

FUMC ESL 4-6-2026. Driving Vocabulary Part 2

Introduce yourself and tell if you have ever gotten a ticket or been involved in an traffic accident. Would you be scared if a police officer pulled you over?

Read the sentences below and explain what they mean. Pay special attention to the words in bold text.

1. Make a **U-turn** under the **overpass** and **head east**.
2. The street you are on **dead-ends** in two more **blocks**.
3. **Veer right** onto Hwy 2222.
4. The **first leg of the journey** should takes us about ten hours.
5. Stay in the **far right** lane because you will turn right at the **next light**.
6. Slow down, there is a **hairpin turn** up ahead.
7. I was stuck in **gridlock** at **rush hour**. The engine **overheated** because we were **idling** so long in the bad traffic.
8. If you need to use the restroom, there is a **rest area** ahead.
9. Speeding in a **school zone** will double your **ticket**.
10. There were many **switchbacks** going down the mountain. I needed to drive slowly, but there was a **semi** behind me **tailgating** me all the way down.
11. There was a **rollover** at the intersection. Someone **ran the red light** and **broadsided** a car. Both cars will need a **tow**.
12. The truck **skidded** off the slick pavement.
13. The police **diverted** the traffic around the accident.
14. Slow down, there are **speed bumps** ahead.
15. I bought my son a car when he **turned 17** and he **wrecked** it the first week.
16. I **hit the brake** when the dog ran across in front of me.
17. You're only **doing 40** on the freeway. **Step on the gas**. You are driving too slowly. Someone might **rear end** you.
18. You have a **flat tire**. **Pull onto the shoulder** and put on your **hazard lights**.
19. We are **running low on gas**. I'll stop at the next station and **fill up**.
20. Slow down as you go through these small towns. They are often **speed traps**.

Discussion:

1. Have you ever taken a cross country driving trip? Where is the furtherest you have driven from Austin? Did you run into any problems on a long driving trip? How many hours are you prepared to drive before stopping.
2. Did someone in your family teach you to drive or did you learn at a driving school?
3. Would you prefer to drive or ride while someone else drives? Are you a backseat driver?

4. How old do people in your country have to be in order to drive? How old do you think people should be to get a driver's license?
5. Who are the better drivers, men or women?
6. Is drunk driving a problem in your country? What is the penalty for drunk driving?
7. Do drivers often honk in your country? Do you think it is rude to honk at someone?
8. What do other drivers do that makes you angry?
9. Are you interested in cars? Does it matter to you what kind of car you drive? Would you ever choose a particular car because of its color?
10. Do you and your spouse agree about what kind of car to drive?

NOTE: If you drive long distances frequently, having road side assistance can be very helpful. Sometimes when you buy a new car, they will provide you with 3 to 6 months of roadside assistance free. Then to continue it, you will have to pay.

My husband and I take road trips frequently. We have a triple A (AAA) membership. If you have roadside problems such as a flat tire, running out of gas, or needing your car towed, you call the number on your AAA card and they will send someone to help you. This is especially helpful if you are in a rural area or near a small town. We have called AAA on a couple of occasions and were very satisfied with our service. It costs about \$50 per year. You do not pay for the roadside service provided. You do not have to be the driver. If you are riding in someone else's car and need assistance, you can still call AAA. I had a flat tire a few years ago. I called AAA. They sent a man out who changed my tire for me. I didn't have to pay him anything. AAA will pay him, though I did give him a tip.

A AAA card also gives you discounts on hotels. We figure that the money we save with hotel discounts, pays for the AAA membership each year.