



Texas

***Traffic Safety Education
Student Manual***



2003

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Alcohol & Other Drugs

The use and abuse of drugs, whether alcohol or any other type, has a profound effect on the human neuro-muscular system. The driving task needs the full concentration of a person who is in ideal physical and mental condition. Any reduction in one's abilities is not acceptable.

Society has become much less tolerant. Much stiffer fines and penalties have been enacted in an attempt to deter individuals from drinking and driving. Zero tolerance laws have been enacted for minors.

The media (movies, T.V., magazines, etc.) bombard society with alcohol-related campaigns paid for by the alcohol industry. By the time you become a young adult, you have been brainwashed by their message. As a future driver, you must re-evaluate your thinking regarding alcohol.

Just Say
No!



AFTER COMPLETING THIS CHAPTER, THE STUDENT MUST BE ABLE TO SYNTHESIZE INFORMATION AND APPLY PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS :

- for making health-promoting decisions regarding impaired driving.
- to evaluate the nature of the impaired driving crash problem.
- to the physiological and psychological effects of alcohol (and other drugs) and demonstrate comprehension of the affect on the driving task.



Introduction to Alcohol

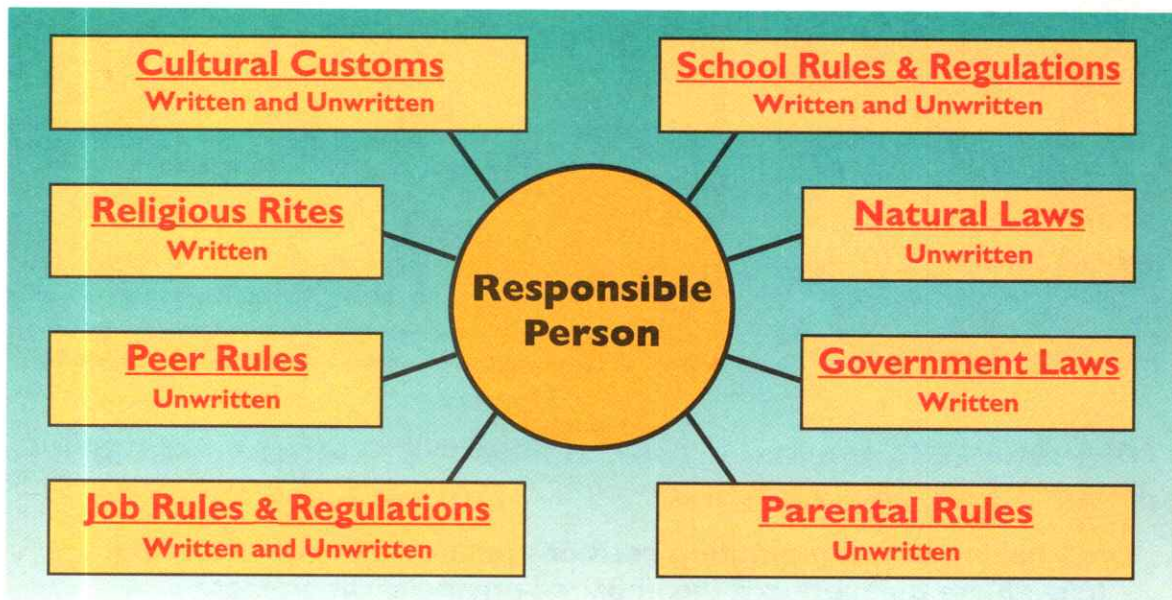
Where do laws originate? Are all laws in written form? Glance at the chart below which briefly summarizes the most common regulations (laws or rules) that govern your everyday life.

As the chart points out, there are many rules that are not written. This does not make them any less important, nor mean that they can be ignored. The natural laws, for example, are not; failure to heed them can lead to dire consequences, especially with respect to the driving task.

Many of the rules governing your lifestyle are absorbed by osmosis; the daily observation of others (parents, peers, siblings) obeying them. Conversely, bad habits are also acquired in this way.

A person is considered responsible when actions are in accord with the norms, whether explicit or implicit. This suggests that a person who is responsible, is accountable for his/her actions and the consequences thereof. Proper actions are rewarded; the authority in question places trust in the individual and allows more freedom of action. Improper actions, on the other hand, are penalized by removal of privileges or some other form of punishment relative to the severity of the offense.

In our daily existence, we are surrounded by rules and regulations of all kinds. Civil liabilities (tort) resulting in lawsuits, as well as government penalties, may result from irresponsible behavior.



DRIVER RESPONSIBILITY

As a driver, you have a responsibility to obey the law, cooperate with other road users, etc. Your liability for improper action is a fine, loss of user privileges and, most seriously, the possibility of personal injury, as well as the injury or even death of other road users. In addition, you are faced with many added responsibilities which have been discussed throughout the text. In point form, they are:

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Imposed by customs, parents, peers and personal values:

- Self-preservation,
- Vehicle preservation,
- Parents' trust, and
- Passengers' trust.

LICENSING AND PREPARATION

Imposed by government.

- Vehicle operational skill,
- State rules and regulations,
- Willingness to operate within guidelines, and
- Vehicle preparedness.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Imposed by government and insurance.

- Ability to make restitution for errors in judgment that cause property damage, injury, or death; and
- Ability to provide a monetary pool to share costs.

TORT LIABILITY

Tort is defined as a wrong or wrongful act. Courts determine who is at fault in an action committed by an individual or driver, with government and/or civil liability as a consequence.

- Roadway property,
- Other user personal injury/death,
- Personal property of other users, and
- Personal well-being and security of other users.

You must understand that operating a vehicle allows for greater freedom and may open doors of opportunity; however, the opposite side of the coin is much more serious responsibility for a great number of decisions that affect many other road users. Poor choices lead to uninvited, serious, and sometimes long-term consequences.

Alcohol and other drugs create very serious problems related to decision-making and operating a motor vehicle. Statistical evidence demonstrates that combining alcohol with the driving task is the leading problem among youthful drivers. What is the potential for injury or death if you decide to mix drinking and driving? ***Drunk driving is the number one killer of teenagers.*** As a responsible driver, what choices will you make?

Although alcohol use is a choice made by individuals, use of alcohol and other drugs is controlled by laws and enforcement agencies. What will be the consequences if you choose to drink and

drive? Review Chapter 5 for the short and long term penalties provided under the law for drinking and driving.

OTHER CONSEQUENCES

A conviction for drinking and driving will have many other repercussions on the life of a normal citizen. They are:

• PERSONAL CONSEQUENCES

The inconvenience of being unable to drive (alternate transportation) and the embarrassment of the conviction. If it is a felony, you may lose your voting rights, the right to own a firearm, the ability to travel to certain countries, and any future employer will regard you as a felon. This may not only be embarrassing, but downright painful.

• FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES

Besides the lawyer's fees, fines, vehicle seizure/forfeiture, alcohol/drug assessment and information course, license reinstatement, and all the other fees related to the trial, conviction, and rehabilitation, your insurance premium will skyrocket for several years after you reapply for your license.

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If someone had been injured or died, you may also face a civil lawsuit placed by the injured party or a relative of the deceased. The court judgment can exceed your earning ability for the rest of your life and/or require forfeiture of property or any other assets you may possess.

Is the short term "pleasure" of drinking

worth all of the short and long term consequences that are most likely to result? The discussion of risk assessment and decision-making in Chapter 12, stressed three major concepts. They were:

- ***Never risk more than you can afford to lose!***
- ***Do not risk a lot for a little!***
- ***Consider the odds and your situation!***

How would these concepts apply to decisions regarding drinking and driving?

The criminal justice system is designed to protect society from those people who are unable to make responsible decisions, or who make irresponsible decisions and choices. The consequences of high risk decisions are sometimes not known by young drivers until after the crash occurs. Ignorance is no excuse; it will not affect the consequences. Consider the facts that have been presented, you should now be in a position to make a responsible, risk-reducing decision. ***Just say NO!***





Alcohol-related Crashes

The effects of alcohol on driving have become a matter of great social concern. Accident statistics demonstrate a drastic toll in deaths and injuries where alcohol was a major factor (in almost one-half of all fatal collisions). This includes both drivers and pedestrians.

This is especially the case when teenage drivers are involved, even though they may not be of drinking age. The leading cause of death for teens aged 16 to 21 is motor vehicle crashes.

In recent years, there has been a decline in fatalities due to collisions. This is due in part to developments in vehicle safety features, and also in part because of increased police surveillance, the severity of court penalties, and the actions of public groups to prevent impaired driving (MADD, SADD, etc.), as well as improved traffic safety education.

In 2001, in the United States, there were an estimated 6,323,000 police-reported crashes, in which **42,116 people were killed** and **3,033,00 people were injured**, 4,282,000 crashes involved property damage only. This works out to an average of **115 motor vehicle fatalities each day in 2001 – one person died every 12 minutes.**

Alcohol-related fatalities rose to 17,448 - 41 percent of all traffic fatalities for the year. It represents an average of **one**

alcohol-related fatality every 30 minutes (a slight increase compared to 2000), and approximately **one alcohol-related crash every 21 minutes.** (Source: DOT HS 809 470, US Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration).

To compare Texas with the national average, alcohol-related crashes accounted for 1,789 fatalities in 2001. No data is available, neither nationally nor for Texas, for drug-related crashes (lack of uniform and comprehensive testing). **Does this mean there were none?** What do you think?

These statistics do not talk about the emotional scars which often outlast the physical, legal, and moral consequences of crashes. The impact on the friends and families of the people affected are not mentioned either.

