

Driving and The Highway Code

Age Group: Young Adults/ Adults

Level: Entry 3

Time: 1 hour

Skill focus: Comprehension (reading The Highway Code)

Grammar Focus: Modal verbs: *should, shouldn't, must, mustn't, have to, don't have to.*

Sub skills: Learning about driving and road rules.

Materials: Worksheets, a copy of The Highway Code for each student.

Curriculum References: RT/E3.8a (Scanning) Rt/E3.5a (Using organisational features contents and index.)

ESOL/ESL students like to drive and often are not aware of some of the rules of the road. This lesson helps to make them familiar with The Highway Code and also practises their use of modals.

1. Open up a short discussion about the cars they have or would like. Give out the copies of The Highway Code and have them look through the various sections. You might like to do some reading from it. Use the index to help find out the answers on the comprehension. There is bound to be discussion and interpretation of various rules, follow the rules in the book. Answers as follows:
 1. No waiting, Give Way, No overtaking, No motor vehicles
 2. Elderly/old people, Roundabout, Crossroads, Falling Rocks.
 3. 53 metres or 175 feet
 4. 30 mph
 5. 70 mph
 6. Yes
 7. Red or amber
 8. Yes
 9. No
 10. No (in emergency yes)
2. Ask students to identify the most used words in The Highway Code. These are **MUST, MUST NOT, SHOULD, SHOULDN'T, HAVE TO, DON'T HAVE TO**. Draw a thick vertical line on the board and write strong at the top and weak. Have students suggest where the words might go. Here's a suggested answer.

Strong

Must/ Mustn't/ Have to

Should/ Shouldn't

Don't have to

Weak

NB: The difference between *must* and *have to* is that *must* is an obligation that comes from the speaker and *have to* is an obligation from outside e.g. police, boss, family etc. The Highway Code probably uses **MUST** and **MUSN'T** because it's easier to understand and it also reinforces the idea that these rules are so important that it's a self-obligation to follow them.

3. Use the final worksheet to practise their use of these modals. You can use some of the questions as points for discussion and a lead in to explaining what is legally needed to be able to drive. Answers:
1. Must or have to
 2. must or have to
 3. don't have to
 4. must or have to
 5. must or have to
 6. must or have to
 7. mustn't
 8. must or have to
 9. must or have to
 10. don't have to
 11. must or have to
 12. should (The Highway Code doesn't use must)
 13. Should or must (lots of discussion here)
 14. don't have to (what if there are no people waiting to cross?)
 15. shouldn't (it might distract you from driving.)

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Use The Highway Code to answer these questions. Make sure you use 'the index' to help you find the right page.

1. What do the following signs mean?



2. What do these signs mean?



3. What is the **stopping distance** for a normal car travelling at 50mph?
4. What is the **speed limit** for a car driving in a built up area?
5. What is the **speed limit** for a car driving on a motorway?
6. Do **pelican crossings** have lights?
7. Which **light signals** mean 'stop'?
8. Can you wait in a **box junction** if you are turning right?
9. Can you reverse into a main road?
10. Can you stop on the **hard shoulder** of a **motorway**?

Modal Verbs.

Put **should**, **shouldn't**, **must**, **mustn't**, **have to** and **don't have to** in the spaces.

1. If you drive a car you _____ have a driving licence.
2. If you drive a car you _____ have insurance.
3. If you drive a car you _____ have a radio.
4. If you drive a car you _____ have road tax on your car.
5. If you drive a car you _____ have an MOT for your car.
6. When you come to a roundabout you _____ slow down.
7. If you are driving you _____ use your mobile phone.
8. When you are driving you _____ wear a seatbelt.
9. If you are a passenger you _____ wear a seatbelt.
10. You _____ listen to your radio when you are driving.
11. You _____ stop at a red traffic light.
12. When you ride a bike you _____ wear a helmet.
13. You _____ always drive carefully.
14. You _____ stop at a zebra crossing all the time.
15. You _____ smoke while you are driving.