

Task Name: Navigating NYC: Campus & Neighborhood Resource Mapping

Target Textbook: Genki I (Chapters 01–04)

Materials Needed: A simplified map of Manhattan with Columbia University/Macaulay Honors College at CUNY (or another NYC college) marked, blank speech bubble stickers or notecards, pens.

Language Skills Practiced: Speaking (question-answer), listening, basic kanji recognition (place names).

Estimated Time: 25–30 minutes

Background Scenario (in English):

You are a new student at a university in New York City. Your campus is in Manhattan. To get settled in, you need to find essential places near your campus for daily life (e.g., a bank, a post office, a convenience store). Your friend from class also needs to find some places. You will work together to ask about and identify the locations of these places on a map, using the grammar pattern 「～があります/います」 to describe what exists where.

Key Vocabulary / Phrases (from Genki Ch.01–04):

- Nouns (Places): びょういん (hospital)、ぎんこう (bank)、としょかん (library)、ゆうびんきょく (post office)、コンビニ (convenience store)、スーパー (supermarket)、きっさてん (café)、がっこう (school)、だいがく (university)、こうえん (park)
- Nouns (People/Things): せんせい (teacher)、がくせい (student)、ともだち (friend)、ここ (here)、そこ (there)、あそこ (over there)
- Verbs/Adjectives: あります (there is/are, inanimate)、います (there is/are, animate)、どこですか (where is it?)
- Particles: に (location marker)、か (question marker)、も (also)、と (and)
- Example Q&A: 「あのう、ぎんこうはどこにありますか。」 「あそこにあります。」 「がくせいもいますか。」 「はい、います。」

Task Steps:

1. Individual Preparation (5 minutes):

- Look at the provided map. Your campus (だいがく) is marked in the center.
- Silently write down 3 places you need to find today (from the vocabulary list) on a notecard. Use the pattern: 「[Place]はどこにありますか。」
- Write one question about a person, using: 「[Person] もいますか。」

2. Pair Work: Question & Answer (10 minutes):

- Partner A asks Partner B one location question from their card. Partner B points to a plausible spot on the map and answers using 「[Place]は[Location]にあります。」 (e.g., 「ぎんこうはがっこうのみぎにあります。」).

- Partner A places a speech bubble sticker or writes the place name at that location on the map.
- Switch roles. Repeat until each partner has asked all their questions.
- Also ask one question about a person (e.g., 「せんせいもいますか。」). Answer with 「はい、います。」 or 「いいえ、いません。」

3. Pair Work: Description (5–7 minutes):

- Together, look at your now-marked map. Describe 3–4 things near your campus to each other using 「～があります」 and 「～がいます」 in full sentences.
- Example: 「だいがくのちかくにとしょかんとこうえんがあります。がくせいもたくさんいます。」

4. Mini-Presentation (Optional, 3–5 minutes):

- One pair joins another pair. Introduce your campus area to the other group using 2–3 sentences based on your map.
- Example: 「私たちのだいがくのまわりにスーパーとびょういんがあります。ともだちもいます。」