

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 <i>adj</i>
effect	a change that happens because of sth have an effect (on sb/sth) <i>SYN affect sth/sb</i>
risk (doing) sth	put yourself or sth in danger risk <i>n</i>
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. | 5 I wasn't aware of the speed limit. |
| 2 She's concentrating on driving. | 6 The road ahead is empty. |
| 3 She had an alcoholic drink before driving. | 7 The poor light affected his driving. |
| 4 She fell asleep while driving. | 8 He always keeps to the speed limit. |

2 Complete the dialogues.

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

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

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



TEST YOURSELF

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

- lessons
- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____
- 7 _____
- 8 _____
- 9 _____
- 10 _____
- 11 _____



TEST YOURSELF