

## Speaking CTA

a conlang by Jack Bradley

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## I. Introduction

The "CTA", or Chicago Transit Authority, is the entity which runs most mass transit in the city of Chicago.

It is a living antique. It is working, breathing, and moving. Sometimes bold. Sometimes lumbering. It is both relief and burden. Comfort and discomfort. It is a uniting force in a city that has relatively few opportunities to come together.

When I moved to Chicago, I was immediately enthralled by the monotony with which people discuss the CTA, the jargon that revolves around it, and the access that it gave individuals to the whole of the city. I quickly developed a desire to construct a language to give the users of the CTA as a clandestine means of expression, accessible only to those who pay attention enough to see it.

CTA's basic word order is subject-verb-object. There are seven parts of speech: noun, pronoun, verb, adjective, adverb, interjection, and conjunction. All roots in CTA are expressed by making a successful trip from a predetermined starting point to an end point. A word's part of speech is typically determined by the way in which the speaker's body is articulated. Because CTA is a ridden language and relies on a train to transport its riders from one place to another, it can easily take hours to say a relatively simple phrase.

Though the CTA itself is somewhat ubiquitous in Chicago, the language I've created for it remains and will remain, in all likelihood, clandestine. Still, who knows who may take up this dictionary and maybe thumb through it or give the phrase book at the back a quick look and give speaking CTA a whirl? Who in your commute this morning was truly participating in a hidden conversation? What are your fellow commuters saying through their own rides?

Love, sedition, praise, joy, friendship, envy, boredom, dismay, irritation, redemption, enthusiasm, unhappiness, gratitude, remorse, tension, analysis...What will you say?

## II. Notation

A standard notation system is used through this text in order to easily and fluidly describe the language.

| Bite Lower Lip | BLL | Hand Near Face | AH2F |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Blinking | BNK | Hand to Thigh | $H 2 T$ |
| Clockwise | CW | Hug | $H$ |
| Counter-Clockwise | CntCW | Left Eye Closed | LEC |
| Cross Legs | CL | Raise Eyebrows | $R E$ |
| Eyes Closed | $E C$ | Raise Heels | $R H$ |
| Eyes Open | EO | Right Eye Closed | REC |
| Eyes to Left | $E 2 L$ | Shake Hands | SH |
| Eyes to Right | E2R | Shake Head | SYH |
| Eyes Wide Open | EWO | Sit | S |
| Freestyle | $F S$ | Tap Feet | TF |
| Grab | $G$ | Tap Fist to Opposite <br> Shoulder | TFOS |
| Grab Ear | GE | Tongue On Lower <br> Lip | $T L L$ |
| Hand to Chest | $H 2 C$ | Transfer | TNFR |
| Hand to Face | $H 2 F$ | Turnstile In | $T I$ |
| Hand to Knee | $H 2 K$ | Turnstile Out | $T O$ |
| Hand to Lower Back | $H 2 L B$ |  |  |

## III. The Stations

As stated in the introduction, the main medium for the CTA language is the elevated train system in the city of Chicago. Though perhaps expected by some, Metra stops and bus lines are not a part of the CTA language as described in this grammar.

The train stops are subdivided into two categories:

## Loop Stations and non-Loop Stations.

Non-Loop stations make up the bulk of the vocabulary and are utilized in most descriptor words.

Loop Stations, on the other hand, are utilized principally for creating clauses and posing questions.

Each train line is generally associated with a number of broad concepts listed here:

| Green | east/west, left/right, movement/action |
| :--- | :---: |
| Red | north/south, up/down, studies/academia, <br> sports |
| Blue | arts, clothing, body |
| Brown | structure, people, industry, place, number |
| Pink | serenity, peace, time |
| Orange | travel/transport, weight, size, weather |
| Yellow | thought, belief/religion |
| Purple | nature, money, math |

What follows is a complete list of all "L" stops used in CTA vocabulary organized by line. Note that while some of the lines listed do extend into the Loop, the Loop stations are never used in descriptive words, with the exception of a few vocabulary words that pass through, but never stop in, the Loop.

| Green Line | Red Line |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\diamond$ Harlem/Lake | $\diamond$ Red Howard |
| $\diamond$ Green Oak Park | $\bigcirc$ Jarvis |
| $\diamond$ Ridgeland | $\diamond$ Morse |
| $\diamond$ Green Austin | $\diamond$ Loyola |
| $\diamond$ Green Central | $\checkmark$ Granville |
| $\diamond$ Laramie | $\diamond$ Thorndale |
| $\diamond$ Green Cicero | $\diamond$ Bryn Mawr |
| $\bigcirc$ Green Pulaski | $\bigcirc$ Berwyn |
| $\diamond$ Conservatory-Central Park | $\diamond$ Argyle |
| Drive | $\checkmark$ Lawrence |
| $\diamond$ Green Kedzie | $\diamond$ Wilson |
| $\diamond$ Green California | $\diamond$ Sheridan |
| $\diamond$ Green Ashland | $\diamond$ Red Addison |
| $\diamond$ Morgan | $\diamond$ Red Belmont |
| $\diamond$ Green Clinton | $\diamond$ Red Fullerton |
| $\diamond$ Green Roosevelt | $\diamond$ North/Clybourn |
| $\diamond$ Cermak-McCormick | $\diamond$ Clark/Division |
| Place | $\diamond$ Red Chicago |
| $\diamond$ 35 th-Bronzeville-IIT | $\diamond$ Red Grand |
| $\diamond$ Indiana | $\diamond$ Harrison |
| $\diamond 43^{\text {rd }}$ | $\diamond$ Red Roosevelt |
| $\diamond$ Green47 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ | $\diamond$ Cermak-Chinatown |
| $\diamond 51^{\text {st }}$ | $\diamond$ Sox-35 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ |
| $\diamond$ Green Garfield | $\diamond$ Red 47 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ |
| $\diamond$ King Drive (goes away | $\diamond$ Red Garfield |
| from terminus only) | $\bigcirc 63{ }^{\text {rd }}$ |
| $\diamond$ Cottage Grove | $\diamond 79$ th |
| $\diamond$ Halsted | $\diamond$ 87th |
| $\diamond$ Ashland/63 ${ }^{\text {rd }}$ | $\diamond$ 95 ${ }^{\text {th/Dan Ryan }}$ |


| Blue Line |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | Brown Line |  |  |
| $\diamond$ | O'Hare | $\diamond$ |  |
| $\diamond$ | Rosemont | $\diamond$ | Browall |
| $\diamond$ | Cumberland | $\diamond$ | Francisco |
| $\diamond$ | Harlem1 |  |  |
| $\diamond$ | Jefferson Park | $\diamond$ | Rockwell |
| $\diamond$ | Blue Montrose | $\diamond$ | Brown Western |
| $\diamond$ | Blue Irving Park | $\diamond$ | Brown Damen |
| $\diamond$ | Blue Addison | $\diamond$ | Brown Montrose |
| $\diamond$ | Blue Belmont | $\diamond$ | Brown Addison |
| $\diamond$ | Logan Square | $\diamond$ | Paulina |
| $\diamond$ | Blue California | $\diamond$ | Southport |
| $\diamond$ | Blue Western | $\diamond$ | Brown Belmont |
| $\diamond$ | Blue Damen | $\diamond$ | Brown Wellington |
| $\diamond$ | Division | $\diamond$ | Brown Diversey |
| $\diamond$ | Blue Chicago | $\diamond$ | Brown Fullerton |
| $\diamond$ | Blue Grand | $\diamond$ | Brown Armitage |
| $\diamond$ | LaSalle | $\diamond$ | Brown Sedgwick |
| $\diamond$ | Blue Clinton | $\diamond$ | Brown Chicago |
| $\diamond$ | UIC-Halstead | $\diamond$ | Merchandise Mart |
| $\diamond$ | Racine |  |  |
| $\diamond$ | Illinois Medical District |  |  |
| $\diamond$ | Western |  |  |
| $\diamond$ | Kedzie-Homan |  |  |
| $\diamond$ | Blue Pulaski |  |  |
| $\diamond$ | Blue Cicero |  |  |
| $\diamond$ | Blue Austin |  |  |
| $\diamond$ | Blue Oak Park |  |  |
| $\diamond$ | Harlem 2 |  |  |
| $\diamond$ | Forest Park |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |


| Pink Line |  |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | Orange Line


| Yellow Line |  | Purple Line |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $\diamond$ | Dempster-Skokie | $\diamond$ | Linden |
| $\diamond$ | Oakton-Skokie | $\diamond$ | Purple Central |
| $\diamond$ | Yellow Howard | $\diamond$ | Noyes |
|  |  | $\diamond$ | Foster |
|  |  | $\diamond$ | Davis |
|  | $\diamond$ | Dempster |  |
|  |  | $\diamond$ | Main |
|  | $\diamond$ | South Boulevard |  |
|  |  | $\diamond$ | Purple Howard |
|  | $\diamond$ | Purple Wilson |  |
|  | $\diamond$ | Purple Belmont |  |
|  | $\diamond$ | Purple Wellington |  |
|  | $\diamond$ | Purple Diversey |  |
|  | $\diamond$ | Purple Fullerton |  |
|  | $\diamond$ | Purple Armitage |  |
|  | $\diamond$ | Purple Sedgwick |  |
|  | $\diamond$ | Purple Chicago |  |

## Loop Stations

Elevated:

Washington/Wells<br>Quincy<br>LaSalle/Van Buren<br>Harold Washington Library<br>Adams/Wabash<br>Washington/Wabash<br>State/Lake<br>Clark/Lake

Blue (subterranean):
Blue Clark/Lake Washington
Blue Monroe
Blue Jackson
Red (subterranean):
Lake
Red Monroe
Red Jackson

The meaning of much of the CTA vocabulary is determined by the direction in which one travels. Loop vocabulary is no different and it is highly important to ensure that one is traveling clockwise ( $C W$ ) or counterclockwise (CntCW) while riding on the elevated Loop tracks.

## IV. Use of Body

The use of the human body is the other main tool by which one speaks the CTA language.

These body movements sometimes require the sustained or momentary use of the entire body, such as entering and exiting a station or train. On the other hand, other movements require articulation of only a portion of the body, such as the hands, feet, mouth, legs, and eyes.

Use of the body serves a number of functions in CTA, including the marking of case, aspect, mood, and part of speech.

Multiple body movements may very well be employed at the same time, though physical limitations will ultimate curtail any simultaneous use of an excessive number of body parts.

## V. Nouns

A root is marked as a noun if the speaker grabs their ear while riding between root stops (GE).

When employed with nouns, the eyes determine the case of a noun. The case of the noun will determine its role in the sentence. CTA has eight nouns cases: nominative, accusative, dative, locative, genitive, allative, ablative, and instrumental.

## EO

When the eyes are open, looking straight forward or in no particular direction for a long period of time, the noun is indicated as being in the nominative, the subject of a phrase.

Dempster-Skokie $\rightarrow$<br>Yellow HowardEO

## EC

When the eyes of a speaker are closed for the duration or vast majority of a ride, the noun is interpreted as being in the accusative, the object of a sentence.

## Dempster-Skokie $\rightarrow \quad$ (belief, as the object) Yellow HowardEC

## EWO

Eyes which are being forcefully held wide open indicate the dative case, which marks the noun as the indirect object of a sentence.