Since all states have enacted 21 year-old minimum drinking age laws, NHTSA estimates that these laws have reduced traffic fatalities involving drivers 18 to 20 years old by 13 percent, and have **saved an estimated 20,970 lives since 1975.**

In 2001, an estimated **927 lives were saved by minimum drinking age laws.** (Visit the NHTSA web site at www.nhtsa.dot.gov/people/ncsa/pdf/TS_Four99R.pdf for a pdf document on traffic related fatality statistics.)

Despite the fact that the legal drinking age in Texas is 21 years of age, there were **3,723 under legal drinking age drivers involved in alcohol-related incidents in 1995**. This represented almost 40 percent of all drivers involved in alcohol-related crashes.

Teen drivers are at a much greater risk of being involved in a fatal motor vehicle crash when alcohol is involved. The risk for drivers age 16 through 19 is higher than all other age groupings at any BAC level studied (age-specific analysis of data). In addition, as BAC levels increase, risk of death rises faster for this age group (see chart below).

The fact that young drivers are at such a high risk when they drink and drive was one of the prime reasons for legislators in Texas (as well as in other states) enacting the Zero Tolerance For Minors Law and raising the legal drinking age to 21 years of age. **You must decide never to drink and drive.**

OVER-INVOLVEMENT OF TEENS

In Texas in 1998, there were 1,054,120 under legal-drinking-age licensed drivers; this equalled 7.8% of all licensed drivers.

3,350 under legal-drinking-age drivers were involved in alcohol-related crashes in 1998; this represented 12.7% of all alcohol-related crashes.

This is a 63% over involvement by teen drivers in alcohol-related crashes in 1998.

Statistics in recent years indicate improvement. There is, however, still a long way to go. **One fatal collision** in which alcohol is a contributing factor is one too many! There is no possible justification for a responsible teenager taking the wheel, unless in complete control of his/her faculties. **The risk of injury, disfigurement and death is too real.**

As a responsible teen driver, you should NEVER DRINK AND DRIVE.

PERCENT OF BAC	AGE - SPECIFIC	INCREASED RISK OF DEATH	
.015 to .049	20 + Teens 15 to 19	NONE	2.5 TIMES
.05 to .079	20 + Teens 15 to 19	2 TIMES	9 TIMES
.08 to .099	20 + Teens 15 to 19	7 TIMES	40 TIMES
.10 to .149	20 + Teens 15 to 19	13 TIMES	90 TIMES
.15 and over	20 + Teens 15 to 19	110 TIMES	420 TIMES



Physiological Factors

It is essential that every teen realize that consuming, purchasing, and possessing alcoholic beverages is illegal for them in Texas, as well as in every state in the United States.

AS A DRUG

Alcohol is a drug. It's a chemical (ethanol or ethyl alcohol) which is the result of fermentation. Fermentation is a process similar to digestion, but it occurs outside the body. When the pulp of grapes or grains has been literally digested by yeast, the result is ethyl alcohol or ethanol.

Because alcohol is the result of fermentation, unlike food which must be digested, it is absorbed directly into the bloodstream. It is then absorbed by all of the fluids in the body tissues. The human brain has a larger concentration of body fluids and thus absorbs a greater percentage of the alcohol.

The liver must eliminate 90% of this absorbed alcohol, at its own steady rate. **You cannot speed up the process.** The liver oxidizes the alcohol present in the bloodstream - converting it into water and carbon dioxide; approximately one alcoholic serving per hour.
(1.5 OZ. HIGHBALL, 12 OZ. OF BEER, 5 OZ. OF WINE)

There is no miracle cure. Once alcohol is imbibed, **TIME IS THE ONLY REMEDY.**

STAGES OF ALCOHOL INFLUENCE

All of the negative consequences of alcohol **start with the first drink!** They increase as each extra alcoholic beverage is consumed. They are also aggravated by your mood and fatigue. At what point are you unable to drive? At what point will the risk become unacceptable?

YOU SHOULD NEVER DRINK AND DRIVE!

What is the legal limit for an adult?
What is the legal limit for a minor?

BLOOD ALCOHOL LEVEL

The amount of alcohol in a person's bloodstream can be measured by a chemical analysis of the blood, urine, or breath. In Texas, a test of either breath or blood is permitted under the law and accepted by the courts as proof of impairment. The amount of alcohol present (grams of alcohol per two hundred and ten liters of breath) is expressed as a decimal and is referred to as blood alcohol concentration (BAC).

Many factors affect your BAC :

Your ideal weight, your sex, what you drink, if you eat before and while drinking, how many drinks you consume, and the elapsed time while consuming the alcoholic beverages.

Consult the charts on the next page. Base the calculations on an ideal weight

ESTIMATED BAC BY NUMBER OF DRINKS IN RELA

FEMALES

BODY WEIGHT LBS	NUMBER OF DRINKS									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
100	.050	.101	.152	.203	.253	.304	.355	.406	.456	.507
125	.040	.080	.120	.162	.202	.244	.282	.324	.364	.404
150	.034	.068	.101	.135	.169	.203	.237	.271	.304	.338
175	.029	.058	.087	.117	.146	.175	.204	.233	.262	.292
200	.026	.050	.076	.101	.126	.152	.177	.203	.227	.253
225	.022	.045	.068	.091	.113	.136	.159	.182	.204	.227
250	.020	.041	.061	.082	.101	.122	.142	.162	.182	.202

MALES

BODY WEIGHT LBS	NUMBER OF DRINKS									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
100	.043	.087	.130	.174	.217	.261	.304	.348	.391	.435
125	.034	.069	.103	.139	.173	.209	.242	.278	.312	.346
150	.029	.058	.087	.116	.145	.174	.203	.232	.261	.290
175	.025	.050	.075	.100	.125	.150	.175	.200	.225	.250
200	.022	.043	.065	.087	.108	.130	.152	.174	.195	.217
225	.019	.039	.058	.078	.097	.117	.136	.156	.175	.195
250	.017	.035	.052	.070	.087	.105	.122	.139	.156	.173

1 DRINK =



Beer



Wine



Spirits

HOURS SINCE FIRST DRINK	1	2	3	4	5
SUBTRACT FROM BAC	.015	.030	.045	.060	.075

of 150 lbs. Presume you have consumed four alcoholic beverages over a two hour period. Deduct for how much time has elapsed since you started drinking.

WHAT WOULD YOUR BAC BE ?

For a male, the answer is .086

For a female, the answer is .105

It is commonly accepted that by a BAC of .03 to .05, a driver's abilities are impaired.

By .08 in Texas (any discernable amount under 21), the driver is driving under the influence, and can be charged under the Criminal Code with all of the possible penalties (see Chapter 4).

EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL ON REACTION TIME

Your ability to react to any unusual situation is reduced starting from the first drink. It deteriorates further with any continued consumption of alcohol and subsequent increase in your BAC. Needless to say, you may be slow to understand (attention), or you may understand the wrong thing. You will be slow to decide (aggression, risk-reduction decision-making) and react (or react improperly), and then the muscles will not respond normally. What a recipe for a disaster. What could the consequences be? What is the crash potential?

COLLISION POTENTIAL / STATISTICS

If the BAC exceeds .08 (red zone), an adult would be seven times more likely to be involved in a collision (40 times for a teen); at .15, the chances increase to 110 times (420 times for a teen). At what point does the risk of injury or death become unacceptable to you as a driver? The answer should be that you should learn to say "NO - I'm driving."

Any increased risk of a collision should be unacceptable! Any reduced ability to apply the SIPDE system to manage the driving environment, to make proper decisions, and to input proper driver control should not be considered at any time!

SYNERGISTIC EFFECT

NEVER MIX DRUGS AND ALCOHOL.

Alcohol, when combined with other drugs, produces a result referred to as a synergistic effect; which will be far greater than one would normally have expected. It is greater than the sum of each of the parts.

Alcohol is a primary drug. When present in your body, your system concentrates on the alcohol and ignores any other substances. Any other substance then produces a much greater effect than usual because a normal dose takes into account that some of the drug will be eliminated by your system.

Moreover, the alcohol may react with the other chemical and produce a new combination. In either case, it will have very dangerous effects and should be avoided at all costs.

EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL ON THE BODY

Alcohol has both immediate effects on the body and long term effects when the body and the internal organs are consistently assailed by the ravages of alcohol present in the bloodstream.

The immediate effects are of the most interest to you because they affect driving ability and substantially increase the risk of a collision.

ORGANS

Long term, heavy use of alcohol can lead to addiction (alcoholism). The liver, brain, and other organs can become damaged. Cirrhosis of the liver usually leads to internal bleeding, liver failure, and death.

The brain can be damaged to the point where the individual cannot function normally in society. Problem drinkers continue to abuse alcohol and create problems for themselves, their families, and their communities.

VISION

Alcohol is a depressant. It has a relaxing effect on all muscles of the body. This applies especially to the fine, delicate muscles of the eye that focus and move the eyes. When these are relaxed, the resulting image loses its sharp focus. The more relaxed the muscles, the fuzzier the picture becomes (double vision).

Rather than search the roadway ahead, to the sides, and the rear-view mirror (as a driver should), a driver under the influence of alcohol tends to stare at a point straight ahead or at any object that attracts his/her attention.

Glare from oncoming headlights or the environment produces a greater effect on the impaired driver, and the time required to recover from the glare is much longer than normal.

Possible results are:

- a tendency to stare straight ahead;
- a narrowing of the field of vision;

- a reduction in depth perception;
- a reduction of adaptability to darkness;
- increased sensitivity to glare; and
- a longer time to readjust after glare.

BRAIN

The activity of the brain is also slowed, thus affecting judgment, reflexes, and muscular coordination. The image from the eyes is unclear and the brain is not functioning normally due to the presence

of alcohol in combination with the body fluids in the brain tissue. What a great recipe for disaster!

