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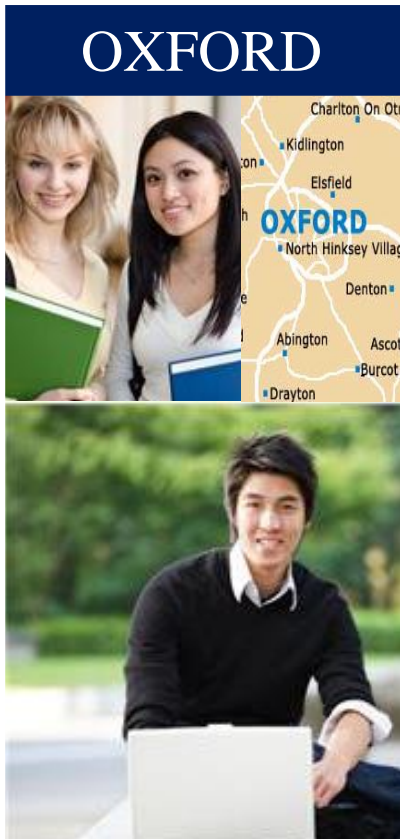
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

# DESCRIBING PLACES

Question: *What do you already know about the University of Oxford?*



- Complete the paragraph on the right with the words on the left.



## Oxford University

You probably already know some things about Oxford University, but there is probably a lot you don't know. It's called 'Oxford University' because it is (1)\_\_\_\_\_ in the town of Oxford, England (about 90 kilometers outside of London). Classes first began there almost a thousand (2)\_\_\_\_\_ ago (in 1096), and it is one of the best universities in the world. Most colleges and universities are located on just one main campus, but this university is (3)\_\_\_\_\_. It's located in many different places around the town of Oxford. For example, (4)\_\_\_\_\_ South Parks Road you can find the Science Area, while just behind Broad Street you can listen to (5)\_\_\_\_\_ at the Sheldonian Theater. Do you like to (6)\_\_\_\_\_? If 'yes', there are millions of books at the university's Bodleian Libraries. In addition, the university has a large number of parks – the Botanic Garden on High Street has more than 8,000 different kinds of (7)\_\_\_\_\_. Of course, the (8)\_\_\_\_\_ are the most important part of Oxford University – there are more than 21,000 of them from the U.K. and from around the (9)\_\_\_\_\_. Finally, if you're thinking of visiting (or studying at) Oxford, there is even a (10)\_\_\_\_\_ at 106 High Street where you can buy souvenirs to remember your time at this amazing university.

(about 215 words)

- G** gift shop *n.*
- L** located *adj.*
- M** music *n.*
- N** near *adv.*
- P** plants *n.*
- R** read *v.*
- S** special *adj.*
- students *n.*
- W** world *n.*
- Y** years *n.*

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# DESCRIBING PLACES

## Oxford University



### Vocabulary Practice

- Match the words on the left with the meanings on the right.

- |                      |          |  |
|----------------------|----------|--|
| 1. a large number of | <u>B</u> | A. the most important                                    |
| 2. amazing           | _____    | B. many  |
| 3. campus            | _____    | C. the area and buildings around a college or university |
| 4. garden            | _____    | D. 1,000,000   |
| 5. main              | _____    | E. a place where plants (like flowers) are grown         |
| 6. million           | _____    | F. different   |
| 7. souvenir          | _____    | G. wonderful   |
| 8. special           | _____    | H. something you keep to help you remember a place       |

### How Much Do You Understand?

- Write 'T' (True) or 'F' (False) next to each statement.

1. F The paragraph is about how to become a student at Oxford.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Oxford University is located in London, England.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Oxford University is over a thousand years old.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ The university is located in many different parts of the town.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ The Sheldonian Theater is located near Broad Street.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ There are almost 8,000 students at Oxford University.

### Discuss

- Ask and answer the following questions with your classmates.

1. Would you like to visit – or study at – Oxford University? Why? / Why not?
2. Can you think of three reasons why people study at college or university?
3. Can you describe the school, college, or university where you now study?  
Where is it located? How old is it? What is the student population? Etc.

