

FUMC ESL 9-11-2025 Lesson

Introduce yourself. Do you drive? Have you passed your driving test? Do you hope to get a driver's license soon? How do you get around in Austin?

In a new city, you sometimes need to ask for directions. Read these conversations. Explain them in your own words.

Jules: Excuse me, I am trying to find the interstate. I think it's called I-35. Will this road take me to it?

Jason: No, I-35 is east of us. It runs north and south. You need to turn to the east to hit I-35. Turn right at the next traffic light. That is 15th street. It will take you to I-35. If you want to go north on I-35, you will turn left.

Ann: What direction is the airport from here?

Omar: The airport is south of Austin. I-35 will take you to Highway 71. Turn left on Hwy 71 and follow the signs to the airport.

Ann: How long will it take me to get to the airport?

Omar: It will take you twenty to thirty minutes, depending on the traffic.

Explain these sentences:

1. Stay on the **access road** past MLK. Then turn right on 15th St.
2. The mall entrance is on the **frontage road**.
3. Traffic on the entrance ramp must **merge** into the **thru lanes**.
4. Is it a **two lane** or **four lane road**?
5. There is a **median** separating you from the **oncoming traffic** on a **divided highway**.
6. The road to our ranch is not **paved**.
7. Be aware that at this **intersection**, there is no **right turn on red**.
8. **Mopac** has a **toll lane**. If you ride in the **toll lane** you will have to pay a toll.
9. Always **yield** to the traffic exiting the freeway.
10. No **U turns** are allowed.
11. If you park on a **meter** and don't put money in, your car will be **towed**.
12. If a policeman tells you to "**pull over**" what should you do?
13. Must you stop if there are **pedestrians** in the **crosswalk**?
14. The **residential streets** in our neighborhood all have **speed bumps**.

Practice Speaking

- A. Do you prefer to drive or be a passenger in a car?
- B. Does other people's driving scare you?
- C. What is the worst thing about driving in a new city?
- D. Do you like to listen to music or to podcasts while you drive?

- E. Who taught you how to drive?
- F. Do you drive in your home country?
- G. Have you been on a road trip in the United States? Talk about it.
- H. Are you a "backseat driver"?
- I. What do you do if another driver is tailgating you?
- J. Have you ever been given a ticket by a policeman?

Driving Idioms: Read the sentences and tell what you think the idioms in bold text mean. If you don't know the meaning, ask others in the group to explain it.

1-That customer asked me a hundred questions. He was **driving me up the wall**. Finally, his wife told him to move on and stop asking questions.

2-We are going to be late. I sure hope we don't miss our train. **Step on it**, Jim. We only have ten minutes to get to the station.

3-There was a virus killing chickens. Without as many chickens, there were not many eggs. The **shortage** of eggs **drove up the price**.

4- Jim, I don't understand what you are saying. **What are you driving at?**

5- Since my husband is out of town most of the time, I am **in the driver's seat** when it comes to making decisions about the kid's school.

6-Making money is **the driving force** behind Jim's success.

7-My daughter was **at the controls** when we had the wreck.

8-What does it mean to **"take the road less traveled"**?