

Intermediate 1
Unit 4 Dialog
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The Hotel Shuttle

shuttle = a plane, bus or train that travels regularly between two places

There is a shuttle service between London and Edinburgh.

I'm flying to Boston on the shuttle.

hotel shuttle = A hotel shuttle is a service that transports guests between the hotel and nearby locations like airports or tourist spots. It's a convenient way to get around, especially if you're in a new place!

Yashiko is talking to the hotel desk clerk.

desk clerk = receptionist

➤ *A desk clerk works at the front desk of a hotel.*

Yashiko: Excuse me, what's the best way to get downtown from the hotel?

Desk Clerk: Let me see. You can take a cab, a bus, or the hotel shuttle.

downtown (American) → **the city center** (British)

"Downtown" is mainly used in North America to describe the central business district or the core of a city where all the action happens—shopping, dining, business, nightlife.

"City center" is more commonly used in Europe and other parts of the world to describe the heart of the city where you find historical sites, shops, restaurants, and often where major public transportation converges.

Point:

When “downtown” is an adverb of place, we don't use a preposition before it.

Don't Say: *I'm going **to** downtown.*

Say: *I'm going downtown.*

Don't Say: *I'm **in** downtown.*

Say: *I'm downtown.*

Point:

But when “downtown” is an adjective, we may use a preposition because of the noun which follows it.

Example:

Does this bus go to downtown Chicago?

I'm in the downtown area.

cab = taxi

Yashiko: Which one would you recommend?

Desk Clerk: If you're not in a hurry, it would be a good idea to take the hotel shuttle.

recommend somebody to do something

The desk clerk recommends Yashiko to take the hotel shuttle if she's not in a hurry.

recommend/suggest doing sth

The desk clerk recommends taking the hotel shuttle.

The desk clerk suggests taking the hotel shuttle.

recommend/suggest + that-clause

The desk clerk recommends that Yashiko should take the hotel shuttle.

The desk clerk suggests that Yashiko should take the hotel shuttle.

recommend = suggest

Point:

Don't use an infinitive (to + the simple form of the verb) after "suggest":

Don't Say: *The desk clerk suggests Yashiko to take the hotel shuttle.*

Say: *The desk clerk suggests that Yashiko should take the hotel shuttle.*

Say: *The desk clerk recommends Yashiko to take the hotel shuttle.*

Yashiko: All right. Where do I catch it?

Desk Clerk: Look for the shuttle sign outside the hotel. When it comes by, just wave.

All right = ok

come by = arrive

Yashiko: Do you know where I can get the ticket?

Desk Clerk: You don't need to. It's a courtesy shuttle. Just tip the driver if you want.

You don't need to. = You don't need to get a ticket.

It's a courtesy shuttle. = The shuttle is free (of charge).

tip (noun) = a sum of money given to someone as a reward for a service

He never leaves a tip.

He gave the waiter a generous tip.

Someone put a dollar in the tip jar.

tip (verb) = give (someone) a sum of money as a reward for a service.

I tipped her \$5.



the shuttle sign



waving

Full Text:

The Hotel Shuttle

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Desk Clerk: Let me see. You can take a cab, a bus, or the hotel shuttle.

Yashiko: Which one would you recommend?

Desk Clerk: If you're not in a hurry, it would be a good idea to take the hotel shuttle.

Yashiko: All right. Where do I catch it?

Desk Clerk: Look for the shuttle sign outside the hotel. When it comes by, just wave.

Yashiko: Do you know where I can get the ticket?

Desk Clerk: You don't need to. It's a courtesy shuttle. Just tip the driver if you want.

Sample Summary:

In the dialogue "The Hotel Shuttle," Yashiko inquires about the best transportation method to get downtown from the hotel. The desk clerk suggests a cab, bus, or the hotel shuttle. Yashiko asks for a recommendation, and the clerk advises the hotel shuttle if there's no rush. Yashiko learns that the shuttle can be hailed outside the hotel under a shuttle sign and discovers it's a courtesy service, so no ticket is needed, but tipping the driver is appreciated.

Sample Summary:

Yashiko is at a hotel and wants to know how to go to the city center. The person at the hotel's front desk tells Yashiko that there are three ways: a taxi, a bus, or the hotel's free bus. Yashiko asks which is best, and the desk person says the hotel's free bus is good if Yashiko is not in a hurry. Yashiko asks where to find the bus, and the desk person says to wait outside the hotel and wave when the bus with a "shuttle" sign comes. Yashiko asks about buying a ticket, but the desk person says it's free, and Yashiko can give the driver some money as a thank you if Yashiko wants.

Source:

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