Other effects of alcohol are:

- reduced awareness of danger;
- over-confidence (more reckless);
- difficulty recognizing potential hazards;
- difficulty making decisions; and
- a reduction in balance (equilibrium).



SAFETY TIPS

Summarize the adverse effects consuming alcohol produces, and you should decide never to drink and drive! JUST SAY NO!



Psychological Factors

The statistics on alcohol-related crashes indicate a need for more action to deter drinking and driving. With all this evidence, why do teenagers drink?

FACTORS INFLUENCING DRINKING

PEER PRESSURE: Many times teenagers (and even adults) do not like to admit that they are influenced by others. In reality, one of the most common reasons for drinking is because "everyone else is" or someone you wish to impress asks you to "just have one drink."

INFLUENCE OF PARENTS: Parental influence can be for good or bad. If a

teen comes from a home where alcohol is abused, this could lead the teen to also abuse alcohol.

SOCIAL ACCEPTANCE: Our culture is one which, for the most part, readily accepts drinking. Even the word "drink" has often come to mean "drink alcohol." The onslaught of media advertising, paid for by the alcohol industry, glorifies the party atmosphere and success of people who drink.

ANXIETY/FRUSTRATION: Worries about school, athletics, boy/girl friends, jobs, family, etc. are all part of growing up and normal life. Alcohol is often

portrayed as a means of coping with these problems. In reality, alcohol usually makes things worse.

HAVING A GOOD TIME: Drinking is associated with “partying” for a large percentage of teenagers. This is partly due to the myth perpetuated by the alcohol industry that you will always have a good time when you consume their brand of beer, alcohol, etc. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Abuse of alcohol creates situations that are far from a “good time” (drunkenness, throwing up, being arrested, hangover, etc.).

PSYCHOLOGICAL EFFECTS

Alcohol is a drug. When consumed, it enters the blood stream and circulates to all the parts of the body. A given amount of alcohol affects each person differently and may not affect the same person in the same way every time.

ATTENTION

Alcohol affects the brain first and foremost because of the concentration of fluids in that area of the body. It usually affects a person’s ability to concentrate, and especially when several sources of incoming information are present at the same time; the divided attention problem which occurs frequently while driving.

MEMORY

Under the influence of alcohol, the brain is less capable of storing and retaining

information. The ultimate example of this is the “blackout”; where a person who was under the influence of alcohol cannot recall what transpired after he/she was drinking.

EMOTIONS

From simple observation of people who drink, it is obvious that emotional control tends to be lost as more alcohol is consumed. There is conflicting research in this area as to what exact effects and how serious the effects can be.

AGGRESSION

There is a direct correlation between alcohol and aggression; the more alcohol consumed, the more a person becomes aggressive. In a social situation this may lead to uncomfortable situations. In the driving environment, this can have deadly consequences.

TOLERANCE

Tolerance is defined as the need to consume more of a drug to reach a given effect, or the body’s ability to eliminate the drug faster. In the case of alcohol, the body cannot eliminate it any faster, as we already explained. What it does refer to is the person’s ability to mask the effects of alcohol. In other words, someone who drinks regularly does not seem to get as drunk; he/she does not exhibit the normal signs (slurred speech, poor coordination, etc.). This does not mean they are not affected. If they were to take an intoxilyzer (breath) test, the test would show the actual blood alcohol concentration (BAC).



SAFETY TIPS

Statistical evidence demonstrates the danger of drinking and driving. Approximately one alcohol-related fatality occurs every 30 minutes. Is that not enough to convince you to NEVER DRINK AND DRIVE? Obey the Texas Zero Tolerance Law as a minor and never drink and drive when you become an adult.



Other Drugs

Other than alcohol, there are a wide variety of drugs, some legal and others illegal, that have a profound effect on the human body. Almost any one of these can have a harmful effect on your ability to drive.

Although limited research has been conducted on the specific effects of these drugs on the driving task, specific drug effects on humans are known. These have the potential to negatively affect driving. It is important to remember that any change a drug produces may also cause a lessening of driving ability.

OVER-THE-COUNTER DRUGS

Drugs, such as aspirin and other pain relievers, cold and allergy remedies, as well as medicines for back pain and arthritis, can be purchased at a local pharmacy, and are referred to as **over-the-counter (OTC)** medications. These drugs do not require any special permission to acquire them. Any individual may purchase them at a variety of stores.

Although these OTC drugs are not "controlled," they can cause drowsiness, dizziness, slower reaction times, reduced coordination, and other side effects that impair your ability to drive safely.

By law, OTC drugs must be labelled to warn the purchaser of any side-effects. It is important to read the package label (or ask the pharmacist) for any possible side-effect that could affect your driving ability. The dosage recommended should also be checked on the label; exceeding the dosage may cause adverse results.

KINDS OF DRUGS

Most drugs are classified according to how they affect the central nervous system and other bodily functions.

Some slow down the central nervous system and are called **depressants**. Others speed up the nervous system and are called **stimulants**. (Alcohol, for instance, is a depressant.)

DRUGS	HOW OBTAINED	POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS
Central-nervous system stimulants (such as diet pills, pep pills) Examples: amphetamines (Benedrine, Dexedrine) Analgesics (painkillers) Examples non-narcotic - Aspirin, Exedrin, Anacin Anti-infective agents Examples: sulfa drugs, antibiotics (Aureomycine, Penicillin, Steptomycin) Antihistamines (in many cold pills, hay fever pills) Examples: Atarax, Benadryl, Chlortrimeton, Dramamine, Pyrilamine Sedatives-hypnotics (sleeping pills) Examples: barbiturates Amital, Luminal, Nembutal, Noctec, Seconal, Sominex Local anesthetics Anti-anxiety agents Examples: benzodiazepines (Valium, Tanxene, Serax) Tranquilizers Examples: Equanil, Halcyon, Librium, Mellaril, Miltown, Navane, Phenothiazine, Thorazine, Valium Narcotics Examples: morphine, codeine (cough syrup), Darvon, Demerol, Dilaudid, Percodan, Vicodin (painkillers) Cannabinoids Examples: marijuana, hashish Hallucinogens Examples: LSD, peyote, mescaline, DMT, STP	• Prescription only for chronic fatigue, mild depression, overweight, narcolepsy (sleep compulsion) • Over-the-counter for pain • Prescription only for infections • Prescription and over-the-counter for colds, motion sickness, control of allergies, nasal congestion insomnia • Prescription only for insomnia, high blood pressure, epilepsy, emotional conditions • Minor surgery, oral surgery • Prescription only for mild and moderate anxiety • Prescription only for severe anxiety, emotional problems, alcoholism • Prescription and over-the counter for deadening pain, inducing sleep • Illegal, only for medical research uses • Illegal, only for emotional illness, alcoholism (experimentally)	• Depression, headache, dizziness, decreased ability to concentrate, irritability, hallucinations, hyperactivity • Bleeding in the stomach and intestines • Nausea • Drowsiness, inattention, confusion, dizziness • Mental confusion, poor muscle coordination, irritability, drowsiness • Poor reflexes/judgement, fatigue • Drowsiness, blurred vision, fatigue • Drowsiness, faintness, vomiting, tremors, dizziness • Inability to concentrate, apathy, euphoria, stupor, dimness of vision, drowsiness, nausea • Less coordination, distorts distance, hallucinations, depression, panic, fear • Hallucinations, striking distortions in senses, hands / feet shake, floating sensation, panic, depression

PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Any drug that requires a doctor to order it (on a special form with a signature) in order to purchase it legally is called a **prescription** medication.

Whether because they contain higher dosages of the same active ingredients as OTC drugs, or because they contain other, more potent elements, they are controlled by law. Records are kept of their use because these drugs can have a very strong effect on the human system.

It is vital that you ask your doctor about any possible side-effects especially relating to your ability to drive.

DEPRESSANT DRUGS

Barbiturates, tranquilizers, and sleeping pills are all depressant drugs (as is alcohol). They are prescribed to relieve tension, to calm nerves, as well as to treat high blood pressure.

Driving while taking these depressants can cause the driver to become very relaxed, lose their inhibitions (take more risks), and have difficulty applying the SIPDE System.

The "major" tranquilizers (neuroleptics) impair information processing, especially at the onset of treatment. The "minor" tranquilizers (benzodiazepines) can slow

reaction time, decrease eye-hand coordination, and interfere with one's judgment.

Because of the risks associated with barbiturate abuse, and the availability of safer drugs (such as the benzodiazepines), barbiturates are less frequently prescribed today than in the past. Nonetheless, they are still available, both on prescription and illegally. Even in moderate doses, they affect motor skills, coordination, vision, and vehicle handling ability.

Depressants are particularly dangerous if alcohol is also consumed (**Synergistic Effect**) because the mixture increases the collision risk enormously (particularly strong is the interaction between alcohol and diazepam - Valium). When an antihistamine (in cold, cough, and allergy remedies) is taken with a depressant drug, the resulting synergistic effect can also be hazardous due to the disruption of certain physical, intellectual, and perceptual functions.

ANTIDEPRESSANTS

The sedative effect of antidepressants (e.g. Elavik, Tofranik, Sinequan) can impair vigilance, significantly increase reaction time, and seriously affect a person's ability to handle a vehicle properly. These side-effects are especially dangerous when the driver must perform multi-tasks (divided attention), which occurs frequently when operating a vehicle in the HTS.

STIMULANTS

Any drug that can speed up, or stimulate, the central nervous system belongs in this category. Some people misuse these drugs to attempt to "stay awake" when driving at night, or over long distances. Initially, the user gets a feeling of alertness and high energy. However, the stimulant effect soon wears off (usually very suddenly), and the driver becomes very tired, very quickly (often fast asleep at the wheel).

