



Five College Center for the Study of World Languages

Conversation Preparation Guides

Title: Asking for a Ride

Topic: Transportation

Level: Intermediate

Practice on Your Own

Imagine you are studying abroad in a country where the language is spoken. You want to attend a cultural event at your school this evening, but your host family cannot bring you there and there is no public transportation. You need to call a friend to ask for a ride to the event.

- Think about how you will greet your friend on the phone. Do people use different greetings on the phone than they do when meeting in person? What if your friend's father or younger sister answers the phone?
- Prepare to explain the situation to your friend and ask for a ride. Make sure to be clear about when and where your friend should pick you up. Can she/he give you a ride home as well?
- Practice the conversation out loud.

Practice in Conversation Session

- Warm up by telling your conversation partner and fellow students about the event you want to attend, the time, etc.
- Be prepared to role play calling your friend to ask for a ride. Use culturally appropriate greetings, explain the situation, and make sure you are clear about details like time and location. Then switch roles with your role play partner and repeat the conversation.
- Do another role play where you need to call your host family and ask them to pick you up from a party or event.