Brown Chicago $\rightarrow$<br>(to the person)<br>Brown Diversey $E W O$

## E2L

Eyes looking left indicate that the noun is in the locative case. This marks the noun as the location of something.
Merchandise Mart $\rightarrow$
(at the market)
Brown SedgwickE2L

## E2R

If the speaker's eyes look right for an extended period of time, the noun is understood to be in the genitive case, the possessor of another noun. The possessed noun is always placed after the noun marked in the genitive.

Brown Chicago $\rightarrow$<br>(The person's body)<br>Brown DiverseyE2R<br>Blue Clinton $\rightarrow$ IC-Halsted $E O$.

## LEC

When only the left eye is closed, this indicates that the noun in question is in the allative case, the place toward which something is in motion.
Merchandise Mart $\rightarrow$ (to/toward a market) Brown SedgwickLEC

## REC

If a speaker closes only their right eye, then the noun is in the ablative case, the place away from which something is in motion.

> Merchandise Mart $\rightarrow$
> Brown Sedgwick $L E C$
(from the market)

## BNK

Continuous and drawn-out blinking marks a noun as being in the instrumental case. The noun is therefore understood to be the mode by which an action is performed or achieved.

Irving Park $\rightarrow$<br>(using the machine)<br>Paulina $B N K$

## VI. Pronouns

The whole of the body is used to indicate the pronoun of a phrase. CTA has three pronouns: $1^{\text {st }}$ person, $2^{\text {nd }}$ person, and $3^{\text {rd }}$ person, all of which may either be singular or plural.

Sitting down on a seat will express the $1^{\text {st }}$ person (I/we) (S). Grabbing onto a handle expresses the $2^{\text {nd }}$ person (you/y'all)( $G$ ). Finally, standing freestyle (also known as subway surfing) results in the indication of the $3^{\text {rd }}$ person (he/she/it/they) (FS).

> GPink Ashland $\rightarrow$ Pink Clinton
> you meet
> $\rightarrow$ Green Ashland

SGreen Kedzie $\rightarrow$ Green Morgan I hope
$\rightarrow$ Green Ashland

One may choose to isolate a pronoun from a verb root for emphasis, clarity, or to utilize a noun case ending. To treat a pronoun as a lone entity, one must ride from one CTA stop to the next one over (direction does not matter) and exit the train. At the same time, one must place an open hand to the face, with the tips of their fingers typically touching the cheek ( $H 2 F$ ) and the back of the hand facing up or toward the speaker's face. Proper eye movements are used to indicate grammatical case.

## VII. Verbs

Verbs are expressed in CTA through tapping one's feet continuously while during one's ride (TF). Verbs have no tense in CTA, but may be inflected for mood and aspect.

EO

Eyes open, looking in no direction in particular, show that the verb is indicative.
$T F . . G 18^{\text {th }} \rightarrow$ PolkEO
(You do good)

EC

The imperative is indicated by the speaker keeping their eyes closed continuously.

$$
T F . .18^{\text {th }} \rightarrow \operatorname{Polk} E C
$$

(Do good!)

The imperative may also be used to express a desire for something to happen, acting as the subjunctive. Thus, it makes sense to specify who you are ordering to do what. If your intent is to command a someone or something in $2^{\text {nd }}$ person, it might be best to grab onto a handle $(G)$. Though it may help with clarity, this is by no means a requirement.

## EWO

The negative imperative, expressed in English as don't, is expressed by opening the eyes wide and keeping them that way for the duration or for the majority of a ride.

$$
T F 18^{\text {th }} \rightarrow \operatorname{Polk} E W O
$$

(Don't do good!)

E2L
A verb is expressed as imperfect when the eyes are fixated to the left.

$$
\begin{gathered}
T F . . F S 18^{\text {th }} \rightarrow \text { PolkE2L } \quad \begin{array}{l}
(\mathrm{He} / \text { she } / \text { it is/was/will } \\
\text { be doing good })
\end{array}
\end{gathered}
$$

## E2R

The speaker indicates that a verb is perfective if their eyes look to and remain fixed to the right.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
T F . . S 18^{\text {th }} \rightarrow \text { Polk } E 2 R & \text { (I had/have/will } \\
& \text { have done good) }
\end{array}
$$

## LEC

Gnomic verbs (statements about general truths) are expressed by keeping the left eye closed.
GEBrown Chicago $\rightarrow$
(People do good)
Brown Diversey TF18 ${ }^{\text {th }} \rightarrow$
PolkLEC

## REC

A verb is understood to be inceptive (just beginning, starting out) if only the right eye remains continuously closed.
$T F . . S 18^{\text {th }} \rightarrow$ Polk $R E C \quad$ (We start to do good)

## BNK

A verb is terminative (coming to an end, or having come to an end) when the speaker blinks continuously.

$$
T F . . F S 18^{\text {th }} \rightarrow \text { PolkBNK } \quad \begin{aligned}
& \text { (They finished/stopped } \\
& \text { doing good) }
\end{aligned}
$$

The passive voice has two forms in CTA. The first refers to an action being performed by an individual or group who, for whatever reason, are unnamed or unknown by the speaker.

This is expressed by biting one's lower lip (BLL):

TF..FS Ashland $\rightarrow$<br>(She is seen)<br>Green California $\rightarrow$<br>Green Ashland $\rightarrow$<br>Green CaliforniaEO..BLL

The second form refers to a much broader passive voice where the unnamed participants make up an overwhelming large group. This is not to be confused with the gnomic aspect, since it does not refer to a greater truth, but rather an overwhelming tendency by large numbers of people.

This latter possibility is expressed by touching one's tongue to the upper lip (TLL).

TF..FSYellow Howard $\rightarrow$<br>Dempster-Skokie $\rightarrow$<br>Yellow HowardEO.. TLL<br>(Everybody<br>knows him/He is<br>known by everybody

In order to refer to verbs in the infinitive or when nominalizing a conjoined pronoun-verb, one can hold their hand to their own face $(H 2 F)$ while completing a verb's root ride:

| TF..FS18 <br> have PolkBNK..H2F | (The fact that <br> done good.) |
| :---: | :--- |
| TF.. SGreen Kedzie $\rightarrow$ <br> Green Clinton.. $H 2 F$ | (My going) |
| TF..Green Kedzie $\rightarrow$ | (to go) |
| Green ClintonH2F |  |

Negation is formed by shaking one's head continuously for the duration of a ride (SYH)

CTA's basic word order is typically subject-verbobject. However, this is flexible and a speaker-rider may place any of these elements at the end of a phrase to emphasis importance or relevance.

## VIII. Adjectives

Adjectives are formed in CTA by tapping one's fist to the opposite shoulder (TFOS). CTA's adjectives always go in front of the noun that they are describing.

TFOS..Blue Western $\rightarrow$<br>Blue Addison $\rightarrow$<br>Logan Square...TNFR<br>Wilson $\rightarrow$ Lawrence $\rightarrow$<br>WilsonEO<br>(cloth mammal,<br>cloth animal,<br>teddy bear, stuffed animal)

Multiple adjectives can also be stacked in front of a single noun or a noun phrase:

TFOS..Red Howard $\rightarrow$
95 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ Dan Ryan...TNFR
TFOS..Cermak-Chinatown $\rightarrow$
95 ${ }^{\text {th }} /$ Dan Ryan...TNFR...
TFOS..Berwyn $\rightarrow$ Thorndale $\rightarrow$
Red Grand...TNFR...TFOS..
Brown Belmont $\rightarrow$ Brown
Fullerton $\rightarrow$ Brown Wellington $\rightarrow$
Brown Diversey...TNFR...
GENorth/Clybourn $\rightarrow$ Red Belmont $\rightarrow$
Red FullertonEO

## IX. Adverbs

A root is expressed as an adverb when a speaker raises their heels and keeps them raised for the duration of their ride $(R H)$.
$R H$..Blue Grand $\rightarrow$ Logan Square (aggressively)

Similar to adjectives, adverbs come before the verbs they modify. Though typically used to modify verbs, they may also be used to qualify other parts of speech such as adjectives.
$R H$..Pink Cicero $\rightarrow$ Pink Western... (I happily begin

TNFR...TF..SRed Grand $\rightarrow$
(to eat) Red DamenREC

## X. Conjunctions

CTA has three conjunctions, which may be used to join or contrast multiple verb or noun phrases.

Each one of them requires that the speaker's legs be crossed ( $C L$ ) while riding from one CTA stop to the next one over (direction does not matter) and exit the train.
CL..SAny1
CL..GAny1
and, so
CL..FSAny1
but, however, though
or

## XI. Interjections

Just as with spoken languages, CTA also utilizes interjections. These are typically short, brief rides which often express spontaneous or strong emotions concisely.

An interjection may be formed in a formulaic manner, making use of root rides. When this is the case, an interjection is formed when the speaker undertakes a root ride while keeping one or both of their hands to their chest (H2C). This may be done in any pronominal position ( $G, F S$, or $S$ ). No other grammatical maneuvers, such as noun case or verb aspect/mood, may be used with interjections.
H2C..Pink California $\rightarrow$
Pink Morgan
(nice! lovely! how nice!
how lovely! wonderful!)

Other times, however, the interjection is idiomatic. Such is most often the case with salutations:

Hello:<br>Goodbye:

I love you:
Please:
shake hands ( SH )
speaker holds their palm open a few inches from the interlocutor's cheek. (AH2F).
hug (H)
praying/begging hands (PRAY)

If an interlocutor is not present, the speaker may feel free to mime these gestures.

## XII. Questions

Questions may either have yes or no as responses.
They may also require clarification on the part of the person responding.

When asking a yes/no question, the speaker raises their eyebrows and slightly tilts their head backward ( $R E$ ).

TF..GLaramie $\rightarrow$
Green KedzieEO..RE
TF...FSIrving Park $\rightarrow$
PaulinaEO..RE
(Will you try? Did you try? Have you tried?)
(Does it work? Did it work? Has it worked?)

When asking non-polar questions, a speaker uses one of the following question words placed either at the very front or the very end of a phrase

| Who/Which <br> One | Washington Wells $\rightarrow$ Harold Washington <br> LibraryCntCW |
| :---: | :--- |
| What | Washington $\rightarrow$ Blue Jackson |
| When | Clark/Lake $\rightarrow$ Adams/WabashCW |
| Where | Red Lake $\rightarrow$ Red Jackson |
| Why | Blue Jackson $\rightarrow$ Blue Monroe |
| How | LaSalle/Van Buren $\rightarrow$ QuincyCW |
| How Many | Clark/Lake $\rightarrow$ QuincyCW |

TF..FSRed Damen $\rightarrow$<br>Red GrandEO...TNFR...<br>Washington Wells $\rightarrow$<br>Harold Washington<br>LibraryCntCW<br>Lake $\rightarrow$ Red Jackson...<br>TNFR...SAny1..H2F

(Who drinks? lit. he/ she/it/they drink(s)
who?)
(Where am I? lit.
where $\mathrm{I} / \mathrm{me}$ ?)