Caffeine, in coffee, tea, and cola drinks, and **nicotine**, in cigarettes, are examples of stimulants. It is an enduring myth that caffeine in coffee can sober one up (after consuming alcohol). This is totally false, only time can lower alcohol concentration in the blood. Drinking coffee will produce a wide-awake drunk, instead of a sleepy drunk.

Amphetamines are another example. Although laboratory data indicate that most of the basic driving skills involved in driving are not negatively affected by medical doses of these drugs, there is some evidence that they can result in over-confidence leading to risk-taking behavior. High doses make many people hostile and aggressive.

Cocaine affects the users perception, mood, and thinking. The most dramatic effect is on vision. It may cause a higher sensitivity to light, halos around bright objects, and difficulty focusing. Users have reported blurred vision, glare

problems, and hallucinations (visual - weak flashes or movement of light in the peripheral field causing swerving toward or away from the light; auditory - the ringing of bells; olfactory - the smell of smoke or of gasoline).

Users claim cocaine actually improves driving ability, which is not surprising since it induces euphoria and feelings of increased mental and physical abilities. These "false" effects are short-lived, and are often followed by fatigue and listlessness. The drug also heightens irritability, excitability, and startle response (resulting in severe anxiety coupled with sudden braking or steering reactions to noise, even when far away).

Suspiciousness, distrust, and paranoia - other reactions to cocaine - have prompted users to flee in their vehicles or drive evasively. All users surveyed reported attention lapses while driving and ignoring relevant stimuli (traffic lights).

HALLUCINOGENS

Often called mind-altering drugs, hallucinogens are very dangerous. They can have unpredictable results - alter personality, cause panic or terror, distort the way a person thinks, sees, and acts.

For these reasons, selling, possessing, or using them is against the law.

Marijuana is the drug most often found in drivers involved in crashes (after alcohol). It takes only a small quantity of the active chemical in marijuana or hashish to impair the user's ability to see, steer, brake, and make correct driving decisions. The chemical can remain in the body for weeks; drug tests with positive results can result in citations and criminal charges.

Users can become drowsy and have problems judging speed, time, and space. They have been known to sit and stare while completely unaware of their surroundings. They may think that the effects have worn off when they are still impaired. When mixed with alcohol, it may mask the feelings of nausea that accompany intoxication, resulting in continued drinking (to the point of alcohol poisoning, coma, or death).

LSD and **PCP** (angel dust) are among the strongest of the hallucinogens. Users can become confused, forget who they are, where they are, and what they are doing. They have an altered sense of speed, space, time, and direction.



SAFETY TIPS

Statistical evidence demonstrates that 36% of fatalities, that were tested, were under the influence of drugs (other than alcohol). Ask your physician or pharmacist before taking any prescription or over-the-counter drug. Never consume any "street" drugs!



Intervention Strategies

Every year the alcohol manufacturing community spends billions of dollars to promote and sell their products. They advertise on television, in magazines, in newspapers, etc.

They promote, sponsor or advertise at almost every major sports event, most of which are televised. If you think about it, it is almost impossible not to be influenced by this all pervasive campaign in a normal, everyday lifestyle.

ADVERTISING TARGET

The target market for this media blitz is the new drinker. Advertising agencies and the advertisers themselves design advertising campaigns, not so much to influence the existing market to change brands, but rather to enlarge the market by attracting new consumers (drinkers). These new consumers (the young) will become life-long buyers.

CAMPAIGN MESSAGE

The message is, in order to be financially successful, glamorous, have a good time, be attractive to the opposite sex, and be successful with the opposite sex (or at least appear to be), you must drink their brand of alcoholic beverage.

Very few of these ads ever mention the responsible use of alcohol, or the dangers involved in drinking and driving. The devastating toll of deaths and injuries, and the social cost of collisions that are a

direct result of drinking drivers are never shown. These statistics would be a sobering message.

As a new driver and as a member of the target group for this advertising campaign, you must not be hoodwinked by the message. You must develop the proper attitude with respect to this serious problem.

You should never drink and drive. Never let a friend drink and drive. Friends don't let friends drive drunk!

INTERVENTION STRATEGIES

The question is: "What can I do?" The answer is that every individual, if he/she is so inclined, can have a profound effect on the people around them and, by a concerted campaign, on society, in general. Writing letters to legislators, the media, etc. is just one such example.

ALCOHOL ADVERTISING

The airwaves are regulated and licensed by your government, whose legislators are very responsive to public pressure. A concerted letter campaign to the legislators by concerned organizations and a large number of citizens could have the desired effect. The proposal should be for a gradual reduction in advertising that glorifies drinking, replaced by advertising which targets the responsible use of alcohol.

DRUNK DRIVERS

Drunk drivers identify themselves by riding the lines, weaving, driving at inconsistent speeds, intermittent braking, misjudging stops (too soon or too late), driving without headlights, etc.

When you see a driver that seems to be impaired, turn off the road into a parking lot or side street. Keep away from that vehicle; the driver could involve you in a serious crash.

Try to get the license number of the vehicle. Call the police immediately and report it along with the color, make, model, and direction of travel. In so doing, you will be instrumental in removing an impaired driver from the HTS and possibly preventing a collision involving injuries or fatalities. We are all responsible for the safety of other road users who share the HTS.

ALTERNATIVES TO DRINKING AND DRIVING

As a responsible driver, you should **NEVER DRINK AND DRIVE.**

Many other options are open to you if you are in a situation where drinking of alcoholic beverages is occurring:

THE DESIGNATED DRIVER - The person who will drive abstains from drinking alcoholic beverages and receives complimentary non-alcoholic beverages and/or food.

Encourage your friends and favorite establishments to participate in the program. (Contact your local police department for materials/info.)

S.A.D.D. or M.A.D.D. - Organized groups that support people who have been drinking and do not wish to drive. A contract is signed by the two parties stating they will come to get you - no matter what, no questions asked.

ABSTINENCE - Refuse to drink alcoholic beverages when you will be driving. Try to assist others who are drinking.

ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION - Take a cab! Get a ride! Call home and ask a family member to come and get you! Let someone else drive who has not been drinking. Don't ride with someone who has been drinking. Try to get the car keys. Friends don't let their friends drive drunk. Do your best to convince friends not to drive; offer alternate transportation. If you can't convince them, don't ride with them.

SLEEP OVER - Stay the night at a friend's place. If you are the host, encourage impaired people to sleep over if any other alternate transportation cannot be found.

In situations where alcohol is being consumed, follow the recommendations above and encourage others to do likewise. Choose one of the options; any one you like; however, **if you consume alcoholic beverages, don't drive.**

Moreover, don't accept a ride from someone else who has been drinking.

PARTY SITUATIONS

If you host a party and the guests are not of drinking age, make sure that they are aware that alcohol will not be served and will not be acceptable. Plan a wide selection of non-alcoholic beverages, appropriate entertainment and food. You can refuse entrance to individuals who appear to have been drinking prior to their arrival.

Encourage individuals that appear to be impaired to sleep over or arrange alternate transportation. Get their keys! If guests are of drinking age, don't force drinks on them or mix drinks that are stronger than normal. Space any alcoholic beverages out (one per hour). Have a large selection of non-alcoholic beverages available.

Serve various food items throughout the evening. Discourage any pressure on guests to drink. Stop serving alcoholic beverages at least one hour before the end of the evening. Pay special attention to known drinkers.

Encourage drinking guests to sleep over or take alternate transportation home. Don't allow any impaired person to drive. If necessary, pay for the taxi.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The cost to the American public in health care, lost productivity, injuries, permanent disfigurement, etc. due to alcohol-related collisions is estimated to exceed \$100 billion annually. This does not include the loss of lives, each of which would have provided some productive contribution to society.

This massive drain on American citizens, and on the American economy, cannot be allowed to continue.

ASSESSMENT OF RISK

The first step in correcting this untenable situation is for each driver to realize that he/she increases the risk of a collision and all the possible ramifications (injury, death) every time alcoholic beverages or drugs are consumed prior to driving.

The odds of it happening to you must be accepted and understood. No victim of a collision knew that it was going to happen; if this were the case, they would have done something differently to avoid the situation; **and yet, thousands die.**

This indicates that every driver is always at risk; however, alcohol/drugs increase the risk. It is like playing "Russian Roulette." At what point is the loaded chamber lined up with the firing pin and barrel? Would you play this fatal game?

WILL YOU DRINK AND DRIVE?





SAFETY TIPS

Approximately 1.5 million drivers were arrested in 2001 for DUI -alcohol or narcotics. This is an arrest rate of 1 for every 130 licensed drivers in the United States. Don't become part of the problem! BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION!

ACTIONS TO REDUCE RISK

The **SIPDE** system is applied to reduce risk. Alcohol/drugs affect the human body and diminish your ability to implement the system (the **EPE** system - **EVALUATE**, **PREPARE**, and **EXECUTE**) in reaction to the driving environment.

The second step is to realize that you can take positive action to reduce risk. In this case, **never drink and drive**, thereby keeping your physical and mental condition in top form to permit you to implement the SIPDE system and avoid collisions.

Over and above looking after yourself, you can also do whatever you can to reduce the incidence of others driving drunk. Assist your peers who might otherwise succumb to social pressure to drink, or who might need a lift when they have been drinking.

On a societal level, report impaired drivers to the authorities to get them off the streets (that you or your loved ones may be using). Join letter-writing campaigns and organizations that are implementing

programs to reduce the incidence of driving while impaired.

SEVERE CONSEQUENCES

The third step is the realization of the severity of the unnecessary results that driving after consuming alcohol/drugs are very likely to produce.