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# DESCRIBING PLACES

## Oxford University



### Grammar-in-Context

- Complete the paragraph by circling the correct words.

You probably already know some things about Oxford University, (1)\_\_\_\_\_ there is probably a lot you don't know. It's called 'Oxford University' (2)\_\_\_\_\_ it is located in the town of Oxford, England (about 90 kilometers outside of London). Classes first began there almost a thousand years ago (in 1096), and it is one of the best universities (3)\_\_\_\_\_. Most colleges and universities are located on just one main campus, but this university is special. (4)\_\_\_\_\_ located in many different places around the town of Oxford. For example, near South Parks Road you can (5)\_\_\_\_\_ the Science Area, while just behind Broad Street you can (6)\_\_\_\_\_ at the Sheldonian Theater. Do you (7)\_\_\_\_\_? If 'yes', there are millions of books at the university's Bodleian Libraries. In addition, the university (8)\_\_\_\_\_ a large number of parks – the Botanic Garden on High Street has more (9)\_\_\_\_\_ 8,000 different kinds of plants. Of course, the students are the most important part of Oxford University – (10)\_\_\_\_\_ more than 21,000 of them from the U.K. and from around the world. Finally, if (11)\_\_\_\_\_ thinking of visiting (or studying at) Oxford, there is even a gift shop at 106 High Street (12)\_\_\_\_\_ you can buy souvenirs to remember your time at this amazing university.

1.

- (A) so
- (B) but
- (C) that
- (D) because

5.

- (A) will find
- (B) finds
- (C) finding
- (D) find

9.

- (A) then
- (B) than
- (C) that
- (D) this

2.

- (A) because
- (B) so
- (C) then
- (D) but

6.

- (A) listening to music
- (B) listen
- (C) listens to music
- (D) listen to music

10.

- (A) there
- (B) there is
- (C) there are
- (D) has

3.

- (A) on the world
- (B) world
- (C) the world
- (D) in the world

7.

- (A) like to read
- (B) likes reading
- (C) reading
- (D) likes to read

11.

- (A) your
- (B) you
- (C) you're
- (D) yours

4.

- (A) It's
- (B) It
- (C) Its
- (D) It have

8.

- (A) have
- (B) has
- (C) it have
- (D) it has

12.

