

The Tunic Rallye - Preliminary General Instructions

SI: Welcome to today's online A-B style gimmick rallye, in which a little fox goes on a big adventure in a car around beautiful Cambridge, Massachusetts. In this online rallye, you must run the rallye from your computer using Google Maps and Google Street View. Please take your time and carefully read everything given to you. There are no gimmicks on capitalization anywhere. There are no gimmicks on spelling, spacing, punctuation, or pluralization in the GIs. This rallye is inspired by the game *Tunic*, a game about puzzling through confusing instructions. None of the game's puzzles or systems are spoiled by this rallye. There are no gimmicks or instructions in the images from the game included in the GIs or RIs; they are included purely for fun and commiseration with confusion. **End SI.**

Definitions

Undefined terms take on their standard English meanings.

At – as close to as possible, within 100 feet

Ch – a chance to turn in the direction indicated in a junction

Complete – execute or delete

CS – do not turn; instead, continue through one intersection

Delete – consider non-existent for rallye purposes

Execute – physically do

Graphic (of) – a graphical depiction of an object on a sign

Intersection – a location where two or more roads meet or cross, where you can proceed in more than one direction excluding a U

Instructed action – an action you perform as instructed by RI or GPI

James (word) – The next time you see a CP worker, write the word that follows James next to CP5 on your scoresheet.

Junction – a location where exactly two differently-named roads meet, where you can proceed in more than two directions excluding a U

L – turn to the left in an intersection or junction

Observe – see the indicated sign or object along your route and completely pass it

On – physically upon

Opp – an opportunity to turn in the direction indicated in an intersection

R – turn to the right in an intersection or junction

Signal – an intersection where traffic is controlled by electrically operated traffic control devices, working or not

SOL – Sign On Left: the indicated sign must appear on your left as you pass it

SOR – Sign On Right: the indicated sign must appear on your right as you pass it

Stop – a red-and-white sign that controls your forward progress at an intersection

T – an intersection in which you may turn left or right, but not CS.

Turn – change your direction of travel approximately 90°

U – reverse your direction of travel

Uninstructed – refers to an intersection in which you cannot complete an instructed RI or GPI action

Warp (to) – click a link in the instruction and continue driving in the position and direction shown in Google street view

Word – one or more letters set off by space or punctuation

Instructions and Order of Precedence

If two or more instructions can be done at the same place and time, do the one of higher precedence first; if both have the same precedence, do the one higher on its page first. The order of precedence is as follows, from highest to lowest:



1. **Special Instructions (SIs)** – Instructions beginning with the letters “SI.” There are no gimmicks in SIs; just do what they say in a straightforward way.
2. **Golden Path Instructions (GPIs)** - Instructions on the RI pages beginning with the words “Golden Path”. Begin considering a GPI upon completion of the RI that most closely precedes it on the RI page containing the GPI. When considering a GPI, attempt to execute GPI-instructed actions in order, one at a time, only at intersections. Each GPI has zero or more actions. Multiple actions are separated by commas. After executing a GPI action, go ahead to the next intersection. Continue executing each action instructed by a GPI repeatedly, considering it freshly each time, until you come to an intersection where it physically cannot be executed. When you approach an intersection at which the instructed GPI action you are currently considering cannot be executed, move on to the next instructed action in the GPI, or, if the action you were unable to execute was the last instructed action in the GPI, stop considering the GPI. Stop considering a GPI upon executing a L at an uninstructed T (#6 below) or revisiting any part of an intersection or the same part of a road (in any lane) you previously traversed while considering the GPI. While considering a GPI, keep a count of the number of times you execute any instructed action. When you have finished considering the GPI, record that number on your scoresheet in the space on your scoresheet that corresponds to that GPI.
3. **Massachusetts Vehicle Law** – Obey the law and drive safely.
4. **General Instructions (GIs)** – The rallye ground rules. You are reading them now.
5. **Route Instructions (RIs)** – Numbered two-part instructions. Parts of a valid RI are labeled A and B; for example, 26. A: Observe Sparks, U at Concord. B: U at Manassas, U on Huron. Valid RIs must be completed in ascending numerical order: the lowest numbered uncompleted RI is the RI in effect. Each RI part has one or more actions. Multiple actions are separated by commas. Do the A or B part whose first action can be done first along the route, and mark the corresponding choice where it appears on your score sheet. If the first action of part A and the first action of part B can first be completed at the same point along the route, then mark the corresponding choice C on your score sheet and do part A. Execute all action(s) of the selected part in order, then consider the entire RI completed.
6. L at any uninstructed T.
7. Go as straight as possible, bear right when in doubt unless instructed otherwise.
8. Reverse your direction of travel.