The response to these questions may be complicated. However, based on context, a speaker may be able to answer them with one or more of the following correlating words:

| That person | Quincy $\rightarrow$ Adams/WabashCntCW |
| :--- | :--- |
| This one | Clark/Lake $\rightarrow$ Harold Washington <br> LibraryCW |
| Then, this time <br> (now) | State/Lake $\rightarrow$ Harold Washington <br> LibraryCW |
| Here | Red Jackson $\rightarrow$ Lake |
| Because | Blue Monroe $\rightarrow$ Blue Jackson |
| This/that way | Harold Washington Library $\rightarrow$ <br> LaSalle/Van BurenCW <br> This many/that <br> State Lake $\rightarrow$ Washington/WellsCW <br> This <br> many <br> Some Adams/Wabash $\rightarrow$ State/Lake CntCW |

## XIII. Relative Clauses

Question words may also be used as relative

## pronouns.

TF..SYellow Howard $\rightarrow$
Dempster-Skokie $\rightarrow$
Yellow HowardEO...TNFR
... Washington $\rightarrow$ Blue Jackson
...TNFR...FSAny1..H2F
TF.. GBerwyn $\rightarrow$ Thorndale
$\rightarrow$ Red GrandEO..SYH
Clark/Lake $\rightarrow$ QuincyCW
(I know what
it is. lit. I know
what it)
(You didn't say
how many)

The pronoun Washington $\rightarrow$ Blue Jackson (that, that
one) is used to render the sentence succeeding it the object of the sentence preceding it:

TF.. GYellow Howard $\rightarrow$
Dempster-Skokie $\rightarrow$ Yellow
Howard...TNFR...Washington
$\rightarrow$ Blue Jackson...TNFR...SAny1
...TNFR...Central Park $\rightarrow$ Pink
DamenEO
(You know that
I am a friend.)
You know that I friend

## XIV. Numbers

CTA has an octal numeral system (one based on eight). When specifying the number of a specific noun, the speaker places their hand to their thigh (H2T) instead of grabbing their ear $(G E)$. They then tap their hand against their thigh for the number of times which corresponds to the quantity of the nouns they are discussing.

For example, if a speaker is talking about three toads, they might say:

## H2T3SouthBoulevard $\rightarrow$ Dempster $\rightarrow$ South Boulevard

This system, however, will only work for numbers 1-7. For numbers $8-56$, a speaker taps their knee instead (H2K):

| H2K1: | 8 | $H 2 K 5:$ | 40 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| H2K2: | 16 | $H 2 K 6:$ | 48 |
| H2K3: | 24 | $H 2 K 7:$ | 56 |
| H2K4: | 32 |  |  |

For 64-448, a speaker taps their lower back as audibly as possible ( $H 2 L B$ ):

| H2LB1: | 64 | H2LB5: | 320 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| H2LB2: | 128 | H2LB6: | 384 |
| H2LB3: | 192 | H2LB7: | 448 |
| H2LB4: | 256 |  |  |

Numbers may also be combined together, with larger denominations coming before smaller ones:
H2LB6..H2K3..H2T6 ..... 414
H2LB1..H2K7 ..... 120

As is the case with pronouns, a speaker may choose to isolate a number from a noun root for emphasis, clarity, or to utilize a noun case ending. The process is identical in both cases.

To treat a number as a lone entity, one must ride from one CTA stop to the next one over (direction does not matter) and exit the train. At the same time, one must place an open hand to the face, with the tips of their fingers typically touching the cheek $(H 2 F)$ and the back of the hand facing up or toward the speaker's face.

Proper eye movements are used to indicate grammatical case.

## XV. Non-CTA Words

Non-CTA words, such as proper names or foreign concepts with no ready translation in CTA, may be spelled letter-by-letter once just before boarding a train and again after disembarking at the next station, using American Sign Language finger spelling:


While riding from stop to stop, apply the appropriate gestures for part of speech, mood/aspect, case, number and so on. If a non-CTA word is a noun in English, French, Klingon, or whatever the case may be, it should also be a noun in CTA. Same for verbs.

Same for adverbs. Et cetera.
Non-CTA words are capitalized in standard notation and their composing letters are separated by hyphens:

$$
\text { E.g. Marie } \rightarrow \quad \text { M-A-R-I-E }
$$

## XVI. Topographical Writing System

While the notation system used in most of this book is a perfectly acceptable way of writing CTA, a student of the language may prefer to record their thoughts using the CTA's native writing system.

The word in CTA for writing system and map are actually one in the same. This is because written CTA takes into account the geographical position of Chicago's "L" stations.

Documents are therefore not written out left to right or in any particular direction at all. The place of a written ride on paper or a screen is influenced by its
actual geographical location as seen from a bird's eye view. Up is north, down is south, left is west, and right is east. The order of the rides in a phrase is marked by an Arab numeral placed beside its corresponding ride.

Stations are marked by a circle with a colored ring, like this one:


A three-letter call sign is assigned to each station.
This call sign is written within the ring.
The color of a ring indicates the color of the line on which the station is found. If the color is black with no
call sign (such as in the example given) indicates that the choice of station does not matter. Loop stations have call signs, but their rings never show the color of their corresponding line.

Two or more stations are linked by arrows indicating the direction of travel:


Below is a list of call signs organized by line:

## Green Line

| HAL | Harlem/Lake |
| :--- | :--- |
| OAK | Green Oak Park |
| RID | Ridgeland |
| AUS | Green Austin |
| CEN | Central |
| LAR | Laramie |
| CIC | Green Cicero |
| PSK | Green Pulaski |
| CCP | Conservatory-Central <br> Park Drive |
| KED | Green Kedzie |
| CAL | Green California |
| ASH | Green Ashland |
| MOR | Morgan |
| CLI | Green Clinton |
| ROS | Green Roosevelt |
| MCP | Cermak-McCormick <br> Place |
| BRO | $35^{\text {th }}$-Bronzeville-IIT |
| IND | Indiana |
| FTD | $43^{\text {rd }}$ |
| FSV | Green 47th |
| FFS | $51^{\text {st }}$ |
| GAR | Green Garfield |


| KIN | King Drive (goes away <br> from terminus only) |
| :--- | :--- |
| CGR | Cottage Grove |
| HST | Halsted |
| AST | Ashland $/ 63^{\text {rd }}$ |

## Red Line

| HOW | Red Howard |
| :--- | :--- |
| JAR | Jarvis |
| MOR | Morse |
| LOY | Loyola |
| GRN | Granville |
| THO | Thorndale |
| MAW | Bryn Mawr |
| BWY | Berwyn |
| AGY | Argyle |
| LAW | Lawrence |
| WIL | Wilson |
| SHE | Sheridan |
| ADD | Red Addison |
| BEL | Red Belmont |
| FUL | Red Fullerton |
| CLY | North/Clybourn |
| CLA | Clark/Division |
| CHI | Red Chicago |
| GRA | Red Grand |
| HAR | Harrison |


| ROO | Red Roosevelt |
| :--- | :--- |
| CER | Cermak-Chinatown |
| SOX | Sox-35 th |
| FSV | Red $47^{\text {th }}$ |
| GAR | Red Garfield |
| SXT | $63^{\text {rd }}$ |
| SVN | $79^{\text {th }}$ |
| ESV | $87^{\text {th }}$ |
| DRY | $95^{\text {th }} /$ Dan Ryan |

## Blue Line

| ORD | O'Hare |
| :--- | :--- |
| ROS | Rosemont |
| CMB | Cumberland |
| HRO | Harlem1 |
| JEF | Jefferson Park |
| MON | Blue Montrose |
| IRV | Blue Irving Park |
| ADD | Blue Addison |
| BEL | Blue Belmont |
| LOS | Logan Square |
| CAL | Blue California |
| WES | Blue Western |
| DAM | Blue Damen |
| DIV | Division |
| CHI | Blue Chicago |
| GRA | Blue Grand |
| LSA | LaSalle |
| CLI | Blue Clinton |


| UIC | UIC-Halstead |
| :--- | :--- |
| RAC | Racine |
| IMD | Illinois Medical <br> District |
| WES | Western |
| KHO | Kedzie-Homan |
| PSK | Blue Pulaski |
| CIC | Blue Cicero |
| AUS | Blue Austin |
| OAK | Blue Oak Park |
| HRT | Harlem 2 |
| FOR | Forest Park |

## Brown Line

| KIM | Kimball |
| :--- | :--- |
| KED | Brown Kedzie |
| FRA | Francisco |
| ROC | Rockwell |
| WES | Brown Western |
| DAM | Brown Damen |
| MON | Brown Montrose |
| ADD | Brown Addison |
| PAU | Paulina |
| SOU | Southport |
| BEL | Brown Belmont |
| WEL | Brown Wellington |
| DVR | Brown Diversey |
| FUL | Brown Fullerton |
| ARM | Brown Armitage |


| SED | Brown Sedgwick |
| :--- | :--- |
| CHI | Brown Chicago |
| MDM | Merchandise Mart |

Pink Line

| FCE | $54^{\text {th } / C e r m a k ~}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| CIC | Pink Cicero |
| KOS | Kostner |
| PSK | Pink Pulaski |
| CNP | Central Park |
| KED | Pink Kedzie |
| CAL | Pink California |
| WES | Pink Western |
| DAM | Pink Damen |
| ETN | $18^{\text {th }}$ |
| PLK | Polk |
| ASH | Pink Ashland |
| MOR | Pink Morgan |
| CLI | Pink Clinton |

## Orange Line

| MDW | Midway |
| :--- | :--- |
| PSK | Orange Pulaski |
| KED | Orange Kedzie |
| WES | Orange Western |
| ARC | $35^{\text {th }} /$ Archer |
| ASH | Orange Ashland |
| HAL | Halsted |
| ROO | Roosevelt |

## Yellow Line

| DSK | Dempster-Skokie |
| :--- | :--- |
| OSK | Oakton-Skokie |
| HOW | Yellow Howard |

## Purple Line

| LIN | Linden |
| :--- | :--- |
| CEN | Central |
| NOY | Noyes |
| FOS | Foster |
| DAV | Davis |
| DEM | Dempster |
| MAI | Main |
| BVD | South Boulevard |
| HOW | Purple Howard |
| WIL | Purple Wilson |
| BEL | Purple Belmont |
| WEL | Purple Wellington |
| DVR | Purple Diversey |
| FUL | Purple Fullerton |
| ARM | Purple Armitage |
| SED | Purple Sedgwick |
| CHI | Purple Chicago |

## Loop Stations

| WAW | Washington/Wells |
| :--- | :--- |
| QUI | Quincy |
| VAN | LaSalle/Van Buren |
| HWL | Harold Washington <br> Library |
| ADA | Adams/Wabash |
|  | Washington/Wabash |
| STL | State/Lake |
| CLA | Clark/Lake |
| WAS | Washington |
| MRE | Blue Monroe |
| JAC | Blue Jackson |
| LAK | Lake |
| MRE | Red Monroe |
| JAC | Red Jackson |

The following glyphs represent the gestures outlined in previous sections of this book. In writing, they are typically placed directly adjacent to the arrows of their relevant rides:
Glyph
Notation
Gestures

