On the road

Task 1. NOUNS

Complete the sentences with an appropriate word or expression from the box.

cyclists	• speed limit	• traffic	• stop	• motorway	• junction
pedestrians	• roundabout	• pedestrian crossing	• one-way	• bus lanes	
petrol station	• traffic lights	• bridge	• roadworks	• car park	

1. We need to get some fuel. There's a _____ just up the road.
2. The fastest way of getting from London to Oxford is to take the _____.
3. There's always a lot of _____ on the roads in the morning and evening.
4. The High Street is closed because of _____.
5. Go over the _____, turn left at the first _____, and then take the third exit on the _____.
6. You can't leave your car here. You'll have to use the _____.
7. Many towns have _____ so that people using public transport can get into and out of town more quickly.
8. Wait for the _____ to turn green before you continue.
9. The _____ in most towns and cities is 30 miles per hour.
10. Many _____ fail to keep their bicycles in good condition or obey the rules of the road.
11. You can't turn right into that street. It's a _____ street.
12. When you're driving through town, be careful of _____ crossing the street.
13. This road is very busy and dangerous. If you want to get to the other side, use the _____.
14. I need to get a bus into town. Is there a (bus) _____ near here?

Task 2. VERBS

Complete the story below with an appropriate word or expression from the box.

crashed	• accelerated	• indicate	• reverse	• overtake	
smashed	• skidded	• started up	• braked	• fasten	• swerve
adjust	• sounded	• check	• stalled	• release	• pulled away

I've just finished my driving test and I think it went quite well. OK, so I made a few mistakes, but nothing too serious. For example, I forgot to 1._____ the mirrors, with the result that I couldn't see anything behind me. Then, when I 2._____ the car, I forgot that I had left it in first gear, so I 3._____. Oh, and I forgot to 4._____ my seatbelt. And 5._____ the handbrake. When I eventually 6._____ from the side of the road, I forgot to 7._____ my mirrors; the driver of the car that almost 8._____ into me as a result 9._____ his horn and shouted something at me, but I didn't hear what. I nearly went through a red light, but saw it at the last second and tried to stop. Unfortunately, I lost control and my car 10._____ across to

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

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the other side of the road - fortunately, the cars coming in the opposite direction managed to 11._____ out of the way. At one point, I 12._____ when I should have 13._____, so instead of stopping, the car just went faster! Fortunately, the police car that I 14._____ into the back of wasn't badly damaged and the policeman driving it didn't shout at me too loudly. At another time I had to 15._____ somebody who was driving a bit slowly, but I forgot to 16._____, so the drivers behind me had no idea what I was going to do. Finally, I managed to 17._____ into a wall which I couldn't see behind me. I don't know if I've passed yet, because the examiner is still being treated for shock in the local hospital.

Task 3. IDIOMS, COLLOQUIALISMS AND OTHER EXPRESSIONS

The worst driver in the world? Read the following story and decide which of the words and expressions in bold correspond to the dictionary definitions 1 - 14.

My brother Ted must be the world's worst driver. It started when he was young and used to go for **joyrides**, causing **pile-ups** which resulted in **traffic jams** and **gridlocks** for other drivers. As a young adult, he was a real **boy racer**, **putting his foot down**, driving **like the clappers** and then **jamming on the brakes**. I reckon he must have **written off** at least six of the **bangers** he used to drive. He's still a real **road hog**, **tailgating** other cars and getting involved in **road rage** incidents. He's offered to **give me a lift** home tonight, but to be honest, I'd rather **thumb a lift.** He's **picking me up** in a few minutes; maybe I'd better have **one for the road**. At least it's **rush hour** and the roads will be **chock-a-block** so he won't be able to drive too fast! Honestly - sometimes he **drives me round the bend**!

1. To follow very closely behind another vehicle.
2. An old car, usually in poor condition.
3. To hitch-hike, to ask a car driver or a truck driver to take you as a passenger.
4. A person who drives fast and dangerously.
5. To accelerate very quickly.
6. To make someone angry or crazy.
7. A young man who drives fast and dangerously.
8. A trip for pleasure, usually in a stolen car.
9. To stop a vehicle very suddenly.
10. A final drink before leaving a bar or pub.
11. A violent attack by a driver on another car or its driver.
12. To damage a car so badly that it can no longer be repaired.
13. A crash involving a series of vehicles which have smashed into one another.
14. The time of the day when traffic is very bad, trains are crowded, etc.

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