32 Driving

A Driving tips

TIPS FOR SAFER DRIVING

- Always **be prepared for** bad road conditions, and **concentrate** 100% of the time.
- Remember that **alcohol has a** serious **effect on** your ability to drive safely.
- Never drive when you're very tired, or you **risk falling asleep** and causing an accident.
- Be aware of other drivers around you as well as the road **ahead.**
- **Keep** to the **speed limit** and don't drive too **close to** the vehicle in front.

GLOSSARY

tip	a piece of practical advice
be prepared for sth	be ready and able to deal with any problems
concentrate (on sth)	give all your attention to sth
alcohol	drinks such as beer and wine that can make people drunk **alcoholic** *adj*
effect	a change that happens because of sth **have an effect (on sb/sth)** SYN **affect sth/sb**
risk (doing) sth	put yourself or sth in danger **risk** *n*
fall asleep	start sleeping
ahead	in front
keep	continue or stay in a particular place or condition; **keep to the speed limit** stay at or below the speed limit; **keep left** stay on the left
speed limit	the highest legal speed you can drive on a road
close (to sth/sb)	near sth/sb

1 Good or bad? Write *G* or *B*.

▶ I've been given some tips on motorway driving. G

1 You're risking your life in that car. .....
2 She's concentrating on driving. .....
3 She had an alcoholic drink before driving. .....
4 She fell asleep while driving. .....
5 I wasn't aware of the speed limit. .....
6 The road ahead is empty. .....
7 The poor light affected his driving. .....
8 He always keeps to the speed limit. .....

2 Complete the dialogues.

▶ Would you like some wine? ~ No, thanks. It's bad to drink alcohol before driving.
1 Did the accident affect you? ~ Yes, it had a very big _____ on me.
2 Megan talks a lot in the car. ~ I know. She doesn't _____ when she's driving.
3 What caused the accident? ~ The driver _____ asleep for a few seconds.
4 Did Mo give you any advice on the driving test? ~ Yes, she gave me some useful _____.
5 Were you looking behind you? ~ No, I was looking _____.
6 Did you see what was going to happen? ~ No, I wasn't _____ for it.
7 What's the matter? ~ You're driving too _____ to the car in front of us.
8 Were you driving too fast? ~ No, I _____ to the speed limit.

3 ABOUT YOU Write your answers, or ask another student.

1 Are the tips in this unit useful, or did you know them already? _____
2 What is the speed limit in towns in your country? _____
3 Do people usually keep to it? _____
4 Do you have to be prepared for bad weather on the roads in your country? How? _____
5 Apart from alcohol, what other things can have a negative effect on drivers? _____

TEST YOURSELF

LIVEWORKSHEETS

B Driving problems

I'm a terrible driver. The first time I **took my driving test**, I forgot to **fasten my seat belt**, so I **failed**. The second time, I didn't **signal** when I was turning left, and I failed again. When I finally **passed** and **got my driving licence**, a police officer stopped me for **speeding**. A few weeks later, I went through **a red light** and hit another car. **Luckily**, the other car wasn't **damaged**, but I had to pay £350 on my **insurance** to get my car **fixed**. And then I **ended up** getting a **fine** for driving through the red light.



fasten your seat belt / do your seat belt up

SPOTLIGHT compounds with *driving*

When people learn to drive, they often have **driving lessons** before they **take their driving test**. If they pass, they **get a driving licence** (=a document which shows that you are allowed to drive).

GLOSSARY

fail	do badly in a test or an exam OPP **pass**	**damage**	break or harm sth **damage** *n*
signal	When you are driving and you **signal**, you show that you want to turn left/ right, etc. **signal** *n*	**insurance**	an agreement where you pay money to a company, so that it will give you money if sth bad happens
speeding	driving faster than the legal speed limit **speed** *v*	**fix**	repair sth
red light	a signal telling a driver to stop *go through a* ***red light*** = not stop	**end up**	get into in a place or situation when you did not plan it
luckily	= it is lucky that … SYN **fortunately; luck** *n*	**fine**	money that you must pay because you have done sth wrong

4 **Circle the correct words or phrases. Be careful: in two questions, both answers are correct.**

▶ The driver *got* / *went* through a red light, but a police officer stopped him.

1 My cousin was stopped by the police for ***speeding / signalling***.
2 Fortunately I passed, so I've got my ***driving test / driving licence*** now.
3 She never remembers to ***do up / fasten*** her seat belt.
4 You have to have ***insurance / a fine*** to drive a car in this country.
5 The driver ***signed / signalled*** to turn left, but in fact he turned right.
6 We were planning to go home, but we ***ended / ended up*** at Milly's house.
7 It was a long journey, but ***luckily / fortunately*** we got home before the snow.
8 I wasn't injured, but my bicycle was badly ***damaged / hurt*** in the accident.
9 Did you have to pay ***insurance / a fine*** when the police officer stopped you?
10 I fell asleep for a few seconds and it was just ***luck / luckily*** that I didn't hit anything.

5 **One word is missing in each line. What is it, and where does it go?**

I was a very slow learner, and I had driving / for two ▶ lessons
years before I the driving test. I was very nervous, 1 .....
and I went through a light, which was extremely 2 .....
dangerous, and, of course, I the test. The second time, 3 .....
I was less nervous and did better: I and got my 4 .....
driving. I bought an old car from a friend and 5 .....
paid a lot of money for to protect the car. 6 .....
However, it had a lot of problems: I couldn't the 7 .....
seat belt, and I couldn't to turn left or right. 8 .....
It also had some to the passenger door from 9 .....
an earlier accident my friend had, so I up having 10 .....
to pay a garage to some of the faults. 11 .....

TEST YOURSELF

LIVEWORKSHEETS