Hand almost to
AH2F
$B L L \quad$ Bite Lower Lip

Blinking

BNK

Cross Legs
CL

## Eyes Closed

EC

## Eyes Open

EO

œ

Eyes Wide Open
EWO

Eyes to Left
E2L

# Eyes to Right 

Freestyle

## ا

## FS

Grab

## G

H

Grab Ear

Hand to Chest

## Hand to Face

H2F
H

H2K
Hand to Knee


H2LB
Hand to Lower

Hand to Thigh

LEC
Closed


## PRAY

Prayer Hands


## RE

${ }^{\infty}$

Raise Eyebrows

Right Eye Closed



# Tap Fist to <br> TFOS <br> Opposite Shoulder 

## m

TLL
Tongue On Lower Lip

## Dictionary

## English-CTA

\(\left.\begin{array}{lll}ability \& noun \& Cermak-Chinatown>Red Garfield <br>
able \& adj. \& Cermak-Chinatown>Red Garfield <br>
above, overhead \& noun \& North/Clybourn>Red Addison <br>

Green Clinton>Green\end{array}\right\}\)| act, action |  | Morgan>Green Ashland>Green |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | Clinton |
| Green Clinton>Green |  |  |
| active |  | Morgan>Green Ashland>Green |
|  |  | Clinton |
|  |  | Green Clinton>Green |
|  |  | Morgan>Green Ashland>Green |
| Clinton |  |  |


| alcoholic | adj. | Green California>Green Ashland |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| all | noun | Red Chicago>North Clybourn |
|  |  | South |
| amphibian | adj. | Boulevard $>$ Dempster $>$ South |
|  |  | Boulevard |
| arm, branch | noun | Noyes $>$ Davis |
| art | noun | Blue Chicago>Blue Western |
| artistic | adj. | Blue Chicago>Blue Western |
| bean |  | Clark/Division>Red |
|  | noun | Grand>Clark/Division>Red |
|  |  | Grand |
| beautiful, pretty | adj. | Central Park>Polk |
| beauty, prettiness | noun | Central Park>Polk |
| beget, parent, father, mother | verb | Illinois Medical District>Blue Damen |
|  |  | Brown Addison>Brown |
| behind, back, rear | noun | Belmont>Red Addison |


| belief | noun | Dempster-Skokie>Yellow Howard |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| believe | verb | Dempster-Skokie>Yellow Howard |
| below, beneath | noun | Red Addison>North/Clybourn |
| bend | verb | Orange Western $>35^{\text {th }} /$ Archer |
| between | noun | Indiana $>$ Orange Ashland |
|  |  | Cermak-Chinatown $>95^{\text {th }} /$ Dan |
| big, large | adj. | Ryan |
| bodily, corporeal | adj. | Blue Clinton>UIC-Halsted |
| body | noun | Blue Clinton>UIC-Halsted |
| brew, ferment | verb | Green California>Green Ashland |
| build, construct | verb | Brown Chicago>Brown Kedzie |
| building, structure, statue | noun | Brown Chicago>Brown Kedzie |
| bumpy | adj. | Red Grand>Thorndale |
|  |  | Red Grand>Red Chicago>Red |
| bury | verb | Grand>Red Chicago |


| business |  | Purple Chicago $>$ Purple |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | noun | Wellington |
|  |  | Purple Chicago $>$ Purple |
| business, businessrelated | adj. | Wellington |
| buy | verb | Purple Belmont>Purple Diversey |
|  |  | Purple Diversey $>$ Purple |
| call dibs | verb | Howard>Purple Chicago |
| can | verb | Cermak-Chinatown>Red Garfield |
|  |  | Brown Western>Brown |
| captured, tamed | adj. | Wellington>Southport>Brown |
|  |  | Armitage |
| center, middle, aim, intention | noun | Racine>Blue Clinton $>$ Racine |
| challenge, face-off | noun | Blue Grand>Logan Square |
| challenge, face, defy | verb | Blue Grand>Logan Square |
| change | noun | Green Oak Park>Green Clinton |
| change | verb | Green Oak Park>Green Clinton |
| city | noun | Francisco $>$ Paulina |


| clay, mud, softness | noun | South Boulevard $>$ Dempster |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Blue Western>Blue |
| cloth | adj. | Addison>Logan Square |
|  |  | Blue Western>Blue |
| clothe | verb | Addison>Logan Square |
|  |  | Blue Western>Blue |
| clothing, cloth, fabric | noun | Addison>Logan Square |
| cold | adj. | Orange Kedzie>Halsted |
| cold | noun | Orange Kedzie>Halsted |
|  |  | Blue California>Blue |
| color, give depth/meaning | verb | Damen>Blue California |
|  |  | Blue California $>$ Blue |
| color, interest, intrigue, depth | noun | Damen>Blue California |
|  |  | Blue California $>$ Blue |
| colorful, interesting, intriguing, profound | adj | Damen>Blue California |
| contain | verb | Forest Park>Blue Clinton |
| content, item | noun | Forest Park>Blue Clinton |


| continue, endure | verb | Green Kedzie $>51^{\text {st }}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| control | noun | Purple Chicago $>$ Purple Diversey |
| control | verb | Purple Chicago $>$ Purple Diversey |
| cook | verb | King Drive $>$ Green Roosevelt |
| cool | verb | Orange Kedzie $>$ Halsted |
| count | verb | Purple Armitage $>$ Purple Wilson |
| cover, disguise, mask | noun | Belmont $>$ Logan Square |
| create, make | verb | Blue Belmont $>$ Blue Chicago |
| created | adj. | Blue Belmont $>$ Blue Chicago |
| creation | noun | Blue Belmont $>$ Blue Chicago |
| cultural, societal | adj. | Logan Square $>$ Division |
| culture, society | noun | Logan Square $>$ Division |
| dangle, hang | verb | Blue Cicero $>$ Blue Western |
| dibs | noun | Howard $>$ Purple Chicago |



| endurance | noun | Green Kedzie>51 ${ }^{\text {st }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Cermak-Chinatown $>95^{\text {th }} /$ Dan |
| enlarge | verb | Ryan |
| essential, necessary | adj. | $54^{\text {th }} /$ Cermak $>$ Pink Clinton |
| examination, test, try | noun | Laramie>Green Kedzie |
| examine, test out, try out | verb | Laramie>Green Kedzie |
|  |  | Purple Sedgwick $>$ Purple |
| exchange, trade, barter | verb | Wellington $>$ Purple Chicago |
|  |  | Purple Sedgwick $>$ Purple |
| exchange, trade, barter | noun | Wellington $>$ Purple Chicago |
| flexibility | noun | Orange Western $>35^{\text {th }} /$ Archer |
| flexible | adj. | Orange Western $>35^{\text {th }} /$ Archer |
| food | noun | King Drive>Green Roosevelt |
| fresh | adj. | Central>Noyes |
| friend | noun | Central Park>Pink Damen |

South

| frog, toad, amphibian | noun | Boulevard>Dempster>South |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  | Boulevard |
| front |  | Red Addison>Red |
|  | noun | Fullerton>Brown Addison |
|  |  | Red Addison>Red |
| front, fore | adj. | Fullerton>Brown Addison |
| fun, amusement | noun | Blue Damen>Logan Square |
| fun, amusing | adj. | Blue Damen>Logan Square |
| function, work | verb | Irving Park>Paulina |
| gastronomic | adj. | King Drive>Green Roosevelt |
| go | verb | Green Kedzie>Green Clinton |
| good | adj. | $18^{\text {th }}>$ Polk |
| good | noun | $18^{\text {th }>P o l k ~}$ |
| grab | verb | Indiana>Orange Ashland |
| ground | noun | Red Grand>Red Chicago>Red |


| group together, unite, <br> crowd | verb | North/Clybourn>Red |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| group, communal | adj. | Nelmont $>$ Red Fullerton |
| group, crowd |  | North/Clybourn>Red |
| hair | noun | Belmont>Red Fullerton |
| hand | noun | Blue Cicero>Blue Western |
| houng, dangle | Illinois Medical District>Racine |  |
| herb | North/Clybourn>Red Addison |  |
| happen, occur | verb | Cermak-Chinatown>Sox-35 |
| happy | adj. | Pink Cicero>Pink Western |


hill, bump,
protuberance
hold
hope
hope
hopeful
horse
hot
human, humane
humble
humility
innovate
noun verb

Green Kedzie>Green
noun
verb
Morgan>Green Ashland
Green Kedzie>Green
adj.
noun adj.

Roosevelt
adj.
adj.
noun
verb
Red Grand>Thorndale Illinois Medical District>Racine

Morgan>Green Ashland
Green Kedzie>Green

Morgan>Green Ashland
Roosevelt $>$ Indiana $>35^{\text {th }}$ -
Bronzeville-IIT
Orange
Roosevelt>Halsted>Orange

Brown Chicago>Brown Diversey
Brown Chicago>Brown Addison
Brown Chicago>Brown Addison
$79^{\text {th }}>$ Red Garfield
inspire, liven up
instruct, explain
instruction, explanation intend, concentrate, focus
intent, concentrated, focused
intention, concentration, focus intently
keep, guard
kitty-corner
know
knowledge
land, soil, sediment
language, map
noun
verb
verb Granville>Argyle
noun Granville>Argyle
verb Loyola $>$ Jarvis
adj. Loyola $>$ Jarvis
noun
adv. Loyola $>$ Jarvis
Merchandise Mart>Brown
verb
noun
verb
noun
noun
noun
Ashland $/ 63^{\text {rd }}>35^{\text {th }}$-Bronzeville-IIT

Loyola>Jarvis

## Merchandise Mart>Brown

## Chicago

## Blue Grand>Logan Square

Yellow Howard>Dempster-
Skokie>Yellow Howard
Yellow Howard>Dempster-
Skokie>Yellow Howard
Dempster>Davis
Berwyn>Thorndale>Red Grand

Racine>Blue Clinton
lead, be at the head of leaf, sheet, page left
left
length
lie (down)
like, enjoy, take pleasure in
like, interest, enjoyment, pleasure local
long
love
love
low
machine
made up, dressed up, dressed formally
main, principal, chief
verb adj. noun noun verb verb noun adj.
adj.
noun
verb adj. noun adj.
noun Main>Central

Green Garfield>Ashland/63rd Green Garfield>Ashland/63rd Irving Park>Paulina

Division $>$ Blue Grand>Division>Blue Grand adj. Sox- $35^{\text {th }}>$ Red Addison

Sox- $35^{\text {th }}>$ Red Addison Red Howard $>47^{\text {th }}$

Red Addison>North/Clybourn
Kostner>Pink Western
Kostner>Pink Western
Brown Armitage>Brown Chicago
Red Howard $>47^{\text {th }}$
Pink Ashland>Pink Morgan
Pink Ashland>Pink Morgan
Red Chicago>Clark/Division

| mammal | noun | Wilson $>$ Lawrence $>$ Wilson |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| manipulate, use (a tool) verb | Armitage $>$ Diversey $>$ Brown |  |
|  |  | Armitage |
| manuscript, document | noun | $87^{\text {th }}>$ Red Garfield $>87$ th |
| market, bazaar | noun | Sedgwick |
| meal |  | Red Grand $>$ Red Damen |
| measure | verb | Halsted $>35^{\text {th }} /$ Archer $>$ Halsted |
| measurement | noun | Halsted $>35^{\text {th }} /$ Archer $>$ Halsted |
| meet |  | Pink Ashland $>$ Pink |

necessity
negative, pessimistic new next to nice, lovely
noise, sound
north
north, northern
nothing
novelty
number
old
orbit, maintain relevance
organ
outside, outdoors
noun noun adj.
noun noun adj. noun noun noun adj. verb noun noun
adj. Red Wilson>Bryn Mawr
adj. $\quad 79^{\text {th }}>$ Red Garfield
Green Clinton>Green Ashland
$54^{\text {th }} /$ Cermak $>$ Pink Clinton

