



## Notes

N1 · B1 · Unitat 3  
"Amunt i avall per Girona"

**parla · CAT**

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## Presentation

### Objectives

Next you will find the notes for all topics learnt in this unit. Once learnt, you will be able to reach the following goals:

- Asking where a place is.
  - Saying where a place is and living directions to get there.
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## 1. Asking where a place is

### Contents

In order to ask about the location of a place, you need to know:

- structures to ask where a place is,
  - the interrogative *on*,
  - the present indicative of the verb *haver-hi*,
  - the indefinite article,
  - the present indicative of the verb *ser*,
  - the definite article,
  - the differences between the definite and the indefinite article,
  - the differences between the verb *haver-hi* and the verb *ser*,
  - vocabulary of buildings and services,
  - vocabulary of the rooms in a building.
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### Structures to ask where a place is

In order to ask about the position of an object in general or a particular place, we can use two verbs: *haver-hi* and *ser*.

In general, we use the verb *haver-hi* followed by a noun with the indefinite article, in accordance with the following structure:

on	+	verb haver-hi	+	indefinite article	+	noun?
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- On **hi ha** un restaurant?
- On **hi ha** una escola?

However, we generally use the verb *ser* when the noun that accompanies it takes a definite article, as shown below:

on	+	verb ser	+	definite article	+	noun?
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- On **és** el restaurant La Bona Cuina?
  - On **és** l'escola d'en Jaume?
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## 1. Asking where a place is

### Structures to ask where a place is

The question can be introduced by a courtesy formula:

- Saps / Sap...?
- Em pots dir / Em pot dir...?
- Em podries dir / Em podria dir...?
- Perdona / Perdoni...
- Escolta / Escolti...
- Si us plau...
- Per favor...

Or with a combination of courtesy formulas:

perdona / perdoni escolta / escolti si us plau per favor	+	saps / sap em pots dir / em pot dir em podries dir / em podria dir	+	<i>sentence?</i>
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Notice that we use *escolta*, *perdona* and *si us plau* in order to attract people's attention. Also note that we address people as tu (*perdona*, *escolta*, *saps*, *em pots dir*, *em podries dir*) to talk with young people and we address them as vostè (*perdoni*, *escolti*, *sap*, *em pot dir*, *em podria dir*) to talk with older people.

### The interrogative *on*

We use the interrogative adverb *on* to designate place.

- **On** hi ha una farmàcia?
- **On** és el Museu del Cinema?

## 1. Asking where a place is

### Present indicative of the verb *haver-hi*

We use the verb *haver-hi* to state the existence of something. We use *hi ha* when we speak about any thing. Only the third person is used.

In general, we use the verb *haver-hi* followed by a noun with the indefinite article, in accordance with the following structure:

on	+	verb haver-hi	+	indefinite article	+	sentence?
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- Perdoni, em podries dir on **hi ha** una cafeteria?
- A Girona **hi ha** un museu molt important.

### Indefinite article

We use the indefinite article when we speak about a non-specific place or thing.

	masculine	feminine
singular	un banc	una farmàcia
plural	uns bancs	unes farmàcies

- Perdoni, sap on hi ha **una** cafeteria?
- Si us plau, em podries dir on hi ha **un** banc?

Notice that in these cases we are not referring to a particular café or bank, but to any café or any bank.

## 1. Asking where a place is

### Present indicative of the verb *ser*

We use the verb *ser* to locate something in space. We use *ser* when we speak about something we know. All the persons are used:

*definite article* + *noun* + *verb ser* + *name of place*

· El Museu del Cinema **és** a Girona.

And in questions, we generally use the following structure:

*on* + *verb ser* + *definite article* + *noun?*

· On **és** el Museu del Cinema?

· El Museu del Cinema **és** a Girona.

Remember that the form *és* takes an accent.

### Definite article

We use the definite article to speak about things or places that have already been mentioned.

· Al Call hi ha dos restaurants i una cafeteria.

· I on **és la** cafeteria?

· Baixant el carrer de l'Argenteria, a mà dreta.

We also use it when we assume that our interlocutor already knows or, at least can identify the thing, the object or the person we are referring to.

· **El** Museu del Cinema **és** a Girona.

· **L'**església de Sant Felip **és** al nucli antic de **la** ciutat de Girona.

