TRAFFIC OFFENCES IN CONTEXT

1. TRAFFIC TICKET

expired fine fire influence intersection offences related registration document speeding speedometer

Police Officer: Okay. May I see your driver's license please?
Driver: What? Did I do anything wrong?

Police Officer: License, please. And your car (1) _____.
Driver: Oh, yeah. It's here somewhere in the glove compartment. Yeah, here it is.

Police Officer: Sir, did you realize you were (2) _____ in a school zone?

Driver: What? No, I didn't, but that's probably because my (3) _____ is broken, I mean, malfunctioning.
Police Officer: Yes, you were going 50 miles per hour in a 20 miles per hour zone. And [*What?*] AND, you failed to come to a complete stop at the (4) _____ back there.
Driver: Rolling stops don't count?
Police Officer: And, one of your brake lights is out, [*Huh?*], you're not wearing a seat belt, AND your driver's license (5) _____ six months ago.

Driver: And your name is . . . . Officer Smith? Hey, are you (6) _____ to the Smiths in town? My wife's cousin's husband (I think his name is Fred) works for the police department here. Or was that the (7) _____ department. Anyway, I thought you might be good pals, and you know . . .

Police Officer: Hey, are you trying to (8) _____ an officer? I could have this car impounded right now because of these (9) _____.
Driver: No, of course not.
Police Officer: Okay, then. Here's your ticket. You can either appear in court to pay the (10) _____ or mail it in. Have a nice day.
Driver: Do you take cash?

1. What law did the driver break in the school zone?

- A. He didn't yield to children crossing the road.
- B. He parked illegally near the school.
- C. He exceeded the speed limit.



2. What happened at the intersection?

- A. The driver didn't use his turn signals.
- B. The driver didn't come to a complete stop.
- C. The driver failed to yield to other drivers.

3. What does the police officer tell the man about his driver's license?

- A. The license is no longer valid.
- B. The driver is using someone else's license.
- C. The license is only good for 6 more months.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4. What can be implied from the driver's conversation about the officer's name?

- A. The driver plans to report the officer to his superiors.
- B. The driver tells the officer that they have met before.
- C. The driver hints that the officer could let him off.

5. What happens at the end of the conversation?

- A. The driver gets a ticket.
- B. The officer arrests the driver.
- C. The driver is taken to court.



2. Pulling over drivers

A Japanese police officer pulls over an American driver on the highway for speeding...

Police: Can I see your driver's license please?

Man: Ah, yeah. I think it's in my pocket. No. Maybe my wallet. Uh. Yeah here.

Police: Do you know how fast you were driving?

Man: No, sorry. It's a rental car. I'm not used to it.

Police: Have you been drinking tonight, Mr. Davidson?

Man: I had one or two drinks. I'm okay to drive, though. I know my limit.

Police: How long have you been in Japan?

Man: A few weeks, why?

Police: It seems you are unaware of our zero tolerance for drinking and driving.

Man: I'm not drunk. I'll blow into a breathalizer.

Police: In Japan you cannot operate a vehicle after consuming any alcohol.

Man: Oh, I didn't know that.

Police: You were also going over the speed limit, Mr. Davidson. I'm going to have to ask you to step out of your vehicle and get into my car.

Man: This is crazy. But what about my car?

Police: We'll have the rental car towed to the agency. When you're in our country you have to respect our rules.

Check your understanding

1. Why does the man get pulled over?
2. What is Mr. Davidson's excuse for his driving error?
3. What offences did he commit?
4. What will happen to the man's car?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3. Stopping a cyclist

Fill in the gaps.

P=Police, C=Cyclist

back, bike, charges, cyclists, lights, pavement, police car, station

P: Oi! You! Stop right there!
C: What?
P: You heard me! Stop and get off the (1) ….
C: What did I do?
P: Are you aware that cycling on the (2) … is a criminal offence? You almost ran over that elderly gentleman.
C: What?
P: And I saw you jump a red light – that's a serious traffic offence.
C: The (3) … were green.
P: Plus, I have reason to believe that you've been drinking. I need you to breathe into this breathalyser.
C: No, I won't.
P: Then I'll have to ask you to accompany me to the (4) ….
C: Under what (5) …?
P: Just blow into this, please.
C: No.
P: Right, then I'm arresting you for resisting arrest.
C: Resisting arrest? This is a joke.
P: Turn around and place your hands behind your (6) ….
C: Why?
P: So I can handcuff you!
C: I can't believe this.
P: You have the right to remain silent, but anything you do say will be taken down and may be used in evidence against you. You (7) … - you think you own the roads.
C: This is unbelievable.
P: Get into the (8)….
C: What about my bike?
P: You can pick it up later.
C: But someone might steal it.
P: Then lock it! Now get in!



Answer the questions.

1. Why does the police officer stop the cyclist?
2. What offences did the cyclist commit?
3. Does he acknowledge the offences?
4. What happens to him?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4.Find these expressions in the texts, then translate the dialogues into Hungarian.

Vocabulary

1 Ez az én formám!

2 hivatalos kinézetű

3 helyszíni bírságot kiszabni

4 felállít, telepít

5 gyorshajtáson ér vkit

6 Ne viccelj!

7 ha még egyszer elcsípnek

8 járművet félreállít, -terel

9 áthajt a piroson

10 a sárga jelzés világított

11 a leghatározottabban

12 fényképes bizonyíték

a) Exceeding the speed limit



Harvey Just my luck. Look at this letter.

John Ah yes, I thought it was something official looking. You're being fined for exceeding the speed limit, it says. Why weren't you fined on the spot ?

Harvey Because I was photographed by a speed camera. I didn't even know it was there.

John They're installing more and more of them around here. Two of my friends were caught speeding by them last month. You're going to have to be more careful in future.

Harvey You're not kidding - the fine is $60. That's a lot of money and it would be double if I got caught again.

John I know, speeding is an expensive hobby.

b) You just drove through a red light !



Police officer Switch your engine off, please sir.

Driver Yes, officer. Why have you pulled me over?

Police officer Because you just drove through a red light.

Driver But the amber light was on when I drove through, officer.

Police officer It was most definitely on red when you drove through. I have photographic evidence of that. May I please see your driving license ?

Driver Well, yes, of course. Here it is.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

+ For fun: Read the joke and decide what offences were committed here, and by whom.

Women Drivers

Driving to the office this morning on the Interstate, I looked over to my left and there was a woman in a brand new Mustang doing 65 miles per hour with her face up next to her rear view mirror putting on her eyeliner!

I looked away for a couple seconds and when I looked back she was halfway over in my lane, still working on that makeup!!! It scared me (I'm a man) so bad, I dropped my electric shaver, which knocked the donut out of my other hand.

In all the confusion of trying to straighten out the car using my knees against the steering wheel, it knocked my cell phone away from my ear which fell into the coffee between my legs, splashed and burned Big Jim and the Twins, ruined the damn phone and DISCONNECTED AN IMPORTANT CALL!

WOMEN DRIVERS!!!!!!!!!!!!!





LIVEWORKSHEETS