Pink California>Pink Morgan
Racine $>$ UIC-Halsted $>$ Blue
Western $>$ Racine
95 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ /Dan Ryan $>$ Red Howard
95 ${ }^{\text {th }} /$ Dan Ryan $>$ Red Howard
Red Grand $>$ Red Chicago
$79^{\text {th }}>$ Red Garfield
Purple Armitage>Purple Wilson
Oak Park>Harlem/Lake
Francisco>Brown Montrose
UIC-Halstead>Blue
Western>UIC-Halstead

Blue Clinton $>$ Racine

| parent | noun | Illinois Medical District>Blue |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Damen |
|  |  | Illinois Medical District>Blue |
| parental | adj. | Damen |
| permit, allow | verb | Indiana $>$ King Drive |
| permit, ticket | noun | Indiana $>$ King Drive |
| person, human | noun | Brown Chicago>Brown Diversey |
| pessimism | noun | Red Wilson>Bryn Mawr |
| phenomenon, occurrence | noun | Cermak-Chinatown $>$ Sox-35 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ |
|  |  | Division>Blue |
| pigment, makeup | noun | Grand $>$ Division>Blue Grand |
|  |  | Division $>$ Blue |
| pigment, put on makeup | verb | Grand>Division>Blue Grand |
| place, area, location | noun | Brown Armitage>Brown Chicago |
| protect | verb | Pink Damen>Pink Ashland |
| protection | noun | Pink Damen>Pink Ashland |
| protective | adj. | Pink Damen>Pink Ashland |


| purchase, acquisition, <br> buy <br> read | noun | Purple Belmont>Purple Diversey |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | verb | Main>Central |
| reflect |  | Clark/Division>Red |
|  | verb | Grand>Clark/Division>Red |
|  |  | Grand |
| reflection | noun | Grand>Clark/Division>Red |
| refresh, freshen up | verb | Central>Noyes |
| relevance, orbit | noun | Francisco>Brown Montrose |
| relevant, orbital | adj. | Francisco>Brown Montrose |
| render obsolete | verb | Oak Park>Harlem/Lake |
| reptile | noun | South Boulevard>Main>South |
| rest | noulevard |  |


| rest, relax | verb | Kedzie-Homan>UIC-Halsted |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ride, utter | verb | Ridgeland $>$ Central |
| right (direction) | adj. | Green Garfield>Cottage Grove |
| right (direction) | noun | Green Garfield>Cottage Grove |
| rise | verb | Red Grand> Thorndale |
|  |  | Brown Western>Brown |
| rope, capture | noun | Wellington>Southport>Brown |
|  |  | Armitage |
| safe | adj. | Pink Ashland $>$ Pink Clinton |
| safety | noun | Pink Ashland $>$ Pink Clinton |
| same | adj. | Green Ashland>Green Clinton |
|  |  | Ashland>Green |
| see, have an opinion | verb | California $>$ Ashland>California |
|  |  | Ashland>Green |
| seen, subjective | adj. | California>Ashland>California |
|  |  | Brown Sedgwick $>$ Merchandise |
| shop | verb | Mart>Brown Sedgwick |

shrink, cut down
sight, view, perspective, opinion
size
sleep
sleep
sleep, related to sleep, sleepy
sleepily
slide, ski
small, few
soft
soften
south
south, southern
speak, talk, say, interact with a geographical area
verb
Ashland $>$ Green
noun
noun
Ryan
noun Harlem2>Harlem1
verb
adj. Harlem2>Harlem1
adv. Harlem2>Harlem1
Green Kedzie>Green Oak Park
Cermak-Chinatown $>$ Red $47^{\text {th }}$
South Boulevard $>$ Dempster
South Boulevard $>$ Dempster
Red Howard $>95^{\text {th }} /$ Dan Ryan
Red Howard $>95^{\text {th }} /$ Dan Ryan adj. verb

California $>$ Ashland $>$ California Cermak-Chinatown $>95^{\text {th }} /$ Dan

Harlem2>Harlem1 adj.
adj.
noun
noun

Berwyn>Thorndale>Red Grand

## Cermak-Chinatown $>47^{\text {th }}$

| spirit, soul | noun | Ashland $/ 63^{\text {rd }}>35^{\text {th }}$-Bronzeville-IIT |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| spiritual, inspired | adj. | Ashland $/ 63^{\text {rd }}>35^{\text {th }}$-Bronzeville-IIT |
|  |  | Brown Belmont>Brown |
| station, node | noun | Fullerton>Brown |
|  |  | Wellington $>$ Brown Diversey |
| store, boutique, shop |  | Brown Sedgwick>Merchandise |
|  | noun | Mart>Brown Sedgwick |
|  |  | Red Addison $>$ Red |
| support | noun | Fullerton>Brown Addison |
|  |  | Red Addison $>$ Red |
| support | verb | Fullerton>Brown Addison |
|  |  | Red Addison $>$ Red |
| supportive | adj. | Fullerton $>$ Brown Addison |
|  |  | Green Roosevelt $>35^{\text {th }}$-Bronzeville- |
| thing, matter, affair | noun | IIT |
| think | verb | Yellow Howard> Dempster-Skokie |
| though | noun | Yellow Howard>Dempster-Skokie |


| throw | verb | Cermak-McCormick Place>Green |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | $47^{\text {th }}$ |
|  |  | Brown Western>Brown |
| tie, capture | verb | Wellington>Southport>Brown |
|  |  | Armitage |
|  |  | Pink Pulaski>Pink |
| time | noun | Damen $>54^{\text {th }} /$ Cermak |
|  |  | Brown Armitage>Brown |
| tool | noun | Diversey>Brown Armitage |
| travel | verb | Orange Roosevelt>Midway |
| travel, trip | noun | Orange Roosevelt>Midway |
|  |  | Green Kedzie>Green |
| tried, attempted | adj. | Clinton>Green Kedzie |
|  |  | Green Kedzie>Green |
| try, attempt | noun | Clinton>Green Kedzie |
|  |  | Green Kedzie>Green |
| try, attempt | verb | Clinton>Green Kedzie |


| use, employ, utilize | verb | Brown Diversey>Southport |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| use, end, function | noun | Brown Diversey>Southport |
| wait | verb | Red Fullerton>Berwyn |
| wait, spell | noun | Red Fullerton>Berwyn |
| walk | verb | Orange Roosevelt>Halsted |
| walk, promenade | noun | Orange Roosevelt>Halsted |
|  |  | Halsted>Orange |
| weigh | verb | Ashland>Halsted |
|  |  | Halsted>Orange |
| weight | noun | Ashland $>$ Halsted |
| west | noun | Green Clinton>Harlem/Lake |
| west, western | adj. | Green Clinton>Harlem/Lake |
| whack, bizarre, messed up, wrong (morally) | adj. | Green California>Green Cicero |
| wide | adj. | $35^{\text {th }} /$ Archer $>$ Orange Western |
| width | noun | $35^{\text {th }} /$ Archer $>$ Orange Western |


|  |  | Yellow Howard $>$ Oakton- |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| yellow | adj. | Skokie $>$ Yellow |
| yellow |  | Howard $>$ Dempster-Skokie |
|  |  | Yellow Howard $>$ Oakton- |
|  | noun | Skokie $>$ Yellow |
|  |  | Howard $>$ Dempster-Skokie |

## CTA-English

| Cermak-Chinatown $>$ Red Garfield | noun | ability |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $18^{\text {th }}>$ Polk | verb | do good |
| $18^{\text {th }}>$ Polk | adj. | good |
| $18^{\text {th }}>$ Polk | noun | good |
| $35^{\text {th }} /$ Archer $>$ Orange Western | adj. | wide |
| $35^{\text {th }} /$ Archer $>$ Orange Western | noun | width |
| $54^{\text {th }} /$ Cermak $>$ Pink Clinton | adj. | essential, necessary |
| $54^{\text {th }} /$ Cermak $>$ Pink Clinton | noun | necessity |
| $79^{\text {th }}>$ Red Garfield | verb | innovate |
| $79^{\text {th }}>$ Red Garfield | adj. | new |
| $79^{\text {th }}>$ Red Garfield | noun | novelty |
| $87^{\text {th }}>$ Red Garfield $>87$ th | noun | manuscript, document |
| $95^{\text {th }} /$ Dan Ryan $>$ Red Howard | adj. | north, northern |
| $95^{\text {th }} /$ Dan Ryan $>$ Red Howard | noun | north |
| ${\text { Ashland } / 63^{\text {rd }}>35^{\text {th }} \text {-Bronzeville-IIT }}$ verb | inspire, liven up |  |


| Ashland $/ 63^{\text {rd }}>35^{\text {th }}$-Bronzeville-IIT | noun | spirit, soul |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Ashland $/ 63^{\text {rd }}>35^{\text {th }}$-Bronzeville-IIT | adj. | spiritual, inspired |
| Ashland>Green |  |  |
| California $>$ Ashland $>$ California | verb | see, have an opinion |
| Ashland>Green |  |  |
| California>Ashland>California | adj. | seen, subjective |
| Ashland>Green |  |  |
| California $>$ Ashland $>$ California | noun | sight, view, perspective, opinion |
| Berwyn $>$ Thorndale>Red Grand | noun | language, map |
| Berwyn>Thorndale>Red Grand | verb | speak, talk, say, interact with a geographical area |
| Blue Belmont>Blue Chicago | verb | create, make |
| Blue Belmont>Blue Chicago | adj. | created |
| Blue Belmont>Blue Chicago | noun | creation |
| Blue California>Blue |  |  |
| Damen>Blue California | noun | color, interest, intrigue, depth |


| Blue California>Blue | verb | color, give <br> depth/meaning |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Damen>Blue California | adj | colorful, interesting, <br> intriguing, profound |
| Blue California>Blue | noun | art |
| Damen>Blue California | adj. | artistic |
| Blue Chicago>Blue Western | verb | dangle, hang |
| Blue Chicago>Blue Western | noun | hair |
| Blue Cicero>Blue Western | noun | outside, outdoors |
| Blue Cicero>Blue Western | adj. | bodily, corporeal |
| Blue Clinton>Racine | noun | body |
| Blue Clinton>UIC-Halsted | adj. | fun, amusing |
| Blue Clinton> UIC-Halsted | noun | fun, amusement |
| Blue Damen>Logan Square | verb | have fun |
| Blue Damen>Logan Square | challenge, face-off |  |
| Blue Damen>Logan Square | challenge, face, defy |  |
| Blue Grand>Logan Square | nlue Grand>Logan Square | nrand $>$ Logan Square |

Blue Western>Blue
Addison>Logan Square
Blue Western>Blue
Addison>Logan Square verb clotheBlue Western>Blue
Addison>Logan Square noun clothing, cloth, fabric
Brown Addison>Brown
Belmont>Red Addisonnoun behind, back, rear
Brown Addison>Brown
Belmont>Red Addison
verb disavow, shun, reject
Brown Armitage>Brown Chicago adj. local
Brown Armitage>Brown Chicago
noun place, area, location
Brown Armitage>Brown
Diversey>Brown Armitage
noun tool
Brown
Armitage>Diversey>Brown verb manipulate, use (a tool)
Armitage