Signs

Only government-erected signs are valid for this rallye. Roads are named by signs. Occasionally, due to Google maps issues, signs may appear blurry, invisible, or obstructed as you approach them; you may advance and look behind you to see a sign more clearly, but you should consider signs as existing and viewable as though you were physically approaching them. **SI:** There are no gimmicks based on sign visibility at short range. **End SI.** The surfaces of roads, sidewalks, and curbs are not valid signs, and there are no valid signs on vehicles, buildings, fences, or mailboxes. Do not split words. Additional words, numbers, or symbols do not invalidate a sign. Block numbers and the words Street, Drive, Road, Terrace, Court, and their abbreviations do not exist on signs.

Route

All roads used will be paved and public except for Loop Road. Private roads/ways, driveways and parking lots do not exist. When instructed to U, make the U at a safe and legal place but consider it made where instructed. Keep in mind that shortly after Tunic was released, the Garden Street Safety Improvement Project began, and the promised “restoration of two-way traffic” has not yet occurred. The little fox fears the eyes of the far shore (Boston, on the other side of the Charles River), so bridges that cross the Charles River do not exist.

Quoted and Unquoted Words

In an RI or GPI action, words in quotes refer only to a sign or signs on a common support that display(s) all the quoted word(s) and number(s) in the instructed action. Such signs can appear on your left, on your right, overhead, etc., unless one or more of the terms SOL or SOR is used in the instructed action, in which case the definition of the term used applies.

In an RI or GPI action, nouns not in quotes refer to a street identified by a street-naming sign. One exception to the preceding sentence is that instructed actions that use one of the defined terms Ch, Graphic, Intersection, Opp, Signal, Stop, Yield, or T refer to the corresponding object as defined. Ordinal modifiers (first, second, etc.) can be used with these defined objects. Another two exceptions are Cambridge Pizzeria and Armando’s Pizza & Subs, which refer to the businesses, irrespective of signage.

Checkpoints

Do anything that CP workers ask you to do. Greet CP workers when you meet them on Zoom. When you greet CP workers, tell them “I would make the sound a fox makes, but I do not know what that is.” **SI:** Note that only the checkpoint on Bond St. actually involves joining a Zoom. **End SI.**

There is a checkpoint here at 129 Franklin St. When you pass by this checkpoint, write down the number of the most recent RI you completed next to CP1 on your scoresheet.

There is a checkpoint here on Bond St. at the back entrance of the Center for Astrophysics | Harvard & Smithsonian. When you pass by this checkpoint, pause your driving and join this Zoom room (link TBD) and wait to be admitted. The CP will officially begin when you are sent into a breakout room. This CP will be staffed between 1pm and 6pm PDT.

There is a checkpoint here at 20 Garden St at the front steps of the Black Hole Initiative. When you pass by this checkpoint, write down the names of the streets that crossed where you last completed an instructed action next to CP3 on your scoresheet.

Tiebreaks

Fill in the tiebreaker section of the scoresheet.

TB1: Guess a four digit number

TB2: Guess your final score

TB3: Guess the average final score

TB4: Guess the standard deviation of final scores