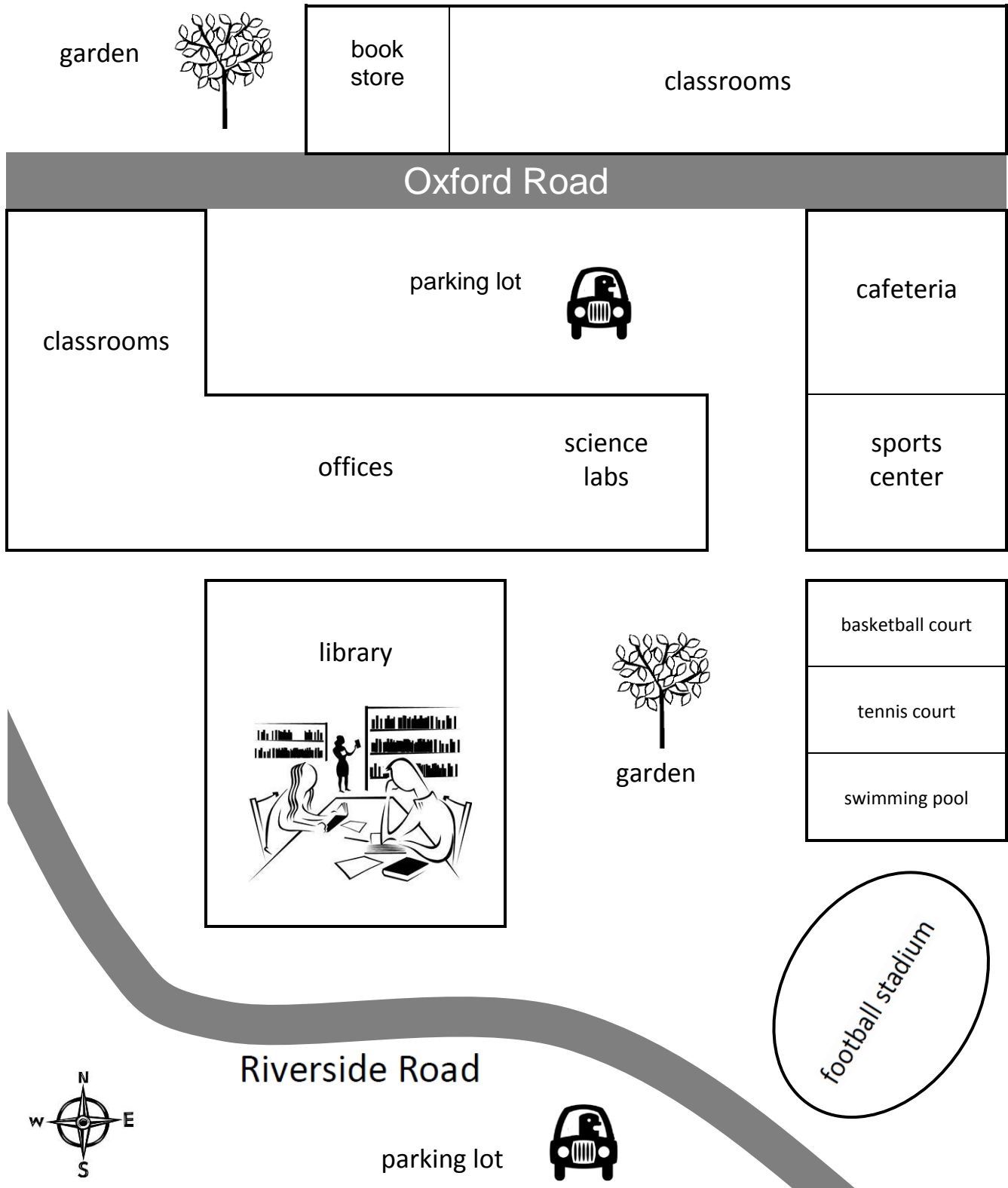
- (A) why
- (B) who
- (C) what
- (D) where

# Community College Map

**A**

- Work with your partner to find all eight differences in the maps.

There is a ... / There are ... / There aren't any ... next to behind in front of between