Brown Belmont>Brown

Fullerton>Brown

Wellington $>$ Brown Diversey
Brown Chicago>Brown Addison
Brown Chicago>Brown Addison

Brown Chicago>Brown Diversey
Brown Chicago>Brown Diversey
Brown Chicago>Brown Kedzie
Brown Chicago>Brown Kedzie
Brown Diversey>Southport
Brown Diversey>Southport

Brown Sedgwick>Merchandise
Mart>Brown Sedgwick

Brown Sedgwick>Merchandise

Mart>Brown Sedgwick
noun station, node
adj. humble
noun humility
adj. human, humane
noun person, human
noun building, structure, statue
verb build, construct
noun use, end, function
verb use, employ, utilize
verb shop
noun store, boutique, shop
Brown Western>Brown
Wellington $>$ Southport $>$ Brown
adj. captured, tamed
Armitage
Brown Western>Brown
Wellington $>$ Southport $>$ Brownnoun rope, capture
Armitage
Brown Western>Brown
Wellington $>$ Southport $>$ Brown
Armitage
Central Park>Pink Damen
Central Park>Polk
Central Park>PolkCentral>NoyesCentral>NoyesCentral>NoyesCermak-Chinatown $>47^{\text {th }}$verb tie, capture
noun friend
adj. beautiful, prettynoun beauty, prettiness
verb tie, capturenoun air, freshness
adj. freshverb refresh, freshen upverb shrink, cut down

Cermak-Chinatown $>95^{\text {th }} /$ Dan

Ryan
Cermak-Chinatown $>95^{\text {th }} /$ Dan
Ryan

Cermak-Chinatown $>95^{\text {th }} /$ Dan
Ryan
Cermak-Chinatown $>$ Red $47^{\text {th }}$
Cermak-Chinatown $>$ Red Garfield
adj. able
Cermak-Chinatown>Red Garfield
verb can
Cermak-Chinatown $>$ Sox- $35^{\text {th }}$
Cermak-Chinatown $>$ Sox- $35^{\text {th }}$
Cermak-McCormick Place>Green
$47^{\text {th }}$
Clark/Division>Red
Grand $>$ Clark/Division $>$ Red
Grand
verb enlarge
noun size
adj. small, few

verb throw
noun bean
adj. big, large
verb happen, occur
noun phenomenon, occurrence
Clark/Division $>$ Red
Grand $>$ Clark/Division $>$ Red
verb reflect
Grand
Clark/Division>Red
Grand $>$ Clark/Division $>$ Red
noun reflection
Grand
Dempster-Skokie>Yellow Howard noun belief
Dempster-Skokie>Yellow Howard verb believe
Dempster $>$ Davis
adj. earthy
Dempster $>$ Davis
noun land, soil, sediment
Division $>$ Blue
Grand $>$ Division>Blue Grandadj. made up, dressed up,dressed formally
Division $>$ Blue
Grand $>$ Division $>$ Blue Grand
noun pigment, makeup
Division $>$ Blue
Grand $>$ Division $>$ Blue Grandverbpigment, put onmakeup
Forest Park>Blue Clinton
noun content, item

| Forest Park>Blue Clinton | verb | contain |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Francisco>Brown Montrose | verb | orbit, maintain relevance |
| Francisco>Brown Montrose | adj. | relevant, orbital |
| Francisco>Brown Montrose | noun | relevance, orbit |
| Francisco $>$ Paulina | noun | city |
| Granville>Argyle | verb | instruct, explain |
| Granville>Argyle | noun | instruction, explanation |
| Green Ashland>Green Clinton | adj. | same |
| Green California>Green Ashland | noun | alcohol, alcoholic drink |
| Green California>Green Ashland | adj. | alcoholic |
| Green California>Green Ashland | verb | brew, ferment |
| Green California>Green Cicero | adj. | whack, bizarre, messed up, wrong (morally) |
| Green Clinton>Green Ashland | noun | next to |
| Green Clinton>Green |  |  |
| Morgan $>$ Green Ashland $>$ Green | noun | act, action |
| Clinton |  |  |

Green Clinton>Green
Morgan $>$ Green Ashland $>$ Green
adj. active
Clinton
Green Clinton>Green
Morgan $>$ Green Ashland $>$ Green
adv. actively
Clinton
Green Clinton>Green
Morgan $>$ Green Ashland $>$ Green ..... verb do, act
Clinton
Green Clinton>Harlem/Lake
adj. west, western
Green Clinton>Harlem/Lakenoun west
Green Garfield>Ashland/63rdGreen Garfield>Ashland/63rdadj. left
noun left
Green Garfield>Cottage Grove adj. right (direction)
Green Garfield>Cottage Grove noun right (direction)Green Kedzie $>51^{\text {st }}$Green Kedzie $>51^{\text {st }}$
noun endurance
verb continue, endure
Green Kedzie>Green Clintonverb go
Green Kedzie>Green
Clinton>Green Kedzie
Green Kedzie>Green
Clinton>Green Kedzie noun try, attemptadj. tried, attempted
Green Kedzie>Green
Clinton>Green Kedzie verb try, attempt
Green Kedzie>Green
Morgan>Green Ashland noun hope
Green Kedzie>Green
Morgan>Green Ashland verb hope
Green Kedzie>Green
Morgan>Green Ashland adj. hopeful
Green Kedzie>Green Oak Park verb slide, ski
Green Oak Park>Green Clinton
noun change
Green Oak Park>Green Clinton verb change

| Green Roosevelt $>35^{\text {th }}$-Bronzeville- |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| IIT | noun | thing, matter, affair |
| Halsted $>35^{\text {th }} /$ Archer $>$ Halsted | verb | measure |
| Halsted $>35^{\text {th }} /$ Archer $>$ Halsted | noun | measurement |
| Halsted $>$ Orange |  |  |
| Ashland $>$ Halsted | verb | weigh |
| Halsted $>$ Orange |  |  |
| Ashland $>$ Halsted | noun | weight |
| Harlem/Lake>Green Clinton | adj. | east, eastern |
| Harlem/Lake>Green Clinton | noun | east |
| Harlem2>Harlem1 | adj. | sleep, related to sleep, <br> sleepy |
| Harlem2>Harlem1 | noun | sleep |
| Harlem2>Harlem1 | verb | sleep |
| Harlem2>Harlem1 | adv. | sleepily |
| Illinois Medical District>Blue | verb | beget, parent, father, <br> mother |
| Damen |  |  |

noun thing, matter, affair
verb measure
noun measurement
verb weigh
noun weight
adj. east, eastern
noun east
adj. $\begin{aligned} & \text { sleep, related to sleep, } \\ & \text { sleepy }\end{aligned}$
noun sleep
verb sleep
adv. sleepily verb beget, parent, father,
Illinois Medical District>Blue
Damen noun parent
Illinois Medical District>Blue
Damen
adj. parentalIllinois Medical District>Racinenoun hand
Illinois Medical District>Racine verb hold
Illinois Medical District>UIC-
Halsted $>$ Illinois Medical Destrict noun health
Illinois Medical District>UIC-
Halsted $>$ Illinois Medical Destrict adj. healthyIndiana $>$ King Drive
verb permit, allow
Indiana $>$ King Drivenoun permit, ticket
Indiana>Orange Ashlandnoun between
Indiana>Orange Ashland
Irving Park>Paulina
Irving Park>Paulina
verb grab
verb function, work
noun machine
Kedzie-Homan>UIC-Halsted ..... noun rest

| Kedzie-Homan>UIC-Halsted | verb | rest, relax |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| King Drive>Green Roosevelt | verb | cook |
| King Drive>Green Roosevelt | noun | food |
| King Drive>Green Roosevelt | adj. | gastronomic |
| Kostner>Pink Western | verb | like, enjoy, take pleasure in |
| Kostner>Pink Western | noun | like, interest, enjoyment, pleasure |
| Laramie>Green Kedzie | noun | examination, test, try |
| Laramie>Green Kedzie | verb | examine, test out, try out |
| Logan Square>Blue |  |  |
| Belmont>Logan Square | noun | cover, disguise, mask |
| Logan Square>Blue |  |  |
| Belmont>Logan Square | verb | hide, cover, mask |
| Logan Square>Blue |  |  |
| Belmont>Logan Square | adj. | hidden, covered, masked |
| Logan Square $>$ Division | adj. | cultural, societal |
| Logan Square $>$ Division | noun | culture, society |
| Loyola $>$ Jarvis | verb | intend, concentrate, focus |


| Loyola>Jarvis | adj. | intent, concentrated, focused |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Loyola>Jarvis | noun | intention, concentration, focus |
| Loyola>Jarvis | adv. | intently |
| Main>Central | noun | leaf, sheet, page |
| Main>Central | verb | read |
| Merchandise Mart>Brown |  |  |
| Chicago | verb | keep, guard |
| Merchandise Mart>Brown |  |  |
| Sedgwick | noun | market, bazaar |
| North/Clybourn>Red Addison | noun | above, overhead |
| North/Clybourn>Red Addison | verb | hang, dangle |
| North/Clybourn>Red |  |  |
| Belmont $>$ Red Fullerton | adj. | group, communal |
| North/Clybourn>Red |  |  |
| Belmont $>$ Red Fullerton | noun | group, crowd |
| North/Clybourn>Red |  |  |
| Belmont>Red Fullerton | verb | group together, unite, crowd |


| Noyes $>$ Davis | noun | arm, branch |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Oak Park>Harlem/Lake | noun | heirloom, treasure, antiquity |
| Oak Park>Harlem/Lake | adj. | old |
| Oak Park>Harlem/Lake | verb | render obsolete |
| Orange Kedzie>Halsted | adj. | cold |
| Orange Kedzie>Halsted | noun | cold |
| Orange Kedzie>Halsted | verb | cool |
| Orange Roosevelt>Halsted | noun | walk, promenade |
| Orange Roosevelt>Halsted | verb | walk |
| Orange |  |  |
| Roosevelt>Halsted>Orange | noun | heat |
| Roosevelt |  |  |
| Orange |  |  |
| Roosevelt>Halsted>Orange | verb | heat |
| Roosevelt |  |  |

## Orange

Roosevelt>Halsted>Orange
adj. hot
Roosevelt
Orange Roosevelt>Midway
noun travel, trip
Orange Roosevelt>Midway verb travel

Orange Western $>35^{\text {th }} /$ Archer verb bend

Orange Western $>35^{\text {th }} /$ Archer noun flexibility

Orange Western $>35^{\text {th }} /$ Archer
adj. flexible
Pink Ashland>Pink Clinton
adj. safe
Pink Ashland>Pink Clinton
noun safety
Pink Ashland>Pink
Clinton>Green Ashland
Pink Ashland>Pink
Clinton>Green Ashland
Pink Ashland>Pink Morgan
noun love
Pink Ashland>Pink Morgan
verb love
Pink California>Pink Morgan
adj. nice, lovely