You have a choice.

You can take a stand.

You never have to drink and drive.

Death, injury, and/or impairment are consequences that occur very frequently to impaired drivers; the odds of these happening are enormous. The penalties for being caught driving while impaired and the other consequences which result are also likely to happen. These potentially severe results need not occur.

You can decide, immediately, that you will never drink and drive. This decision will eliminate any severe consequences.



DRIVING PLAN

The student formulates a Driving Plan incorporating the knowledge and skills of Module Nine (Alcohol and Other Drugs) to endorse, to promote, and to sustain lifelong legal and responsible reduced-risk driving practices in the Highway Transportation System.



Module Review

VOCABULARY - WRITE A SHORT DEFINITION FOR THE FOLLOWING :

- | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| • BAC | • SADD | • Depressant |
| • Under 21 BAC limit | • Tort liability | • Coordination |
| • Intervention strategies | • Vehicle seizure | • Designated driver |
| • Zero Tolerance Law | • Synergistic effect | • MADD |

TEST A- ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

- A) What is the legal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limit for drivers under the age of 21 in Texas?

B) What are the penalties if drivers under age 21 disobey the law?
- A) What is the legal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limit for drivers in Texas?

B) What are the criminal penalties if they disobey the law?

C) What other consequences may be involved in a DUI conviction?
- A) What are the effects of alcohol on driving ability?

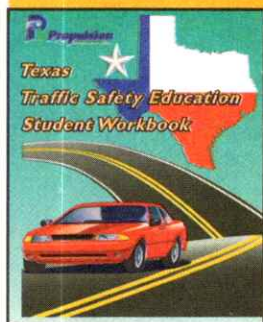
B) Describe how the risk of death increases for a driver under the age of 21 when alcohol is consumed?

C) How does this compare to the risk of death for an adult driver?

D) What is meant by the "over-involvement of teens" in alcohol-related crashes?
- A) What intervention strategies can be used to reduce drinking and driving?

B) What can you do to help prevent drinking and driving?
- A) What are the effects of different drugs on driving ability?

B) How can you prevent driving under the effect of drugs?

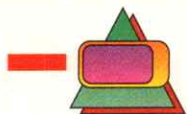


TEXAS TSE STUDENT WORKBOOK

Check your comprehension and mastery of the contents of this module by completing the corresponding exercises that are found in the complement to the **TEXAS TSE STUDENT MANUAL**:

TEXAS TSE WORKBOOK

Complete the assigned questions in the workbook, then check your responses by referring to the answer key at the back of the book. If necessary, review the module for each error and refer to your instructor for further guidance.



Glossary

Absolute speed limit The maximum or minimum posted speed.

Abstinence Voluntary resignation from drugs/alcohol.

Acceleration Increase in speed.

Acceleration lane A highway merge lane allows drivers entering to increase speed to blend with traffic.

Accelerator Pedal controls volume of air-fuel mixture entering engine (press harder, increase speed).

Active restraint device Passenger protective item that must be engaged to become effective; i.e. seat belts.

Actual cash value Amount of collision coverage based on vehicle real value.

Administrative laws Laws that regulate licenses, vehicle registration, financial responsibility, vehicle standards, and the general operation of the HTS.

Adverse driving conditions Driving when it is more difficult because of weather, light, etc. Special precautions must be used.

Advisory speed limit Speed limit set for special conditions such as sharp curves.

Air bag A passive restraint device that inflates with air to cushion the occupants in the event of a collision.

Air pollution Driving vehicles causes the emissions of carbon monoxide, particulates, and hydrocarbons.

Alert light Instrument panel lights that indicate a system is functioning and turn off after a short period of time.

Alternator A device to produce electricity, when the engine is operating, to operate electrical equipment in a vehicle and to recharge the battery.

Alternator warning light Light or gauge on dash panel that can indicate charge system abnormality.

Angle parking Parking a vehicle diagonally to the curb.

Antifreeze A chemical mixed with water to prevent freezing and corrosion in the cooling system.

Anti-lock braking system (ABS) Computer-controlled braking system that keeps the wheels from locking when the driver brakes hard. It allows for steering and braking actions to occur at the same time.

Assessment To judge the importance or worth of a situation.

Assigned risk Type of insurance that provides minimum bodily injury and property damage liability coverage to a high risk driver for a higher premium.

Atmospheric conditions Weather and light conditions that affect your ability to see and drive.

Automatic transmission A system that shifts through

the forward gears as the vehicle speed increases.

Axle The shaft connecting two wheels on opposite sides of a vehicle.

Back-up lights White lights (rear of vehicle) illuminated when transmission is in reverse (automatic/standard).

Banked curve The roadway slopes down toward the inside of the curve to help overcome inertia.

Basic speed law Law that states drivers should drive at a speed that is safe and prudent for existing traffic, roadway, visibility, and vehicle conditions.

Basic speed limit The speed, below the absolute limit, that is adequate to the existing conditions.

Battery A unit that stores electricity in chemical form to permit starting your vehicle. Clean connectors.

BGE setting Side mirror setting that eliminates the blind spots and eliminates mirror glare from the lights of vehicles following to the left or right at night. Mirrors are set 15 degrees to the outside for viewing side positions. This does not completely eliminate making a visual check when searching for open zones and space.

Bias-ply tires Tires with cord layers criss crossing under the exterior material.

Blind spots Areas outside the vehicle that are neither visible in the driver's forward field of vision nor in the rear-view mirrors, unless mirror position is moved to BGE setting.

Blood-alcohol concentration (BAC) Percentage of alcohol in blood as measured by a standard test.

Blood test Chemical test in which blood is taken from driver's finger to determine BAC or drug usage.

Blowout A rapid loss of tire air pressure while driving.

Blue-book price Average market value for a specific model and age of a used vehicle.

Brake fade A temporary loss of brake effectiveness due to overheating of the brake pads or shoes caused by long, continuous, and hard braking.

Brake pedal A foot control enabling the driver to reduce the vehicle speed.

Brake system An hydraulic system to slow or stop a moving vehicle. A mechanical system for parking and emergencies.

Braking distance The distance a vehicle travels from the time the driver applies the brake until it stops.

Breathalyzer test (Intoxilyzer) Chemical test in which a driver blows into a machine to determine BAC.

- Carbon monoxide** Colorless, odorless, tasteless and toxic gas contained in the exhaust fumes of gasoline engines (a byproduct of combustion).
- Carburetor** Engine component that mixes gas and air in the proper proportions and sends it as a fine mist the engine cylinders (replaced by fuel injection).
- Car pooling** Several individuals sharing transportation to one or more destinations in a vehicle.
- Catalytic converter** Part of a vehicle emission system that reduces harmful exhaust emissions by means of a chemical reaction.
- Center of gravity** The point around which the weight of the vehicle is balanced.
- Central vision (conic)** Three degree, cone-shaped area in which you can see clearly while looking straight ahead. Read and identify objects.
- Certificate of title** Official document certifying ownership of a vehicle.
- Choke** Device restricts air flow and raises idle speed when engine is cold (older models). Facilitates cold starts.
- Closed zone or area** A space not open to you because of a restriction in your line of sight or intended path of travel (occupied by another vehicle).
- Clutch** Driver operated device permits dis-engaging the engine from the transmission (to shift or stop).
- Collateral** Object of value presented as security for a loan.
- Collision** A crash between any two or more objects.
- Collision insurance** Pays for the repair or replacement of one's own vehicle in a crash regardless of fault.
- Color blindness** Inability to distinguish (certain) colors.
- Color perception** Ability to distinguish color.
- Commentary driving** System of driver verbalizing as he/she searches the roadway and the reasons for speed and position adjustments.
- Comprehensive insurance** Protection against damage or loss due to theft, vandalism, storms, or fire.
- Compromising hazards** Risk involvement with a less serious hazard to avoid a more serious one.
- Console** Compartment mounted between the front seats of a vehicle.
- Contributory negligence** More than one individual is at fault.
- Controlled-access highway** High speed roadway that vehicles can enter and exit only at interchanges.
- Controlled intersection** A regulated cross-road - signal lights, yield, or stop signs.
- Cooling system** A system to remove excess heat and maintain engine operating temperature.
- Countersteering** Returning the steering wheel in the opposite direction after an initial steering input.
- Covering the brake** Putting the foot just above the brake pedal, ready to apply pressure if needed (reducing response time for brake application).
- Crankshaft** The shaft turned by the piston movements that transmits the power to the drive train.
- Crest** The highest culminating point of a hill.
- Crossbuck** Large, white x-shaped sign located just prior to a railroad crossing.
- Crosswalk** A path marked on and crossing the roadway to guide pedestrians.
- Crowned road** Road higher in the middle than at sides.
- Cruise control** Device that permits maintaining vehicle speed without pressing on the accelerator.
- Crumple zones** Areas of a vehicle designed to crush and absorb impact, thereby protecting occupants.
- Cylinders** Bored holes in the block that house pistons.
- Dashboard** An illuminated panel with gauges, lights, and indicators that inform the driver.
- Dead pedal** Area on the floorboard designed for the driver to place the left foot to maintain balance.
- Decide** Fourth step (decision) of SIPDE process.
- Deceleration lane** Extra lane at expressway exits allows drivers exiting highway to reduce speed prior to the off-ramp (without blocking vehicles on expressway).
- Deductible** The amount of money the insured must pay (reduces premium) before the insurance company pays (specified limit) in the event of a claim.
- Defogger** Electric wires to heat / clear the rear window.
- Depreciation** The value a vehicle loses due to age and wear and tear.
- Depressant** Drug that slows down or depresses the central nervous system.
- Depth perception** The three dimensional perception of distance (ability to judge distance).
- Designated driver** Person who decides ahead of time not to drink alcoholic beverage and is appointed to drive others who do drink.
- Destination drive** The process of giving the student a location he/she will drive to, without assistance, using the most direct, efficient, and safe route.
- Detour** A deviation from the normal route.
- Diagonal parking** Parking spaces arranged at an angle to the curb or other boundary.

