Topographical test compass points: questions and answers

20 practice questions for the TfL topographical assessment, with answers and explanations at the end.

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Questions

Direction between two places

1. **The British Museum is in which direction from Parliament Square?**
   - ☐ A. North
   - ☐ B. South-east
   - ☐ C. West
   - ☐ D. East

2. **Euston station is in which direction from Earl's Court station?**
   - ☐ A. North-west
   - ☐ B. South-west
   - ☐ C. West
   - ☐ D. North-east

3. **Tate Modern is in which direction from Trafalgar Square?**
   - ☐ A. South-west
   - ☐ B. West
   - ☐ C. East
   - ☐ D. South

4. **The Shard is in which direction from Camden Town station?**
   - ☐ A. South-west
   - ☐ B. South-east
   - ☐ C. North
   - ☐ D. North-west

5. **Angel station is in which direction from Finsbury Park station?**
   - ☐ A. South
   - ☐ B. North-west
   - ☐ C. North-east
   - ☐ D. West

6. **Clapham Junction station is in which direction from Liverpool Street station?**
   - ☐ A. South-east
   - ☐ B. North
   - ☐ C. North-east
   - ☐ D. South-west

7. **Hyde Park Corner is in which direction from Canary Wharf station?**
   - ☐ A. South
   - ☐ B. West
   - ☐ C. North
   - ☐ D. South-east

8. **King's Cross station is in which direction from Lewisham station?**
   - ☐ A. East
   - ☐ B. South
   - ☐ C. North-west
   - ☐ D. North-east

Which place is in this direction?

9. **Which of these places is north of Buckingham Palace?**
   - ☐ A. Camden Town station
   - ☐ B. The Tower of London
   - ☐ C. Earl's Court station
   - ☐ D. The O2

10. **Which of these places is east of Hyde Park Corner?**
    - ☐ A. Hammersmith station
    - ☐ B. Clapham Junction station
    - ☐ C. Wembley Stadium
    - ☐ D. The O2

11. **Which of these places is south of Waterloo station?**
    - ☐ A. Hammersmith station
    - ☐ B. Brixton station
    - ☐ C. Finsbury Park station
    - ☐ D. Buckingham Palace

12. **Which of these places is west of Liverpool Street station?**
    - ☐ A. Stratford station
    - ☐ B. Canary Wharf station
    - ☐ C. Paddington station
    - ☐ D. Lewisham station

13. **Which of these places is north-west of Tate Modern?**
    - ☐ A. Euston station
    - ☐ B. Stratford station
    - ☐ C. Wimbledon station
    - ☐ D. Tate Britain

14. **Which of these places is south-east of the Royal Albert Hall?**
    - ☐ A. King's Cross station
    - ☐ B. Brixton station
    - ☐ C. Angel station
    - ☐ D. The British Museum

Compass basics

15. **What is the opposite direction to north-east?**
    - ☐ A. North-west
    - ☐ B. East
    - ☐ C. South-west
    - ☐ D. South-east

16. **Which direction is halfway between north and east?**
    - ☐ A. South-east
    - ☐ B. South-west
    - ☐ C. North-west
    - ☐ D. North-east

17. **You drive west and turn left. Which direction do you now drive?**
    - ☐ A. South
    - ☐ B. North
    - ☐ C. West
    - ☐ D. East

18. **You drive north and turn right. Which direction do you now drive?**
    - ☐ A. North
    - ☐ B. South
    - ☐ C. West
    - ☐ D. East

19. **You drive south and turn right. Which direction do you now drive?**
    - ☐ A. North
    - ☐ B. South
    - ☐ C. West
    - ☐ D. East

20. **You drive south-east and turn around. Which direction do you now drive?**

- ☐ A. North-east
- ☐ B. North-west
- ☐ C. South
- ☐ D. South-west

Answers

1. **A. North.** The British Museum is about 2.1 km north of Parliament Square. The British Museum is in Camden.
2. **D. North-east.** Euston station is about 5.9 km north-east of Earl's Court station. Euston station is in Camden.
3. **C. East.** Tate Modern is about 2.0 km east of Trafalgar Square. Tate Modern is in Southwark.
4. **B. South-east.** The Shard is about 5.5 km south-east of Camden Town station. The Shard is in Southwark.
5. **A. South.** Angel station is about 3.6 km south of Finsbury Park station. Angel station is in Islington.
6. **D. South-west.** Clapham Junction station is about 8.6 km south-west of Liverpool Street station. Clapham Junction station is in Wandsworth.
7. **B. West.** Hyde Park Corner is about 9.3 km west of Canary Wharf station. Hyde Park Corner is in the City of Westminster.
8. **C. North-west.** King's Cross station is about 10.7 km north-west of Lewisham station. King's Cross station is in Camden.
9. **A. Camden Town station.** Camden Town station is about 4.3 km north of Buckingham Palace. It is in Camden.
10. **D. The O2.** The O2 is about 10.9 km east of Hyde Park Corner. It is in Greenwich.
11. **B. Brixton station.** Brixton station is about 4.3 km south of Waterloo station. It is in Lambeth.
12. **C. Paddington station.** Paddington station is about 6.8 km west of Liverpool Street station. It is in the City of Westminster.
13. **A. Euston station.** Euston station is about 3.4 km north-west of Tate Modern. It is in Camden.
14. **B. Brixton station.** Brixton station is about 6.1 km south-east of the Royal Albert Hall. It is in Lambeth.
15. **C. South-west.** North-east and south-west are opposite points on a compass.
16. **D. North-east.** North-east is halfway between north and east.
17. **A. South.** When you face west, south is on your left.
18. **D. East.** When you face north, east is on your right.
19. **C. West.** When you face south, west is on your right.
20. **B. North-west.** North-west is the opposite of south-east.

Sources

- Topographical assessment guidelines, Transport for London, No date printed; PDF file dated 29 April 2026. Checked 1 November 2026. https://content.tfl.gov.uk/topographical-assessment-guidelines.pdf
- OpenStreetMap map data, read through Nominatim and Overpass. © OpenStreetMap contributors, OpenStreetMap contributors, Live data, read on the date checked. Checked 1 November 2026. https://www.openstreetmap.org/copyright