Pink Cicero>Pink Western
Pink Damen>Pink Ashland
Pink Damen>Pink Ashland
Pink Damen>Pink Ashland
Pink Pulaski>Pink
Damen $>54^{\text {th }} /$ Cermak
Purple Armitage>Purple Wilson
Purple Armitage>Purple Wilson
Purple Belmont>Purple Diversey
Purple Belmont>Purple Diversey
Purple Chicago>Purple
Wellington
Purple Chicago>Purple
Wellington
noun purchase, acquisition, noun control
noun time
verb count
noun number
verb buy buy purchase, acquisition,
verb control
adj. happy
adj. protective
noun protection
verb protect
adj. $\begin{aligned} & \text { business, business- } \\ & \text { related }\end{aligned}$
noun business

Purple Diversey>Purple

| Howard $>$ Purple Chicago | verb | call dibs |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Purple Diversey $>$ Purple |  |  |
| Howard $>$ Purple Chicago | noun | dibs |
| Purple Sedgwick $>$ Purple Armitage |  |  |
| Purple Sedgwick $>$ Purple Armitage | noun | money |

Purple Sedgwick $>$ Purple
Wellington>Purple Chicago noun exchange, trade, barter
Purple Sedgwick $>$ Purple
Wellington>Purple Chicago
Racine>Blue Clinton
Racine>Blue Clinton>Racine verb exchange, trade, barter noun inside verb aim (for), intend, mean

Racine $>$ Blue Clinton $>$ Racine noun center, middle, aim, noun intention
Racine>UIC-Halsted>Blue
Western $>$ Racine
Racine>UIC-Halsted>Blue
Western $>$ Racine
adj. heardRacine $>$ UIC-Halsted $>$ Blue
Western $>$ Racinenoun noise, soundRed Addison $>$ North/Clybournnoun below, beneath
Red Addison $>$ North/Clybournverb lie (down)
Red Addison $>$ Red
Fullerton $>$ Brown Addison
Red Addison $>$ Red
Fullerton $>$ Brown AddisonRed Addison>Red
Fullerton>Brown AddisonRed Addison $>$ Red
Fullerton $>$ Brown Addison verb supportRed Chicago>Clark/Divisionadj. low
Red Chicago>North Clybourn ..... noun all
nounRed Chicago>Red Howard
adj. supportive
Fullerton $>$ Brown Addison noun support
adj. front, fore
noun front
Red Addison $>$ Red
noun height

| Red Chicago>Red Howard | adj. | high |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Red Damen>Red Grand | verb | drink |
| Red Fullerton>Berwyn | noun | wait, spell |
| Red Fullerton $>$ Berwyn | verb | wait |
| Red Grand>Red Chicago | noun | nothing |
| Red Grand $>$ Red Chicago $>$ Red |  |  |
| Grand>Red Chicago | verb | bury |
| Red Grand $>$ Red Chicago $>$ Red |  |  |
| Grand>Red Chicago | noun | ground |
| Red Grand>Red Damen | verb | eat |
| Red Grand>Red Damen | noun | meal |
| Red Grand> Thorndale | adj. | bumpy |
| Red Grand> Thorndale | noun | hill, bump, protuberance |
| Red Grand> Thorndale | verb | rise |
| Red Howard $>47^{\text {th }}$ | noun | length |
| Red Howard $>47^{\text {th }}$ | adj. | long |
| Red Howard $>47^{\text {th }}$ | verb | elongate |


| Red Howard $>95^{\text {th }} /$ Dan Ryan | adj. | south, southern |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Red Howard $>95^{\text {th }} /$ Dan Ryan | noun | south |
| Red Wilson $>$ Bryn Mawr | adj. | negative, pessimistic |
| Red Wilson $>$ Bryn Mawr | noun | pessimism |
| Ridgeland $>$ Central | verb | ride, utter |
| Roosevelt $>$ Indiana $>35^{\text {th }}$ - | noun | horse |
| Bronzeville-IIT | noun | clay, mud, softness |
| South Boulevard $>$ Dempster | adj. | soft |
| South Boulevard $>$ Dempster | noun | soften |
| South Boulevard $>$ Dempster |  |  |
| South |  | adj. |
| Boulevard $>$ Dempster $>$ South |  | frog, toad, amphibian |
| Boulevard |  |  |
| South |  |  |

South Boulevard>Main>South
Boulevardadj. reptilian
South Boulevard $>$ Main $>$ South
Boulevard
noun reptile
Sox- $35^{\text {th }}>$ Red Addison
Sox- $35^{\text {th }}>$ Red Addison
Sox- $35^{\text {th }}>$ Red Addison
adj. main, principal, chief
UIC-Halstead>Blue
Western>UIC-Halstead noun organ
UIC-Halstead>Kedzie-
Homan>UIC-Halstead noun digestion, process
UIC-Halstead>Kedzie-
Homan>UIC-Halstead
Wilson>Lawrence>Wilsonverb digest, processWilson>Sheridannoun mammalnoun drink
Wilson>Sheridan
verb mix (drinks)
Yellow Howard>Dempster-Skokie ..... verb think
Yellow Howard>Dempster-Skokienoun though
Yellow Howard>Dempster-
Skokie>Yellow Howardnoun knowledgeYellow Howard>Dempster-Skokie>Yellow HowardYellow Howard>Oakton-Skokie>YellowHoward $>$ Dempster-SkokieYellow Howard>Oakton-Skokie>Yellownoun yellow
Howard>Dempster-Skokie

Phrasebook

## "Meet me at the Bean"

TI ...TF..GPink Ashland $\rightarrow$ Pink Clinton $\rightarrow$ Green<br>AshlandEC...TNFR...SAny1H2F..EC...TRNR...GEClark/Divisi on $\rightarrow$ Red Grand $\rightarrow$ Clark/Division $\rightarrow$ Red GrandE2L...TO

Go through the turnstile at Ashland (Pink Line). Board the train and go from Ashland to Clinton (Pink Line), then switch to the Green Line. Ride until Ashland (Green Line). As you ride, tap your feet continuously and grab onto a handle or pole-ride with your eyes closed. When you've gotten off at Ashland (Green Line), get onto any train and ride for precisely one stop, again while keeping your eyes closed. This time, you will hold one of your palms to your face as you ride and sit for the duration. Transfer to Clark/Division while keeping at least one hand in your pocket. There, board a southbound train and go to Grand (Red Line) while grabbing your ear and keeping your eyes oriented to your left. When you've arrived at Grand (Red Line), switch to a northbound train and return to Clark/Division. Don't stop looking left. Don't stop grabbing your ear. You've gotten to Clark/Division? Good, repeat. Go southbound again to Grand and come back, all the while holding your ear and looking left. When you've returned to Clark/Division a second time, go out of the turnstile.
meet........Pink Ashland $\rightarrow$ Pink Clinton $\rightarrow$ Green Ashland
bean........Clark/Division $\rightarrow$ Red Grand $\rightarrow$ Clark/Division $\rightarrow$ Red Grand
I...............sit
pronoun isolator.....hand (palm) to face
you/y'all...grab handle, pole, etc.
The imperative is indicated by the speaker closing, and keeping closed, their eyes. (EC)

When the eyes of a speaker are closed for the duration or vast majority of a ride, the noun is interpreted as being in the accusative, the object of a sentence. ( $E C$ )

Eyes looking left indicates that the noun is in the locative case, indicating that the noun is the location of an event or another noun. (E2L)

When a speaker desires to isolate a pronoun, either to emphasize a pronoun or else to put one in a noun case besides that of the nominative, they must ride from one CTA stop to the next over (direction does not matter) and exit the train. At the same time, they must place an open hand to the face, with the tips of their fingers typically touching the cheek $(H 2 F)$ and the back of the hand facing up or toward the speaker's face. Proper eye movements are used to indicate grammatical case.

Tapping one's feet indicates that the root ride is a verb.
Grabbing one's ear indicates that the ride is a noun.


## "I hope you'll have fun."

$T I$... TF..SGreen Kedzie $\rightarrow$ Green Morgan $\rightarrow$ Green Ashland...TNFR...Washington $\rightarrow$ Blue Jackson...TNFR...TF..GBlue Damen $\rightarrow$ Logan Square...TO

Enter through the turnstile at Kedzie (Green Line). Ride to Morgan. Then go to Ashland. Do so as you tap your feet continuously. Do not stop. Once arrived at Ashland (Green Line), transfer to Washington. Ride to Jackson (Blue Line). There, transfer to Damen (Blue Line). Ride to Logan Square. Tap your feet continuously as you do so and grab onto a handle or pole. When you arrive, exit through the turnstile. Have fun.
hope: Green Kedzie $\rightarrow$ Green Morgan $\rightarrow$ Green Ashland
fun, have fun: Blue Damen $\rightarrow$ Logan Square
That (relative clause builder): Washington $\rightarrow$ Blue Jackson
I................sit
you/y'all...grab handle, pole, etc.
When the eyes of a speaker are closed for the duration or vast majority of a ride, the noun is interpreted as being in the accusative, the object of a sentence. ( $E C$ )

Tapping one's feet indicates that the root ride is a verb.


## "Farewell, my love."

TI...SAny 1 H2F..E2R...TNFR...GEPink Ashland $\rightarrow$ Pink Morgan...TNFR...GEBrown Chicago $\rightarrow$ Brown Diversey...AH2F...TO

At any station, go through the turnstile. Ride precisely one stop while holding the palm of your hand to your cheek. Keep your eyes turned to the right. Transfer to Ashland (Pink Line) and ride to Morgan while grabbing your ear. Get off there and transfer to Chicago (Brown Line). Ride to Diversey (Brown Line) while, again, grabbing your ear continuously. There, place your palm at a few inches' distance from your interlocutor's cheek, but never touch. If you're by yourself, mime. Exit through the turnstile. Farewell.
love.........Pink Ashland $\rightarrow$ Pink Morgan
person.....Brown Chicago $\rightarrow$ Brown Diversey
I...............sit
you/y'all...grab handle, pole, etc.
E2R..........genitive (possessive)
pronoun
isolator.....hand (palm) to face
Grabbing onto a handle or pole in the train indicates that the subject is $2^{\text {nd }}$ person (you, y'all).

Tapping one's feet indicates that the root ride is a verb.
Grabbing one's ear indicates that the ride is a noun.


## "Where can we buy tickets?"

TI... Lake $\rightarrow$ Red<br>Jackson...TNFR...Adams/Wabash $\rightarrow$ State/LakeCntCW<br>...TNFR... GE..Indiana $\rightarrow$ King DriveEC...TNFR...SCermak-<br>Chinatown $\rightarrow$ Red GarfieldEO... TNFR...TF..Green<br>Kedzie $\rightarrow$ Green Oak Park...TO

Walk through the turnstile at Lake. Take the train heading south to Jackson (Red Line). From there transfer to Adams/Wabash and ride the Loop counterclockwise to State/Lake. Head to Indiana and from there ride to King Drive while keeping your eyes closed. Make sure to hold onto your ear (it doesn't matter which one) as you complete this ride. When you get to King Drive, you can open your eyes and make another transfer to Cermak-Chinatown. When you get on the train, sit down and ride to Garfield (Red Line) while keeping your eyes open-forcefully and with intent. Transfer a final time to Kedzie (Green Line) and from there ride to Oak Park (Green Line). Get off and head out the exit.
where....Lake $\rightarrow$ Red Jackson
we..........sit
some.....Adams/Wabash $\rightarrow$ State/Lake CntCW
can........Cermak-Chinatown $\rightarrow$ Red Garfield
buy........Purple Belmont $\rightarrow$ Purple Diversey
ticket.....Indiana $\rightarrow$ King Drive
Grabbing onto a handle or pole in the train indicates that the subject is $2^{\text {nd }}$ person (you, y'all).