Differential Gear system in power train that transmits rotation to the drive wheels while permitting them to turn at different speeds.

Dimmer switch A switch to select high or low beam headlights.

Disc brakes Brake units that slow/stop wheel rotation by squeezing a rotating disc.

Distributor An electrical unit controlling production and distribution of electrical surges to spark plugs.

Downshift To shift from a higher to a lower gear.

Drive belt A cogged, grooved or V belt that transmits rotation to other engine components in vehicles.

Drive train The components that transfer the engine power to the drive wheels.

Drive wheels The wheels that receive engine power to move the vehicle.

Driving record A file kept by the DPS that lists all traffic violations that a driver has committed. It is used by the courts and insurance companies.

Driving task All social, physical, legal, and mental skills required to drive.

DUI (Driving under the influence) Operating a motor vehicle while the blood alcohol concentration (BAC) is above the legal limit of .08% for adults or any trace whatsoever for minors, and/or while impaired by drugs - whether legal or otherwise.

DWI Driving while intoxicated.

Drum brakes Brake units that slow/stop wheel rotation by rubbing curved shoes (pads) against a drum.

Dry steering Turning the steering wheel while the vehicle is not moving. Prematurely wears out the steering, front suspension, and tires.

Edge lines Lines (white, yellow) painted on the pavement marking the limit of the roadway.

Electrical system A system to supply all the electrical needs of the vehicle.

Emergency brake The parking brake system.

Emergency flashers The hazard lights that activate all four turn signals to warn of danger or breakdown.

Emergency vehicle A police vehicle, fire department vehicle, ambulance, etc. which must be given the right-of-way by all road users when the siren or flashing lights are activated.

Emotion Strong feeling of any kind (anger, fear, joy).

EMS Emergency medical services.

EMT Emergency medical technician.

Endorsement License qualification needed to be legal to drive special vehicles (motorcycle endorsement).

Energy of motion See Kinetic energy.

Engine-management system Computerized system that monitors and adjusts the fuel, ignition, and emission systems.

Entrance ramp Roadway, often elevated, leading onto an expressway.

EPA Environmental protection agency.

Escape path A place to drive in case of unexpected conflict - an "OUT".

Euphoria False sense of well-being developed as a result of alcohol or other drug consumption.

Evaluate To examine and judge carefully. The first step of the EPE system in which drivers evaluate potential options before acting to adjust speed or position and communicate based on risk, habits, judgement, and experience.

Evasive action steering Emergency steering technique used to quickly steer around an object in your path and to move to an open travel path.

Evasive or bump-to-bump steering Without leaving go of the steering wheel, turn until wrists bump each other, then turn in the opposite direction until arms touch. Then return to center position.

Execute The final step of the SIPDE process in which a driver inputs proper vehicle control responses to avoid conflicts or reduce risk.

Exhaust manifold A collector pipe with passages through which exhaust gases exit combustion chambers and enter the exhaust piping system.

Exhaust system Collects burned gases from each cylinder, directs the harmful gases and heat through pipes to release them behind the vehicle.

Exit ramp Roadway, often elevated, to exit expressway.

Expressway A controlled-access, divided highway with more than one lane in each direction intended for high speed driving (freeway).

Fatigue Temporary physical or mental exhaustion due to lack of rest or sleep.

Field of vision The area that the eyes can perceive without moving the eyes or head; approx. 180 °.

Field sobriety test Series of on-the-spot tests that help an officer detect impairment of a driver suspected of DUI or DWI.

Financial responsibility Law requiring proof of the

ability to pay claims resulting from collisions before issuing registration/plates for a vehicle.

First aid Emergency treatment given to an injured person before medical professionals arrive.

Focus vision (foveal) That part of the field of vision which allows the driver to read signs and make distinctions between vehicles and objects (often measured as visual acuity).

Flywheel A metal disc attached to crankshaft to balance engine rotation, transmit power to the drive train, and is turned by the starter motor to crank engine.

Following distance The space that a driver maintains from the preceding vehicle in his/her travel path.

Following (interval) time Recommended time interval (3 or 4 seconds) to follow another vehicle in your lane. Calculated by using a fixed reference point, as the vehicle ahead passes, start counting "one thousand and one," "one thousand and two," etc., until the front of your vehicle reaches that point.

Force of impact The energy with which a moving vehicle collides with an object; varies according to speed, weight, and distance between impact and stop (based on forces of inertia and momentum).

Foresight The act of foreseeing. The thoughtful regard or provision for the future; prudent forethought.

Four wheel traction loss The driver has no vehicle control (all tires have lost contact with the road).

Fresh green light A traffic signal light that has just changed from red to green.

Friction The resistance to motion between two objects in contact (each tire and the road).

Friction point The clutch position when the engine begins to move the transmission and the vehicle.

Fringe vision Wide area (peripheral) used to judge depth and position without the clear focusing ability of central vision.

Fuel-injection system System (replaces the carburetor) that pumps vaporized fuel to the cylinders.

Fuel system The system that stores fuel and supplies the correct fuel-air mixture to operate the engine.

Fuse A device designed to open a circuit when the current is excessive, to protect equipment in the circuit. A "burned" fuse must be replaced.

Gap Distance, between approaching vehicles, which a driver can utilize to cross or merge with traffic.

Gear Toothed wheel that meshes with others of varying

sizes to transmit (the same, increased or decreased) rotation thereby increasing speed or power.

Gear selector lever The driver control permitting choice of gear position (automatic transmission).

Gearshift lever The driver control that permits choosing a gear position (standard transmission).

Glare recovery time The time required to regain clear vision after having been temporarily blinded by strong headlights of oncoming vehicles.

Glow Plug Unit to preheat combustion chamber (diesel).

Graduated driver licensing program A system requiring young drivers to progress through a series of licensing stages with various restrictions.

Gravity The force that pulls objects toward the center of the earth.

Green driver A driver that properly maintains a vehicle with scheduled servicing, recycles oil, and conserves fuel (reduces speed, smooth acceleration).

Ground viewing habit Scanning near the pavement to determine position of other vehicle's wheels and to notice any signs that warn of vehicle movement.

Guide sign Informational sign giving distance, services, points of interest, and directions.

Habitual offender A driver who commits a number of serious driving offenses.

Hallucinogen A mind-altering drug that affects the senses and distorts vision/perception.

Hand-over-hand steering A technique to turn the steering by crossing one hand over the other to provide smooth, consistent steering input.

Hand position Placement of hands at "9 and 3" or "8 and 4" on the steering wheel for best balance based on the vehicle steering wheel and input.

Hand signals Arm motions that warn others (communicate) of your intention to slow, stop or turn.

Hand-to-hand steering Pushing with one hand while pulling with the other hand on the opposite side of the steering wheel using positions at 10-7 on the left and 2-5 on the right. Used to input steering control with impending air bag deployment.

Hazard lights A signaling device that activates all four turn signals to warn of danger or breakdowns.

Hazardous materials Items (inflammable, explosive or toxic), often transported in tanker trucks.

Headlights White lights mounted on the front of the vehicle that should be illuminated when driving.

Headrest Restraint device attached to the top of the seat to cushion the head in collisions. Often adjustable.

High beams Brighter white lights on the front of the vehicle to see further than low beams.

Higher learning center Area of the brain, where decision-making starts, affected first by alcohol

Highway hypnosis Drowsy or trancelike condition (reduced attention to the driving task) brought on by long periods of high speed driving.

Highway transportation system (HTS) A complex system made up of people, vehicles, and roadways.

HOV lane High occupancy vehicle lane reserved for vehicles transporting more people (van or car pools, buses).

Hydraulic pressure Pressure exerted on a fluid is transmitted by the fluid.

Hydroplaning A layer of water between the tire and the road eliminating traction.

Identify The second step of the SIPDE process in which the driver, using selective seeing, selects hazards.

Idle Engine speed when operating without any pressure on the accelerator.

Ignition switch The control to activate/deactivate the vehicle electrical systems and to crank the engine.

Ignition system Components that produce, control and distribute the spark that initiates combustion.

Implied consent law A state law that, upon receiving a license, a driver agrees to take a chemical test for intoxication if arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence or give up his/her license.

Inertia The tendency of an object in motion to stay in motion in a straight line and for an object at rest to remain at rest.

Inhibitions Inner forces of personality that restrain or hold back impulsive behavior.

Internal factors Attitudes, values, emotions, maturity, motivation and peer influence affecting driver performance.

International signs Symbolic (message without using words) road signs used in many countries.

Intersection A place where two or more highways meet. Caution must be exercised due to closed sightlines.

Intervention strategies Activities to change the status quo; re alcohol, responsible decision making, resiliency skills, alternatives, letter writing, designated driver and community support.

Intoxicated Under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Driving while intoxicated is a very dangerous and serious offense.

Intoxilyzer Chemical test in which a driver blows into a machine to determine BAC.

Jack A hand operated device for lifting one corner of the vehicle, generally used when changing a tire.

Jaywalking The pedestrian practice of crossing a roadway without regard for rules or signals.

Jump starting Using another vehicle to boost a "dead" battery.

Kinetic energy The energy of motion or the energy an object acquires because it is in motion.

Knowledge test A test on signs, signals, road markings and rules of the road at the Driver License Office to acquire an instruction permit or driver's license.

Laboratory sessions Behind the wheel, simulation, and multiple-car range practice sessions.

