

Hardship Licenses

Read the two paragraphs and underline vocabulary you don't know.

Many people question the use of “hardship licenses”. Normally, in the state of Texas, you cannot get a driver’s license until the age of 16. A hardship license is a license provided to 15 year olds who have extenuating circumstances. To get a hardship license you must prove that you have a job or school that you are unable to attend without a driver’s license. These licenses were created for those few students whose parents are not able to drive and who have no other transportation to their workplace or school.

However, many people have been applying for and receiving these licenses who suffer no real hardship. For example, a young man I know applied for a license because his mom worked and could not drive him to school each day. He failed to mention in his application that there was a school bus that passed right by his house each morning and afternoon. His mother was happy about the license as she was, “tired of having to drive him around all the time”.

True or False

- 1-In the state of Texas you can get a driver’s license at any age if your parents approve.
- 2-To get a hardship license, you have to prove you can’t attend school or work without it.
- 3-Some people cheat and claim they have no other way to get to school.
- 4-If the state finds out you cheated to get a hardship license, you will be arrested.

Discuss in Groups:

1. Do you see any problems with granting licenses to persons younger than 16?
2. Do you think a 15 year old can be a safe driver?
3. Do you think it is wrong for a student who has no real hardship to apply for a license because it is convenient?
4. If your child asked you to apply for a hardship license for him, what would you say?

These sentences have word order problems. Put them in the correct order.

1. Joe runs every evening to the club.
2. Jen doesn't like very much football.
3. I ate quickly my breakfast and went out.
4. Did you go late to bed last night?
5. Are you going to invite to the party a lot of friends?
6. I drink every morning three cups of coffee.
7. I'm going on Monday to Paris.
8. Make sure you're by 8 o'clock here.
9. Our guide spoke fluently English.
10. Herb drives always to work.
11. I cleaned the house and cooked also the dinner.
12. You have been always very kind to me.
13. Do you work still for the same company?
14. I have usually a shower in the morning.

15. She says always she'll phone me, but she does never.
16. I can't probably help you.
17. Clara doesn't eat often meat.

Complete these sentences by putting the parts in the correct order and adding any necessary words to make the sentence correct.

1. For a long time/have lived/same house
2. Home/did you come/so late
3. Her children/takes/every day/school
4. Been/recently/movies
5. At the top of the page/your name/write
6. Saturday night/didn't see you/party
7. Her umbrella/last night/restaurant/left
8. Opposite/ the park/new hotel/are building
9. Again/don't ask/question
10. Some money/borrowed/friend/mine
11. Walks/every morning/work
12. Steve/angry/gets/me