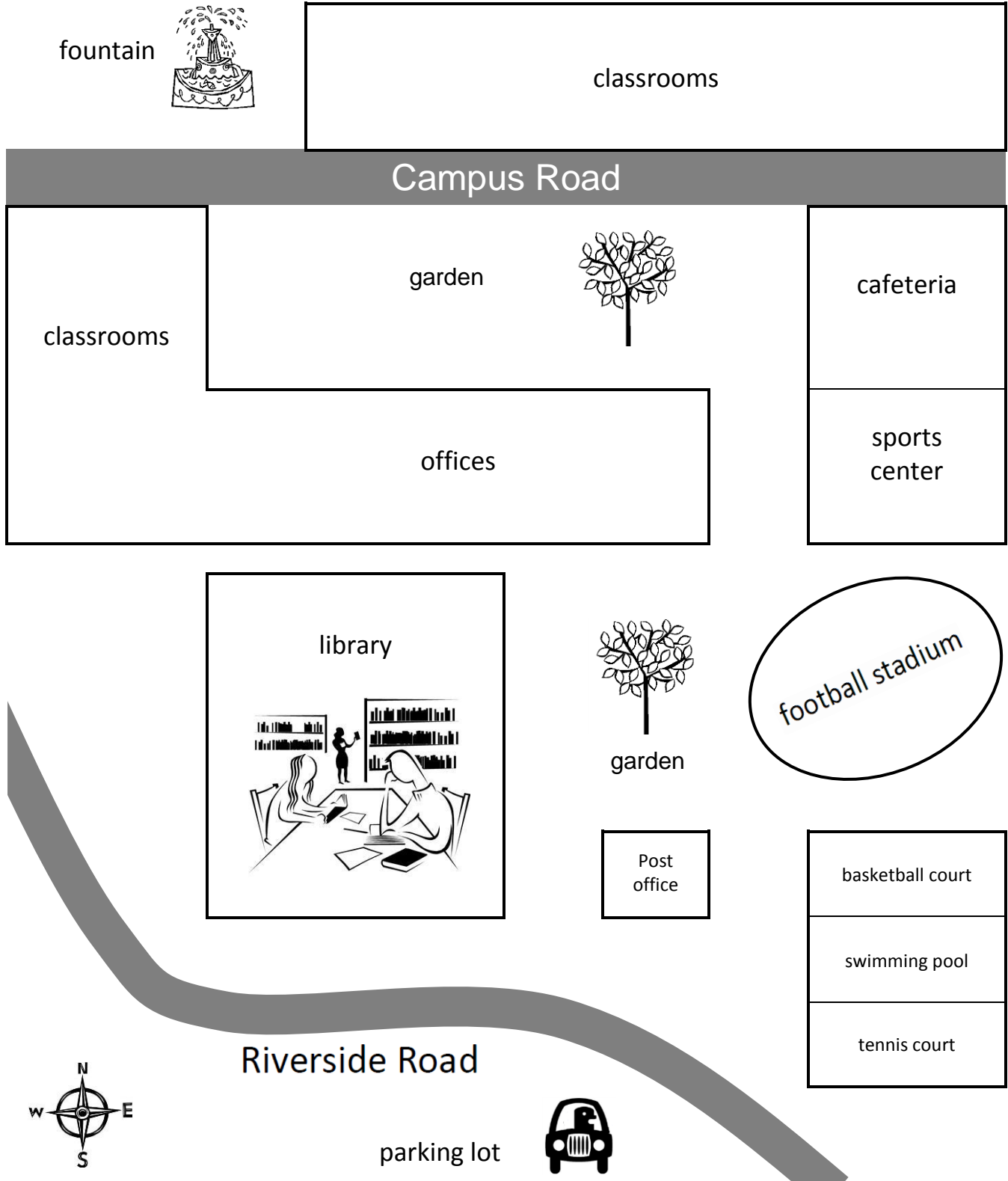
- Next, read a short paragraph about the college.

# Community College Map

**B**

- Work with your partner to find all eight differences in the maps.

There is a ... / There are ... / There aren't any ... next to behind in front of between



- Next, read a short paragraph about the college.

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# DESCRIBING PLACES

## *A Special Place at College*



### Writing Practice – Spelling and Capitals

- Try to find the one spelling or capital mistake in each line of the paragraph below.

1 Apple Tree Community Colleg is located about five  
2 kilometers from downtown. It has a stident population of  
3 about 800. There are tow large parking lots, but sometimes  
4 it's difficult to find a space to park. That's why i sometimes  
5 take a bus to the college. of course, like most other  
6 colleges, there are manny classrooms, offices, a library, a  
7 book store, and a sports center. In Addition, there is even a  
8 huge football stadium next to riverside Road. However,  
9 Apple Tree Community college is special because there are  
10 two gardens, and insid the gardens there are many trees.  
11 What kind of trees? apple trees! That's right – the college is  
12 famous for its apple trees. In the spring, sammer, and  
13 winter, when it's not to cold, students like to hang out there  
14 under the beatiful trees and chat with each other, play  
15 games, and study. There are lot of benches to sit down on  
16 in the parks, and u can find lots of students (and some  
17 teachers) sitting on the soft, grean grass. In the gardens  
18 you can relax, lisen to the birds, and really enjoy your time. I  
19 love to study there wen the weather is nice. And last year I  
20 gat an 'A' on all of my exams! My college is amazing!

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# DESCRIBING PLACES

## A Special Place at College



### Listening and Writing Practice

- Listen to your teacher and complete the paragraph.