Tapping one's feet indicates that the root ride is a verb.
Grabbing one's ear indicates that the ride is a noun.
Keeping one's eyes closed indicates that a noun is in the accusative case.

Keeping one's eyes open demonstrates that a verb is indicative.


## "Where is the library?"

$T I . . . T F O S . .79^{\text {th }} \rightarrow$ Red Garfield $\rightarrow 87^{\text {th }} . . . T N F R \ldots . . . G E .$. Brown Chicago $\rightarrow$ Brown KedzieEO...TNFR...Red Lake $\rightarrow$ Red Jackson...TO

Enter the $79^{\text {th }}$ Street station and get on a train headed north. When you get on, tap a fist against its opposite shoulder. Ride all the way to Garfield (Red Line), get off and go south again, this time to the $87^{\text {th }}$ Street station. Don't stop tapping that fist to the opposite shoulder. When you arrive at $87^{\text {th }}$, get off and stop tapping your fist to its opposite shoulder. Head over to Brown Chicago now. There, board a train and head to Brown Kedzie. When you board, grab an ear, whichever, and keep your eyes open. When you get there, you're going to need to head over to Lake (Red Line) and ride it south toward Jackson (Red Line). Get off the train there and head out of the station.

# manuscript, document.... $69^{\text {th }} \rightarrow$ Red Garfield $\rightarrow 87^{\text {th }}$ 

## building, structure, statue, house..........Brown Chicago $\rightarrow$ Brown Kedzie

where.....Red Lake $\rightarrow$ Red Jackson

Grabbing one's ear indicates that the ride is a noun.

Keeping one's eyes open indicates that a noun is in the nominative case.


## "What do you like to do?"

## $T I$...TF..GKostner $\rightarrow$ Pink WesternEO...TNFR...TF..Green Clinton $\rightarrow$ Green Morgan $\rightarrow$ Green Ashland $\rightarrow$ Green Clinton $H 2 F$...TNFR...Washington $\rightarrow$ Blue JacksonEC...TO

Go ahead and go through the turnstile at Kostner. Board a train going east, toward the lake. Once on the train, grab onto to a pole or something and tap your feet as you ride along. Make sure to keep your eyes open, but not too much. Get off at Western (Pink Line) and then transfer over to Clinton (Green Line). Once you get to Clinton, board a train going west. Tap your feet on that train too, but this time don't grab onto anything. Instead, gently and continuously touch the tips of your fingers to your face. Get off at Morgan and then get back on to continue on to Ashland. Don't stop holding your hand to your face! Don't stop tapping those feet! Get off at Ashland and walk over the bridge to the other side of the tracks. Go back east to Clinton. You can stop tapping your feet and holding your fingers to your cheek while/if you're waiting on your next train but make sure to start again when you've got on the train going eastbound. Once you've gotten to Clinton, disembark. Head over to Washington head to Jackson while keeping your eyes closed. At Jackson, get off and exit the station.
like, enjoy, take pleasure in....Kostner $\rightarrow$ Pink Western
act, do..........Green Clinton $\rightarrow$ Green Morgan $\rightarrow$ Green Ashland $\rightarrow$ Green Clinton
what.....Washington $\rightarrow$ Blue Jackson
you/y'all...grab handle, pole, etc.
Tapping one's feet indicates that the root ride is a verb.
Keeping one's eyes open demonstrates that a verb is indicative.

When the eyes of a speaker are closed for the duration or vast majority of a ride, the noun is interpreted as being in the accusative, the object of a sentence. (EC)

Gently touching one's hand to one's face renders the verb is being treated as an infinitive or that it is being nominalized.


## "Let's exchange phone numbers."

TI...TF..SPurple Sedgwick $\rightarrow$ Purple Wellington $\rightarrow$ Purple ChicagoEC...TNFR...TFOS..Berwyn $\rightarrow$ Thorndale $\rightarrow$ Red<br>Grand...TNFR...GE..Brown Armitage $\rightarrow$ Brown<br>Diversey $\rightarrow$ Brown ArmitageE2R...TNFR...GE..Purple Armitage $\rightarrow$ Purple WilsonEC...TO

Please enter Sedgwick (Purple Line). You're going to need to ride from there to Wellington (Purple Line), then from Wellington to Chicago (Purple Line). Plan the time you'll be saying this sentence well, because this part of the Purple Line only operates during certain hours of the day. As you're riding between these three stations, find a seat, any seat, and make sure to keep your eyes closed for the duration of the ride. When you get to Chicago (Purple Line), somehow get to Berwyn, on the Red Line. Wait for the train going north. As you get on, place your fist to the opposite shoulder and just sort of tap it laxly. As you continue to tap your fist to its opposite shoulder, get off at Thorndale and ride south again to Grand (Red Line). There get off. Yes, you may stop tapping your fist to its opposite shoulder. Again, find some way to get to Armitage (Brown Line). Go to Diversey (Brown Line). At Diversey, change trains and go back to Armitage. You'll feel like you're playing pong. Do all of this while grabbing one of your ears and keeping your eyes turned to the right. Transfer to the Purple Line. From Armitage (Purple Line), go to Wilson (Purple Line). Again, grab onto one of your ears, but don't keep your eyes turned to the right. Keep them closed. You can get off the train at Wilson and exit out the turnstile. Good job.

linguistic, meant for speaking..........Berwyn $\rightarrow$ Thorndale $\rightarrow$ Red Grand
tool.....Brown Armitage $\rightarrow$ Brown Diversey $\rightarrow$ Brown Armitage
number.....Purple Armitage $\rightarrow$ Purple Wilson
we. sit

Tapping one's feet indicates that the root ride is a verb.
Tapping one's fist against the opposite shoulder indicates that a root is being used adjectively.

The imperative is indicated by the speaker closing, and keeping closed, their eyes. (EC)

Grabbing one's ear indicates that the ride is a noun.
Keeping one's eyes fixed to the right (from the perspective of the viewer) means that the noun is being used in the genitive.

When the eyes of a speaker are closed for the duration or vast majority of a ride, the noun is interpreted as being in the accusative, the object of a sentence. (EC)


## "Explain dibs to me, please."

$T I$...TF..Granville $\rightarrow$ ArgyleEC...TNFR...GE..Purple Diversey $\rightarrow$ Purple Howard $\rightarrow$ Purple ChicagoEC...TNFR...SAny1H2F..EWO...PRAY...TO

Tap your card and go through the turnstile at Granville. Ride south toward Argyle. Do so while keeping your eyes closed. Also, tap your feet! Then, get over to Diversey (Purple Line) via any route you wish to take. Get on a train and go to Howard (Purple Line). At Howard, change trains again and go to Chicago. As you're riding these various trains, you must grab onto one of your ears and keep your eyes closed. Next, you will ride from any station you wish down precisely one stop. Sit down in the train your riding, while simultaneously keeping the tips of your fingers gently pressed up against your cheek. Your eyes must also be held wide open. It's okay if you look a bit deranged! When you get to the next station, get off and put your hands together as if you were praying. You've made your request. Now head out of the station.
instruct, explain....Granville $\rightarrow$ Argyle
dibs..........Purple Diversey $\rightarrow$ Purple Howard $\rightarrow$ Purple Chicago
Tapping one's feet indicates that the root ride is a verb.
Grabbing one's ear indicates that the ride is a noun.
Keeping one's eyes closed indicates that a noun is in the accusative case.

Keeping one's eyes wide open puts a noun in the dative case (makes it the indirect object of a phrase)

Placing one's hands in a prayer position, indicates that a polite request is being made.


## "How do I get to City Hall?"

$T I$...TF..SGreen Kedzie $\rightarrow$ Green<br>ClintonEO...TNFR...TFOS..Francisco $\rightarrow$ Paulina...TNFR...TFO<br>$S . . S o x-35^{\mathrm{th}} \rightarrow$ Red Addison...TNFR...GE..Brown<br>Chicago $\rightarrow$ Brown KedzieLEC...TNFR...LaSalle/Van<br>Buren $\rightarrow$ QuincyCW...TO

Kedzie (on the Green Line) is a really beautiful station. From there you can see the whole skyline. Try being there at either sunrise or sunset. The glimmer off the skyscrapers is quite breathtaking. Once you've had a nice look at the skyline, feel free to get on an eastbound train. When you get on the train take a seat and keep your eyes open. When you get there change lines. Change trains. Get to the Brown Line somehow. Board a train at Francisco. As you start this ride, start tapping your fist on the opposite shoulder. Ride to Paulina. Change trains. However, you like, get to Sox- $35^{\text {th }}$. Embark on the next leg of your journey and, once more, tap your fist to your shoulder (continuously). Ride north. Get off at Addison (Red Line). Change trains again. Get to Chicago on the Brown Line. Get on a train going north. As you ride, grab onto your ear. Keep your left eye closed for the duration of the ride. Just your left eye, though. Transfer to another line just one last time. Get on to a train at LaSalle/Van Buren downtown. Ride to Quincy, using either Pink or Orange Lines. Get off at Quincy. Don't worry, you're not too far from City Hall.
go....Green Kedzie $\rightarrow$ Green Clinton
city

$\qquad$
Francisco $\rightarrow$ Paulinamain, principal, chief.....Sox- $35^{\text {th }} \rightarrow$ Red Addisonbuilding, structure, statue.....Brown Chicago $\rightarrow$ BrownKedzie
how....LaSalle/Van Buren $\rightarrow$ Quincy
I. ..... sit

Tapping one's feet indicates that the root ride is a verb.
Keeping one's eyes open demonstrates that a verb is indicative.

Tapping one's fist against the opposite shoulder indicates that a root is being used as an adjective.

Grabbing one's ear indicates that the ride is a noun.
One keeps only the left eye closed in order to indicate that the noun is in the allative case (an action is happening in the direction of the noun in question.)


## "Two tickets, please."

TI...TFOS..Ridgeland $\rightarrow$ Central...TNFR...H2T2..Indiana $\rightarrow$ King DriveEC...PRAY...TO

Scan your U-Pass or Ventra Card at Ridgeland. Take a train to Central. Then, go to Indiana. Get on a southbound train. In it, you will grab onto your ear while simultaneously tapping your hand on your thigh exactly twice. You may repeat this action if you wish, but ensure that each, individual action is separated out by an appropriate amount of time. As you speed along, close your eyes and keep them closed. Get off at King Drive. Once you're off, clap your hands together as if you're praying. Exit.
ride, for riding, for speaking....Ridgeland $\rightarrow$ Central
permit, ticket.........Indiana $\rightarrow$ King Drive
Tapping one's fist against the opposite shoulder indicates that a root is being used adjectively.

When specifying the number of a specific noun, the speaker places their hand to their thigh $(H 2 T)$ instead of grabbing their ear $(G E)$. They then tap your hand against your thigh for the appropriate number of times. In this instance, the number of taps is two, indicating that there are two of the specified noun.

When the eyes of a speaker are closed for the duration or vast majority of a ride, the noun is interpreted as being in the accusative, the object of a sentence. (EC)

Placing one's hands in a prayer position, indicates that a polite request is being made.


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