

A) The Highway Code

Lead in: Discuss the driving system in England – how old you must be before you can start to drive, the driving test – theory and practical etc. Ask learners about driving in their country.

Write *Highway Code* on the board and elicit what learners already know about it. Discuss how it varies with the system in their country.

Warmer: Hand out the Highway Code sheets – pre teach any vocabulary if necessary (If real low level learners explain *stop* and *go*.) Learners can discuss the Highway Code in pairs – monitor their discussions and deal with any questions they may have. After sufficient time ask the learners to match the information with the correct sign. Feedback to the class, or put the answers on an OHT.

Reading Activity: Give the learners the information on Safe Driving and read as a group – pre teach or deal with any vocabulary. Students work in pairs to answer the True or False questions.

Extension Activity: *Either as a group or for self-study learners complete the interactive theory test – for further practise use the link to the DSA online theory test.*

Match the information with the correct sign.

1. No overtaking

2. No motor vehicles

3. No entry

4. Road narrows on both sides

5. No left turn

6. No U-turns

7. Give way

8. National speed limit

9. Minimum speed limit

10. Ahead only



The Highway Code

To pass your driving test in Britain you have to learn the Highway Code. There are many signs, signals and markings related to the Highway Code and it is very important that you understand what they mean.

Signs

Signs giving orders are always round in shape with a red border.



Warning signs are triangular in shape, with a red border.



Signs giving directions are always blue and usually square.



Signs for road works are yellow.



Signals

Traffic lights control the traffic and tell you when you must stop and when you can go.

RED light means **STOP**, wait behind the line.

RED and **AMBER** also mean STOP.

GREEN means GO if the way is clear.

AMBER means STOP at the stop line. You may GO on only if you have passed the STOP line, or to STOP would be dangerous and may cause an accident.

Safety on the Road

In England the national speed limit is 70 miles per hour (mph), which is 110 kilometres per hour (kph) on motorways. On dual carriageways the speed limit is 60 mph, which is 95 kph. On single lane roads the speed limit is 50 mph, 80 kph on single roads and 30 mph, 50 kph in residential areas. You must stop at traffic lights if they are red or amber and can go only if they are green. You must keep a safe distance from other vehicles at all times and be careful when you overtake – if there are two white-lines in the middle of the road it means no overtaking. If you are going on a long journey make sure you have lots of breaks and allow plenty of time to get to your destination.

Questions

Now you have read the information about **Safety on the Roads**, read the questions below and answer them **True** or **False**.

1. In England the National Speed Limit is 70 miles per hour (mph)?
2. A dual carriage way is a single lane road?
3. You must stop at traffic lights if they are red?
4. If there are two white lines in the middle of the road it means you can overtake?
5. The speed limit in residential areas is 30 mph?
6. If you are going on a long journey make sure you take lots of breaks.
7. A green light means stop?
8. On single lane roads the speed limit is 50 mph?

Vocabulary

Match the words with the correct meaning.

Motorway	an area where people live
Dual carriageway	Very fast main road
Residential Area	when you go past another car/vehicle
Overtaking	two roads next to each other
Break	The place where you are going.
Destination	stop driving and rest

Driving – What to do if you have an accident

Lead In: Write accident on the board and elicit as many causes of accidents as possible – Road accidents will certainly come up.

Vocabulary: Hand out the vocabulary sheets and learners work in pairs to match the word with the correct meaning. Feedback as a group and put the answers on the board or an OHT.

Speaking: Ask students if they have ever been involved in an accident – if so what did they do? Give learners the procedure sheet and ask them to put them in the correct order – feedback, but don't give the correct sequence yet. Explain to learners that they are going to read some information on what to do if you are involved in an accident. After they have read the information students check they have the procedures in the correct order – feedback and put the answers on an OHT.

Listening: Explain to learners that they are going to listen to a conversation between a driver who has been involved in an accident and the emergency service operator. First of all they are going to complete a gap fill exercise – hand out the dialogue and students work in pairs to complete it. After sufficient time tell learners to listen to the recording and check if they were correct.

Practise: Students role play a similar situation – monitor and ask some of the learners to perform for the class.