Lane change Moving the vehicle from one lane of traffic to another using proper space management procedures.

Lane changer device Use of the turn signal by hooking thumb on steering wheel and pushing signal lever halfway just to activate the signal so that release of lever will deactivate signal.

Lane position Location of the vehicle within confines of the lane of traffic using reference points.

Lane-use signals Lights mounted above lanes to control the flow and direction of traffic in the lane.

Leasing Long term rental contract, alternative to purchasing a vehicle.

Legal limit The amount of alcohol legally allowed in a driver's bloodstream in Texas = .08 for adults and 0 for those under 21.

Legend Key explaining symbols/markings used on a map.

Liability insurance Protection from financial loss due to a collision when the insured party is responsible.

Low beams The normal headlight setting.

Lubrication system The components that supply oil to the moving parts to prevent damage/overheating.

Lug nuts Devices that attach the wheel to the vehicle.

Mass transportation Vehicles or devices that move large numbers of people from place to place at the same time (public transportation).

Maintenance Checkups, service and repairs required to keep a vehicle in proper operating condition.

Maneuverability Ability to maneuver or change

direction of a vehicle.

Manslaughter Accidental killing caused while driving a motor vehicle.

Margin of safety See safety cushion

Master cylinder Unit in the brake system where fluid is stored and pressurized to activate the brakes (pressure sent to wheel cylinders). Most vehicles have dual system to eliminate brake failures.

Median A width of space (area of ground) that separates traffic moving in opposite directions.

Medical payments insurance Insurance that covers the cost of hospitalization and treatments for injuries incurred during a collision.

Merging area The section of roadway at the end of an acceleration lane (expressway) where vehicles must join the flow of traffic.

Minimizing hazards Reducing risk of a collision from a hazard by adjusting speed, lane position or both.

Minimum speed limit Lowest legal speed a vehicle may travel (under normal conditions) on certain roadways to prevent wide differences in speed among vehicles.

MIP (Minor in possession) Anyone under age 21 in possession of alcohol.

Moped Two-wheeled vehicle that can be driven with either a motor or pedal.

Motor scooter Low-powered, two-wheeled vehicle that is more powerful than a moped.

Muffler A device in the exhaust system to minimize noise. A leaky muffler can be noisy and dangerous because of poisonous exhaust fumes.

Multifunction lever A lever next to the steering wheel having many functions.

Multilane A road with two or more lanes in each direction.

Narcotic drug An illegal drug that is used to change the way a driver feels and acts.

Navigating Following a route by reading a map or a Global Positioning System (GPS) device.

Neutral A transmission position in which the gears are not engaged and cannot transmit power. Used when starting a manual transmission.

Night blindness Condition of not being able to see well at night.

Night vision The ability to see clearly, judge depth perception, and recover from glare in the dark.

No-fault insurance Insurance that pays claims to the insured up to specific limits regardless of fault.

No-zones Large mirror blind spots where truck drivers cannot see other vehicles (front, sides, or rear).

Nystagmus Involuntary jerking of the eyes as a person gazes to the side. Part of the field sobriety test is called gaze nystagmus.

Odometer Device that indicates the total distance a vehicle has been driven.

Oil filter Device in the lubrication system that removes dirt from the oil.

Oil pressure gauge Light or indicator that shows the pressure at which the oil is circulating through the engine.

Oil pump Device forces oil to all engine moving parts.

Open zone or area Space where the driver can move without a restriction to his/her line of sight or path of travel.

Overdrive A gear that permits the vehicle to cruise efficiently at high speed. Saves fuel.

Overdriving the headlights Driving at such a high speed at night that your stopping distance exceeds the area illuminated by the headlights.

Oversteer When the rear tires lose traction causing a spinning effect around the vehicle's center of gravity (yaw). The vehicle has a tendency to spin (left or right) even though the driver is not turning the steering wheel.

Over-the-counter drug (OTC drug) Drug that can be legally purchased without a doctor's prescription.

Owner's manual Manufacturer's booklet providing detailed information about the vehicle, its operation and recommended service/maintenance.

Oxidation The way the body eliminates (or burns) alcohol by the action of the liver.

Parallel parking Parking with the vehicle lined up parallel with the curb. The vehicle must be from 6 to 18 inches of the curb in Texas.

Parking brake A mechanical unit that acts on the rear wheels to keep them from moving when parked. Also used to slow /stop if the hydraulic brake system fails.

Passive restraints Safety devices that act without requiring any action by the user. (Air bags, some safety belts)

Pedestrian An HTS user on foot.

Pedestrian signal Traffic signal/symbol controlling pedestrian movement.

Peer education Process in which young people help other young people make decisions and determine goals.

Peer pressure Mental and social influence of others of a similar age on decision-making skills.

Perception distance The distance a vehicle travels during the time a driver sees and identifies an object or situation ahead.

Peripheral vision The portion of the field of vision around the central conic vision.

Perpendicular parking Parking at a 90° angle to the curb or boundary.

Personal injury protection (PIP coverage) Insurance that covers medical expenses and loss of income for the driver and passengers.

Personal reference point Adapting the standard reference points to the vehicle used by the driver.

Pitch of the vehicle A suspension change to the front or rear that affects the tire patch contacting the road surface; initiated by driver actions of braking or accelerating. Sudden or excessive pitch changes may cause traction loss.

Point of no-return Point beyond which a driver can no longer stop safely without entering intersection.

Policy Contract between a vehicle owner and an insurance company specifying the amount and type of insurance coverage for which a premium is paid.

Position Location of vehicle in relation to environment and other vehicles.

Piston A cylindrical-shaped component that moves up and down in the cylinders.

Power brakes A system that facilitates stopping the vehicle by increasing pressure applied by the driver.

Power steering A system that facilitates steering by using hydraulic pressure supplied by a pump.

Power train Components that transmit engine power to the drive wheels.

Predict Third step of the SIPDE process in which driver, after identifying a hazard, predicts what might happen.

Premium The sum an individual pays the insurance company for insurance coverage - the policy fee.

Prescription medicine Drug that can be purchased legally only when ordered by a doctor.

Preventive maintenance Routine care and attention to your vehicle to keep in proper working order.

Probationary license A temporary license that allows driving for specific purposes (to school/work).

Progressive acceleration Gradual increase in pressure on the accelerator to increase speed and shift vehicle weight toward the rear.

Proof Rating of alcohol content in a beverage equal to doubling the percentage (100 proof = 50%).

Property damage liability Insurance coverage that pays for property damage to others during a collision caused by the insured.

Protected left turn Left turn made on a left-turn light, green arrow, or delayed green light while oncoming traffic is stopped.

Pull-out area Additional right lane on narrow mountain roadways for slower-moving vehicles.

Push-pull steering Using the hand-to-hand steering technique (see hand-to-hand).

Pumping the brake Applying pressure on the brake pedal, releasing the pressure sufficiently to allow the tires to roll and then re-applying.

Radial tires Tires with the plies straight across the tire parallel to each other encircled by a steel belt.

Radiator A heat exchange unit that stores and cools the engine coolant before it circulates in the engine.

Ramp meters Stop and go signals at the entrance to freeways controlling traffic entering.

Reaction time The time it takes a driver to input vehicle control actions once a course of action is decided upon.

Reckless driving Driving in a very careless manner that endangers the lives of others.

Recreational vehicle (RV) Large vehicle used mainly for pleasure and travel (van, motor home, camper).

Reference points Positions (points of reference) on the vehicle that relate to the roadway and help the driver in vehicle positioning with respect to the environment and maneuvering (when to input).

Reflexes An automatic response of the body to a signal it receives.

Regulatory sign A sign that controls the flow of traffic at a given location.

Release form Paper signed by the person who has been injured or who has property damage stating that he/she is not going to hold someone responsible.

- Reverse** Gear position used to move a vehicle backwards.
- Reversible lane** A lane in which the direction of the traffic flow changes at specific times.
- Revocation** Cancellation of driver's license (at least one year) for serious driving violations (DUI, manslaughter, etc.).
- Rheostat** A device regulating the intensity of light in the instrument panel.
- Right-of-way** Traffic rules determine who should yield to other road users in given situations.
- Right turn on red** Turning right after a stop when the signal is red unless specifically prohibited.
- Risk** The possibility of a conflict that results in a crash or collision with another vehicle or road user.
- Risk-taking behavior** Taking chances when the consequences can be dangerous.
- Rocking a vehicle** Repeating the sequence of driving forward a little and then backing a little to move your vehicle out of deep snow, mud, or sand.
- Roll of the vehicle** A suspension change to the left or right side that affects the tire patch contacting the road surface; initiated by driver action of steering the vehicle. Sudden or excessive roll changes may cause traction loss.
- Rumble strips** Sections of rough or grooved pavement intended to alert drivers of a change in roadway conditions ahead (tollbooth, construction, etc.).
- Runaway vehicle ramp** Place on mountain roads for vehicles to safely get out of traffic and stop when their brakes are no longer effective.
- Running start** The point, behind the vehicle to be passed, where the driver begins to create a speed superiority prior to moving into the passing lane.
- Safety belt** A restraint device (anchored to vehicle) designed to prevent occupants from striking the interior of the vehicle - seat belts.
- Safety chains** Extra connection for a trailer used as a backup in case a trailer hitch fails.
- School safety patrol** Person(s) designated by school to assist children across intersections. Vests or special belts identify them. Drivers must obey stop signal.
- School zone** Area of roadway near a school that is subject to special speed limits set by state/local law.
- Searching** The visual skill of searching the area around and ahead of the vehicle in an orderly search pattern. The first step of the SIPDE process.
- Selector lever** Device in an automatic transmission vehicle used to select gears.
- Selective seeing** Searching only for those clues and events that restrict your line of sight, require you to change your path of travel, or adjust to a specific regulation (signs, signals, etc.).
- Separating hazards** The technique of dealing with multiple hazards one at a time.
- Shared left-turn lane** Center lane on a busy street that helps drivers make safer mid-block left turns into business areas from both directions.
- Shock absorbers** Devices that limit and stop the bouncing action of the vehicle springs.
- Shoulder** The strip along the sides of a roadway (may or may not be paved) intended for emergency use.
- Sight distance** Distance a person can see.
- Sightline** An area in which you can see; used as a basis for steering and speed adjustments.
- Simulation** Laboratory exercise similar to driving.
- SIPDE system** Five step driving strategy (search, identify, predict, decide and execute) to process information and evade potential danger in organized manner.
- Skid** When tire patches lose part or all of their traction with the road surface due to abrupt suspension balance changes or roadway surface conditions.
- Slide-hand or Shuffle steer** Turning the steering with a sliding hand or a push-pull movement.
- Smith System** Systematic approach to defensive driving, which includes: (1) Aim high in steering, (2) Keep your eyes moving, (3) Get the big picture, (4) Make sure they see you, (5) Leave yourself an out.
- Space areas** Designated positions around the vehicle to identify relationships to the environment or objects or other road users.
- Space cushion** A open area around the vehicle that a driver should maintain to have room to maneuver.
- Space management** Five step process (SIPDE) that can serve to change a driver's awareness from the procedural habit level to the process judgement level of driving.
- Spark plug** An ignition component that supplies the spark to initiate engine combustion.
- Speed superiority** Represents a safe difference in speed (10 to 15 mph) of a passing vehicle over the vehicle being passed in order to complete the pass in a designated time period.
- Staggered stop** Stopping before the stop line to