Apple Tree Community College is \_\_\_\_\_ about five kilometers from downtown. It has a student population of about 800. \_\_\_\_\_ large parking lots, but sometimes it's difficult to find a space to \_\_\_\_\_. That's why I sometimes take a \_\_\_\_\_ to the college. Of course, like most other colleges, there are \_\_\_\_\_ classrooms, offices, a \_\_\_\_\_, a \_\_\_\_\_, and a sports center. \_\_\_\_\_, there is even a large \_\_\_\_\_ stadium \_\_\_\_\_ Riverside Road. \_\_\_\_\_, Apple Tree Community College is \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_ two gardens, and \_\_\_\_\_ the gardens \_\_\_\_\_ trees. What kind of trees? Apple trees! That's right – the college is \_\_\_\_\_ its apple trees. In the \_\_\_\_\_, summer, and \_\_\_\_\_, when \_\_\_\_\_ too cold, students \_\_\_\_\_ hang out there \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ trees and chat with each other, \_\_\_\_\_ games, and study. \_\_\_\_\_ lots of benches to \_\_\_\_\_ on in the parks, \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_ find \_\_\_\_\_ students (and some teachers) sitting on the soft, green grass. In the gardens you can \_\_\_\_\_, listen to the birds, and \_\_\_\_\_ your time. I \_\_\_\_\_ study there when the \_\_\_\_\_ is nice. And last year I got an 'A' on all of my exams! My college is \_\_\_\_\_!

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# DESCRIBING PLACES



## Writing Practice 2

- ***DESCRIPTIVE Writing:** Describe the school, college, or university where you study (or choose one place at your school, college, or university).*

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# LESSON

# Describing Places: Oxford

**Language Focus** Present Simple Tense / 'There is' and There are'

**Level** Intermediate to Advanced

**Time** Approximately 120 – 180 minutes

## Oxford University ANSWER KEY

### ● Complete the Paragraph

1. located
2. years
3. special
4. near
5. music
6. read
7. plants
8. students
9. world
10. gift shop

### ● Vocabulary Practice

- |      |      |
|------|------|
| 1. B | 5. A |
| 2. G | 6. D |
| 3. C | 7. H |
| 4. E | 8. F |

### ● How Much Do You Understand?

1. F (It's about Oxford University.)
2. F (It's located in Oxford.)
3. F (It's almost a thousand years old.)
4. T
5. T
6. F (There are more than 21,000.)

### ● Grammar-in-context

- |      |      |       |
|------|------|-------|
| 1. B | 5. D | 9. B  |
| 2. A | 6. D | 10. C |
| 3. C | 7. A | 11. C |
| 4. A | 8. B | 12. D |

## College Map ANSWER KEY

### Map 'A'

1. There is a garden
2. There is a book store.
3. Oxford Road
4. A parking lot is in front of the cafeteria
5. There are science labs.
6. There aren't any post offices.
7. Tennis between basketball/swimming
8. The stadium is near Riverside Rd.

### Map 'B'

1. There is a garden.
2. There aren't any book stores.
3. Campus Road
4. A garden in front of the cafeteria
5. There aren't any science labs.
6. There is a post office.
7. Swimming between basketball/tennis
8. The swimming near Riverside Rd.

### ● A Special Place at College

- |              |               |            |
|--------------|---------------|------------|
| 1. College   | 8. Riverside  | 15. lots   |
| 2. student   | 9. College    | 16. you    |
| 3. two       | 10. inside    | 17. green  |
| 4. I         | 11. Apple     | 18. listen |
| 5. Of course | 12. summer    | 19. when   |
| 6. many      | 13. too       | 20. got    |
| 7. addition  | 14. beautiful |            |

### ● Homework Idea

Write a descriptive paragraph about the place where you study (see attached worksheet). In the next class, get into a small group and read aloud your paragraph.

## EXPLORE on-line:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxford\\_university](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxford_university)

<http://www.ox.ac.uk/>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vxAU88LxLis>

image credits: <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/images/>

**THINK GREEN!** Whenever possible, consider:

- double-sided photocopies
- having students share copies
- using an OHP or smartboard