

Students pick a discussion topic and talk about it for several minutes. Then lead a discussion with your group.

- 1-What are advantages and disadvantages to owning a car?
- 2-Do you enjoy road trips? Have you taken any? Tell about them. Where would you like to go on a road trip?
- 3-How often do you honk your horn? Do driver's honk more or less in your country?
- 4-Are men better drivers than women?
- 5-What do you think the minimum age to drive should be?
- 6-What can you tell about a person by looking at the car they drive?

What if:

I get stopped for DWI (driving while intoxicated)?

You will probably be asked to take a sobriety test (blood, breath or urine). You may face fines if you do not comply with this test. If you refuse the test you will be taken into custody and brought to a police station where you will be held. Your license may be temporarily suspended and your vehicle may be impounded for a period of time after the incident. You will probably pay a fine and may serve jail time if you are convicted of DWI.

I get stopped for speeding?

Pull out of traffic. Park far enough off the road that the officer can stand safely beside your car. Do not get out of the car. Keep your hands in plain sight. Have your driver's license ready to present to the officer. Do not argue or attempt to bribe a police officer. Comply with all requests. You can usually mail in your fine. You have the option of appearing in court to argue your case.

I get in a minor auto accident?

Call 911. Move the cars out of traffic. Exchange information with the other driver including name, address, phone number, insurance company name and phone number, license plate number, make and model of vehicle. Call your insurance agent and provide all information they need. If the car is not drivable, call a tow truck. Your insurance agent may ask you to have it towed to a particular lot. Follow through with your agent to get your car fixed.

If the police come, get a copy of the police report or at the very least the case number. Your insurance company will need this. If the accident is in a parking lot, the police may or may not write a report, depending on the severity of the accident.

I park illegally and my car is towed?

Look for a sign that indicates who is responsible for towing in that place. If you park in front of a business and they had it towed, ask them who towed it. If you can't determine who towed it, call 411 and ask the police station if they can tell you who towed your car. As a last resort, you may have to sit down with a phone and call all the towing companies in the area. Many towing companies will only take cash. Call and ask about payment options before you go to pick up your car. Getting a car back that has been towed is very, very expensive. It is best not to park illegally.

Practice this conversation with a partner: **TALKING TO THE POLICE---**

Officer: Do you know why I pulled you over?

You: No, officer I don't.

Officer: You were speeding. I clocked you at 55.

You: Oh, I'm very sorry. What is the speed limit here?

Officer: The speed limit is 45. You were going 10 miles over the limit.

You: I'm really sorry. I'll be more careful from now on.

Officer: May I see your license and proof of insurance.

You: Certainly. My insurance card is in my glove box and my license is in my purse in the trunk. I'll have to get out to get it.

Officer: Fine. When was the last time you received a traffic ticket.

You: I haven't had a ticket in a long time. About 10 years I believe.

Officer: Everything seems to be in order. I'm going to give you a warning ticket today. I want you to slow down and drive carefully.

You: Oh, thank you officer. I certainly will slow down.

Officer: Sign here.

You: Ok, thanks.

Officer: Have a nice day and let off that accelerator.

You: Yes officer, I'll do that.