## 1. Asking where a place is

### Definite article

Notice that the definite article takes a different form whenever it accompanies a masculine, feminine, singular or plural noun, and when the noun it accompanies starts with a consonant, or a vowel or *h*.

		masculine	feminine
singular	before consonant	el carrer	la plaça
	before vowel or <i>h</i> + vowel	l'ajuntament l'hospital	l'església l'avinguda l'oficina <b>except for / / u unstressed</b>
plural		els carrers els ajuntaments els hospitals	les places les esglésies les avingudes les oficines

The singular form (*el, la*) is contracted when it goes before a word starting with a vowel or *h*. The apostrophe (') indicates that a vowel has been elided and, therefore, such elided vowel sound is not pronounced.

- L'escola és davant de la parada de taxis. (We pronounce it continuously: *lescola*, not *la escola*).
- Passa per davant de l'ajuntament. (We pronounce it continuously: *lajuntament*, not *el ajuntament*).

### Differences between the definite article and the indefinite article

Look at these two sentences:

- Saps on hi ha **una** plaça?
- Saps on és **la** plaça del Vi?

Can you see the difference? In the first case, the indefinite article *una* is used; and, in the second one, the definite article *la*. We also use the definite articles (*el, la, els, les*) to speak about things we know.



## 1. Asking where a place is

### Differences between the definite article and the indefinite article

- Al Call hi ha dos restaurants i una cafeteria.
- I on és **la** cafeteria?
- Baixant el carrer de l'Argenteria, a mà dreta.
- **El** Museu del Cinema és a Girona.
- L'església de Sant Felip és al nucli antic de **la** ciutat de Girona.

We use the indefinite article, however, to refer to objects or things in a vague way, without specifying exact quantities or explicitly saying which one it is.

- A Girona hi ha **uns** museus molt interessants.
- El Call té **unes** places molt romàntiques.

We also use the indefinite article the first time we mention a thing or a place we don't know.

- Perdoni, sap on hi ha **una** cafeteria?
  - **Una** cafeteria? Sí, baixant per aquí, al segon carrer a l'esquerra.
-

## 1. Asking where a place is

### Differences between the verb *haver-hi* and the verb *ser*

In order to ask about the position of an object in general or a particular place we can use two verbs: *haver-hi* and *ser*.

In general, we use the verb *haver-hi* followed by a noun with the indefinite article, in accordance with the following structure:

on + verb *haver-hi* + indefinite article + noun?

- On **hi ha** un restaurant?
- On **hi ha** una escola?

However, we generally use the verb *ser* when the name that accompanies it takes a definite article, as shown below:

on + verb *ser* + definite article + noun?

- On **és** el restaurant La Bona Cuina?
- On **és** l'escola d'en Jaume?

Besides, notice that, when it comes to answering these questions, the order of the sentence components is usually different depending on whether the verb is *ser* or *haver-hi*:

- **Hi ha** un restaurant baixant a mà dreta.
- **Hi ha** un restaurant al davant de la parada de bus.
- El restaurant La Bona Cuina **és** a prop del supermercat.

With the verb *haver-hi* the place that needs to be located, in this case *any restaurant*, always goes after the verb. With the verb *ser*, however, the place that needs to be located *the restaurant La Bona cuina*, goes at the beginning of the sentence, that is, before the verb.

## 1. Asking where a place is

### Vocabulary

#### Vocabulary of buildings and services:

l'ajuntament (*m.*); l'aparcament (*m.*); el banc; la bústia; la cabina de telèfon / la cabina telefònica; el cafè / la cafeteria; la catedral; el cine / el cinema; l'escola (*f.*); l'església (*f.*); l'estació (*f.*); la farmàcia; l'hospital (*m.*); el museu; l'oficina de correus (*f.*); la parada d'autobús; el poble; el restaurant; el supermercat; el teatre.

#### Vocabulary of the rooms in a building:

la consigna; el lavabo; l'oficina d'objectes perduts (*f.*); la taquilla.

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## 2. Saying where a place is and giving directions to get there

### Contents

In order to indicate where a place is and how to get there, you will have to bear in mind:

- the imperative of the verbs *agafar*, *continuar*, *girar*, *tornar*,
  - expressions to indicate where a place is,
  - the ordinal numerals from 1st to 10th,
  - the contractions *del*, *dels*, *al*, *als*, *pel*, *pels*,
  - vocabulary of roads.
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## 2. Saying where a place is and giving directions to get there

### Imperative of the verbs *agafar*, *continuar*, *girar*, *tombar*

To explain how to get somewhere we use the imperative forms of the verbs *agafar*, *continuar*, *girar* and *tombar*.

infinitive	addressing a person as <i>tu</i>	addressing a person as <i>vostè</i>
agafar	agafa	agafi
continuar	continua	continuí
girar	gira	giri
tombar	tomba	tombi

