beautiful and sunny 75 °F. Briefly describe whether different sets of instructions might have been better options in other scenarios.

If visibility was lowered due to darkness or rain, a route that went through buildings and stayed within well-lit areas like Kyle Field and Spence street would be best. If it were sunny and bright, the outdoor routes would be fine, and the trip would be pleasant.

e. This was a very open-ended question. What questions might you have asked in the beginning of this process to better know how your sequential steps should have been written? The point here is to help you understand the importance of requirements gathering at the first stage of attacking a problem – make sure you are solving the problem someone needs solved, rather than the one you want to solve.

- What time of day are they making the trip?
- Do they have a bike that they need to park when they get there?
- Do they need special accommodations like staying out of the sun or being wheelchair accessible
- What kind of person might be using these instructions? How old are they? How familiar are they with campus?
- What is the weather like outside?
- Is there some kind of large event to avoid (might cause increased foot traffic)?