NB: There is more information on emergency services in the emergency services section.

What to do if you have a road traffic accident (RTA)

Vocabulary - Match the words with the correct meaning.

Accident	someone gets hurt
Injury	you need help
Assistance	where someone/or something can be found
Accurate	when you swap information with someone
Location	to say something was your fault
Admit	when you don't mean something to happen
Collision	something that is exactly correct.
Exchange	when you hit another car

What to do if you have a road traffic accident (RTA)

After a road traffic accident takes place there are certain procedures you must ensure you do. Work with a partner and put these procedures in to the correct sequence in which they should happen.

1) Do not admit responsibility for the accident at the scene

2) Obtain the name and address of any witnesses to the collision – this will assist you later.

3) If no one is injured but the road is blocked, or you need assistance telephone the police.

4) If someone is injured you must call the police and give an accurate location

5) Exchange details (name and address) with the other driver/drivers ensuring that you have the registration, make and model of the vehicles involved.

I've had an accident!

Read the conversation below and fill the gaps with the correct word.

accident emergency assistance collision location
accurate injured

Operator: Hello which service do you require?

Driver: Police please, I've had an and have crashed my car!

Operator: Is anyone do you require the ambulance service?

Driver: No, nobody is injured but we do need police

Operator: Can you tell me your please?

Driver: Yes, I am on the A30 between Camborne and Redruth I've had a with another car.

Operator: I'm afraid you'll need to be more are you on the east or west bound carriage?

Driver: Sorry, I am on the east bound.

Operator: OK the police are on their way.

- **Now listen to the recording – were you correct?**
- **Practise the conversation with a partner.**

European Community (EC)/European Economic Area (EEA)

Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Cyprus, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, Bulgaria and Romania.

Visitors:

If you are visiting GB from one of the above countries and hold a community license, you may drive any vehicle covered by your license as long as your license is valid.

Residents:

If you have a valid community license, you are allowed to drive in this country for the periods set out below. Alternatively you can apply to exchange your license for a GB license at any time.

As long as your license is valid you may drive in GB until the age of **70** or for **three years** after becoming a resident whichever is the longest period.

Taking a Driving Test

If you want to take a GB driving test you must be a resident in GB. If you have moved to GB after recently being permanent resident in of the EC/EEA, you must have been resident in GB for 185 days in the 12 months prior to your application for a driving test and full license.

Synonyms (words with the same meaning)

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Valid | Current |
| 2. Exchange | Swap |
| 3. Period | (length of) Time |
| 4. Allowed | Permitted |
| 5. Alternatively | Otherwise |
| 6. Resident | Inhabitant |
| 7. Permitted | Allowed |

What to do if you have a road traffic accident

No matter how good your driving is, accidents on the road do happen. We have put together a guide to what you should do after an accident, which can help reduce the additional stress of sorting everything out following the incident.

1. Accidents happen. Try to stay calm and don't lose your temper. Don't admit blame at the scene of the accident or offer any form of settlement.
2. Stop at the scene if you think your accident has caused injuries or damage to vehicles or property. It is an offence not to stop.
3. Ensure the scene is safe. Switch off all engines; turn on hazard warning lights and alert oncoming traffic about the accident.
4. Call 999 (or 112 from a mobile) immediately if anyone involved in the accident is injured, the collision has caused a hazardous situation, or someone leaves the scene without exchanging details. If you're unsure about whether you should call the police - make the call. The police don't usually attend road traffic accidents where there are no injuries but it is still worth reporting the incident.
5. Get the names, addresses and vehicle registrations of any witnesses (including passengers in the other vehicles involved).
6. Take down the registration number, make, model and colour of all other vehicles involved in the accident. All drivers involved must exchange details by law. Ask them for their name, address, telephone numbers (don't just get a mobile number but a home number too) and insurance details. You must also provide this information about yourself.
7. Record any other details you think may be important e.g. use of mobile phone, if you think the driver of the other vehicle has been drinking, weather conditions etc.
8. You must notify your insurance company immediately of any collision you are involved in, regardless of whether or not a claim is to be made or whose fault it was. Give them all the details, notes, photographs etc.