These verbs can be combined with expressions of direction such as *a la dreta*, *a l'esquerra*, *tot recte*, *amunt*, *avall*, *pel primer carrer a mà dreta*, etc. in the following way:

agafa	+	el primer carrer a la dreta el segon carrer a mà esquerra
continua	+	tot recte amunt avall pel carrer Major / per la plaça Catalunya / per l'avinguda de Mallorca
gira / tomba	+	a la dreta / a mà dreta a l'esquerra / a mà esquerra

Besides, we can also use the gerund forms of the verbs *pujar* and *baixar* together with some of these expressions:

pujant baixant	+	a la dreta / a mà dreta a l'esquerra / a mà esquerra pel carrer Major / per la plaça de Catalunya / per l'avinguda de Mallorca pel primer carrer a mà esquerra
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## 2. Saying where a place is and giving directions to get there

### Expressions to indicate where a place is

Expressions to indicate where a place is:

a la dreta de; a l'esquerra de; a mà dreta; a mà esquerra; tot recte; pujant; baixant; amunt; avall; al costat de; al davant de; al darrere de; al principi de; al mig de; al centre de; al final de; a prop de; lluny; al davant; al darrere; a dalt; a baix; a dins; a fora; al fons.

### Ordinal numerals from 1st to 10th

The ordinal numerals designate order and they must agree with the noun they are accompanying.

- Hi ha un banc a la **segona** cantonada.
- Gira pel **tercer** carrer a mà dreta.

masculine		feminine	
1r	primer	1a	primera
2n	segon	2a	segona
3r	tercer	3a	tercera
4t	quart	4a	quarta
5è	cinquè	5a	cinquena
6è	sisè	6a	sisena
7è	setè	7a	setena
8è	vuitè	8a	vuitena
9è	novè	9a	novena
10è	desè	10a	desena

## 2. Saying where a place is and giving directions to get there

### Contractions *del, dels, al, als, pel, pels*

Notice what happens to the prepositions *a, de* and *per* when they go before a definite article:

<i>a</i> + definite article	<i>de</i> + definite article	<i>per</i> + definite article
· Continua fins <b>al</b> museu.	· Al costat <b>del</b> museu.	· Passa <b>pel</b> museu.
· Continua fins <b>a</b> l'Ajuntament.	· Al costat <b>de</b> l'Ajuntament.	· Passa <b>per</b> l'Ajuntament.
· Continua fins <b>als</b> supermercats.	· Al costat <b>dels</b> supermercats.	· Passa <b>pels</b> supermercats.
· Continua fins <b>a la</b> parada de taxis.	· Al costat <b>de la</b> parada de taxis.	· Passa <b>per la</b> parada de taxis.
· Continua fins <b>a l'</b> escola.	· Al costat <b>de l'</b> escola.	· Passa <b>per l'</b> escola.
· Continua fins <b>a les</b> oficines.	· Al costat <b>de les</b> oficines.	· Passa <b>per les</b> oficines.

Do you realise that, in some cases, the preposition and the definite article are joined and form a single word? This is called *contracció*.

- Vés **pel** carrer de Sant Pere. (**per** + **el**)
- Continua **pels** carrers estrets. (**per** + **els**)
- Camina fins **al** passeig de França. (**a** + **el**)
- Viu a l'avinguda **dels** Arbres. (**de** + **els**)

However,

- Passa **per** l'ajuntament. (**per** + **el**)
- Viu al costat **de** l'ajuntament. (**de** + **el**)

## 2. Saying where a place is and giving directions to get there

### Contractions *del, dels, al, als, pel, pels*

The following boxes show the possible combinations:

a	+	el la l' els les	=	al a la a l' als a les	<p>Vaig <b>al</b> museu.                      Vaig <b>a la</b> parada de taxis.                      Vaig <b>a l'</b>ajuntament. / Vaig <b>a l'</b>escola.                      Vaig <b>als</b> supermercats.                      Vaig <b>a les</b> oficines.</p>
de	+	el la l' els les	=	del de la de l' dels de les	<p>Al costat <b>del</b> museu.                      Al costat <b>de la</b> parada de taxis.                      Al costat <b>de l'</b>ajuntament. / Al costat <b>de l'</b>escola.                      Al costat <b>dels</b> supermercats.                      Al costat <b>de les</b> oficines.</p>
per	+	el la l' els les	=	pel per la per l' pels per les	<p>Passo <b>pel</b> museu.                      Passo <b>per la</b> parada de taxis.                      Passo <b>per l'</b>ajuntament./ Passo <b>per l'</b>escola.                      Passo <b>pels</b> supermercats.                      Passo <b>per les</b> oficines.</p>

### Vocabulary

Vocabulary of roads:

l'avinguda (*f.*); la cantonada; el carrer; la plaça.