

A

Roads



traffic lights



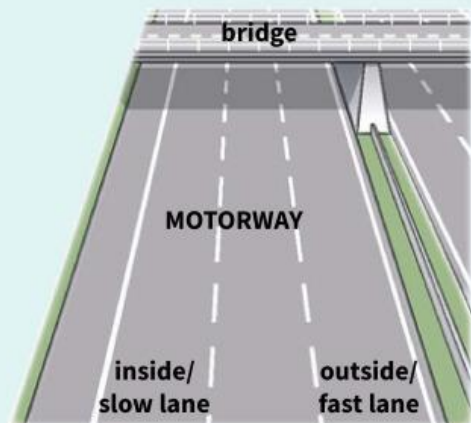
(road) junction

a **bend** in the road
(this road **bends**
to the right)

pedestrian crossing

no overtaking
[you can't pass
another car]

speed limit



B

Finding your way

“Yesterday, I **got lost**¹ **on my way to**² the airport. I decided to use side roads and go **via**³ the village of Pensford, but I took the wrong **turning**⁴ just before I got there, and I **ended up**⁵ in a supermarket car park. Fortunately I was able to **ask** someone **the way**⁶, and a very kind woman **directed**⁷ me to the A38, where I could then follow **signs** for the airport.”

¹ didn't know where I was

² while I was going to (the airport)

³ go through somewhere to get to a destination

⁴ corner where one road meets another

⁵ found myself in a place I didn't expect to be in

⁶ ask how to get to a place

⁷ told me how to get to a place

C

An accident

“I saw an **accident** this morning on the **main road**¹ into town. A **pedestrian**² – a young boy – stepped off the **pavement**³ and into the road just as a car was **approaching**⁴. The driver **braked**⁵, but the car **swerved**⁶ and **crashed into** a **parked car**⁷ on the opposite side of the road. Fortunately the driver wasn't **injured** but both cars were quite badly **damaged**.”

¹ important road

² a person walking

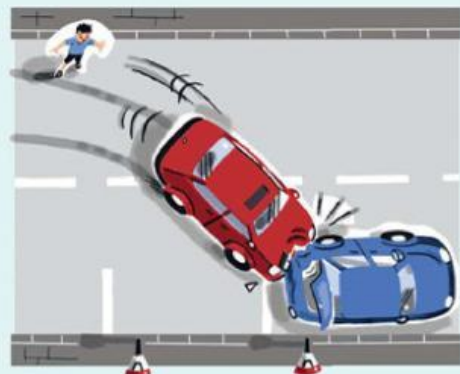
³ the place where pedestrians walk

⁴ coming closer

⁵ put his foot on the **brake** to stop the car

⁶ changed direction suddenly and without control

⁷ a car next to the pavement, not moving



Language help

You **damage** a thing [harm or break it] but **injure** a person [hurt them]. The related nouns are **damage** and **injury**, e.g. *There was a lot of **damage** to the bike, but the cyclist only had minor **injuries**.*

Exercises

29.1 Which words are being defined?

- 1 part of a road that is separated from other parts by a line lane
- 2 people who are walking
- 3 the place where people usually walk
- 4 the place where people can cross the road
- 5 the place where two roads meet
- 6 the thing you put your foot on to stop a car
- 7 a message or symbol beside the road that gives information

29.2 Complete the information for these road signs.

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| 1 50 mph <u>speed</u> limit | 3 | 5 end of | 7 a in the road |
|  |  |  |  |
| 2 there is only one | 4 no | 6 low | 8 |

29.3 Rewrite the sentences on the left starting with the words given. Keep a similar meaning.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 I asked him how to get to the bank. | I asked him the <u>way</u> to the bank. |
| 2 I didn't know where I was in the town centre. | I got in the town centre. |
| 3 You can ask someone to tell you how to get here. | You can ask someone to you. |
| 4 I went through Ledbury to get to Malvern. | I went to Malvern Ledbury. |
| 5 I was going to the station. | I was on my to the station. |
| 6 We arrived unexpectedly by the river. | We up by the river. |
| 7 I turned left instead of right. | I took the wrong |

29.4 Complete the text.

I was on the ¹ main road into town today and I saw an ²
 I was ³ a roundabout when the guy behind tried to ⁴
 me and the driver in front of me. He was driving too fast – over the ⁵
 limit – and he lost control of the car. He had to ⁶ to avoid a car on the
 other side of the road, and in the end he ⁷ into a tree. The car was badly
⁸, but to my surprise, the man got out of the car with no ⁹ at all.

29.5 Over to you

Answer the questions about your own country. If possible, compare your answers with someone else.

- 1 Do you have a speed limit on motorways? If so, what is it?
- 2 How many lanes do motorways usually have?
- 3 Do drivers usually stop for pedestrians at pedestrian crossings? If not, why not?
- 4 Do many people park their cars on the pavements? Why? / Why not?