- maintain front space control and diminish risk of a collision (space for left-turning vehicles).
- Stale green light** A traffic signal light that has been green for some time and is likely to change to yellow.
- Standard transmission** A system in which the gears are shifted by the driver.
- Steering control** Driver inputs appropriate steering techniques and movements.
- Stimulant** Drug speeds up the central nervous system.
- Stopped position** Stopping behind a vehicle (to see the back tires) in a position that allows the driver space to steer around the vehicle to avoid a stalled, turning, or backing vehicle. (Also to avoid carjacking problems in heavy traffic.)
- Substance abuse** Excessive use of alcohol and/or drugs.
- Suspension** The withdrawal of a driver's license for a period of 90 days, 6 months or 1 year due to many traffic violations or a serious driving offense.
- Suspension control** Adjusting vehicle balance at the strut or shock absorber (using fluid or air pressure) to dampen forces when weight transfer occurs.
- Suspension system** Components support vehicle weight in a flexible manner while absorbing road shocks.
- Switchbacks** Sharp turns on mountain roads, similar to a U-turn, that allow the road to climb a steep slope.
- Synthesizing** Combining elements so as to form a new complex product.
- Tachometer** A gauge indicating the engine revolutions per minute (RPM) to inform the driver.
- Tailgate** Driving too closely behind another vehicle.
- Target area** A fixed location in the center of the travel path you intend to follow.
- Temperature gauge** An indicator light or gauge that indicates the engine operating temperature.
- Thermostat** A device that regulates the engine temperature by controlling the flow of the engine coolant to the radiator.
- Threshold braking** A braking technique in which the driver applies brakes just short of wheel lock-up.
- Thrust acceleration** Pushing down on the accelerator sharply in order to increase speed to avoid a collision. Also used in passing and when entering expressway (kickdown). Shifts weight to rear wheels.
- Title** Legal proof of vehicle ownership (certificate of title).
- Tolerance** The manner in which the body responds to alcohol/drugs; dependent upon individual weight and experience with alcohol or drugs.
- Tort Law** Wrongful act or damage (not involving breach of contract) for which a civil action can be brought.
- Tort liability** Civil rules imposed by government concerning government, people's property or any damage or injury that you are liable for.
- Total stopping distance** The total distance required to stop a vehicle that is in motion.
- Towing insurance** Optional coverage that protects against the cost of on-the-road repairs and towing.
- Traction** The friction between the vehicle tire patches and the road surface.
- Traction control system (TCS)** Device that allows acceleration inputs without traction loss.
- Traffic circle** Intersection formed by several roadways meeting at a circle.
- Traffic control device** Any light, sign or pavement marking used to tell road users what to do.
- Trail braking** Controlled braking pressure that does not change the speed, but maintains vehicle balance and control while turning.
- Transverse** Perpendicular to your path of travel. Lines across the road to direct vehicles and pedestrians into and through intersections.
- Travel path** Actual or potential path a vehicle might be going; a combination of targeting, sightlines, visual references, and experience.
- Tread** The raised pattern on the outer surface of a tire that grips the road and provides a channeling action for water on the roadway.
- Tread wear indicator** Bars that appear in tire grooves when they are less than 1/16 of an inch deep.
- Trip odometer** An indicator that registers mileage a vehicle travelled since it was reset to zero.
- Tunnel vision** Very narrow field of vision (standard of 140° or less) with little peripheral ability.
- Turnabout** A turning maneuver to travel in the opposite direction.
- Turning bay** A special turn lane found on multiple-lane highways, two-way roads, and at some city intersections.
- Turn signal** Lights activated by the driver to warn of his/her intentions (communicate). Also hand signals.
- Two second rule** Technique for calculating and maintaining a minimum following distance under ideal driving conditions. A three or four second minimum count is highly recommended.

Uncontrolled intersection An intersection at which there is no traffic control signal, sign or roadway marking to regulate traffic (including railroad crossings that do not have flashing red lights or crossing gates).

Uncontrolled railroad crossing Level crossing at which there are no signals/bells/crossing gates regulating the flow of traffic.

Understeer When the front tire patches lose varying degrees of traction and the rear tire patches have more traction causing a pushing effect on the vehicle due to momentum and inertia forces. The vehicle has a tendency to continue straight even if the steering wheel is turned.

Uninsured motorist insurance Protection from financial loss due to a collision caused by a driver without insurance coverage or a hit and run, as well as any amount that may exceed the other party's coverage.

Universal joint Connectors that permit a change of angle while transmitting power (part of power train).

Unprotected left turn Left turn at a signal-controlled intersection without a special left-turn light.

Urine test A chemical test that uses the driver's urine to determine the amount of alcohol or the presence of drugs in the driver's system.

U-turn A turnabout (without reversing) maneuver performed by turning sharply left.

Van pooling Several individuals sharing transportation to one or more destinations in a van.

Variable message signs Signs that post messages to inform drivers of road conditions ahead.

Vapor lock Fuel vaporizes in the fuel lines and the fuel system cannot pump it into the injectors.

Vehicle balance Transfer of weight of the vehicle (from center of gravity) to different points on the vehicle (chassis or frame).

Vehicle balance sensitive The shoulder belt locks when the brakes are applied and the balance of the vehicle leans one into the shoulder belt.

Vehicle code Federal and state laws that regulate the highway transportation system (HTS).

Vehicle registration A form that must be carried in the vehicle to prove who owns it, that it is licensed, and that the vehicle taxes have been paid.

Velocitation The improper sensation of vehicle speed.

After high speed driving, the sensation of moving more slowly than the vehicle actually is, resulting in driving too fast unconsciously.

Visual acuity The ability to see details up close and from afar.

Visual eye-lead-time The time (and distance) that the driver's visual search precedes the vehicle.

Visual referencing Points on the vehicle that are used to assist the driver in positioning the vehicle with respect to curbs, lines, lane positions and control input timing for maneuvers.

Visual tracking Aiming and steering in the desired travel path of the vehicle.

Warning lights and gauges Dashboard indicators to inform the driver of the condition of the vehicle systems and warn when problems occur.

Warning signs Traffic signs that warn of danger ahead.

Warranty A written guaranty from the manufacturer to repair or replace defective components for a limited time or mileage.

Water pump A device that circulates the engine coolant under pressure.

Weave lane When an entrance and an exit use a common extra lane (for acceleration as well as deceleration) on a freeway or expressway.

Weaver A person who moves their vehicle back and forth between lanes. This often results in collisions.

Weight transfer Moving the concentration of weight from one point of the vehicle to another caused by acceleration, deceleration and cornering forces.

Wheel alignment Mechanical adjustment of the steering system components to vehicle specifications.

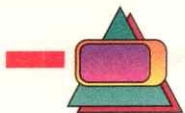
Wolf pack Group of vehicles traveling together in a bunch on an expressway.

Yaw The spinning effect of a vehicle around its center of gravity (oversteer).

Yield To give another road user the right-of-way. Allowing another to proceed first.

Zero tolerance law Law stating it is illegal for persons under the age of 21 to drive with any measurable amount of alcohol in the blood.

Zone One of six areas of space around a vehicle that is at least the width of a lane and extends as far as the driver can see to the front, side, or rear.



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Date: ____/____/____

Name: _____

VOCABULARY MATCHING EXERCISE

SESSION 10 - CHAPTER 19 (A & B)

Match the description in Column B with the term(s) in Column A. Write the letter in the space provided.

Column A

- ___ 1. Tort liability
- ___ 2. Driver responsibility
- ___ 3. Personal responsibility
- ___ 4. Minimum drinking age law
- ___ 5. Over-involvement of teens
- ___ 6. Personal consequences
- ___ 7. Financial consequences
- ___ 8. Alcohol related crashes
- ___ 9. Alcohol related fatalities
- ___ 10. BAC

Column B

- A. Imposed by customs, parents, peers and personal values
- B. Where alcohol was a major factor in a collision
- C. Blood alcohol concentration.
- D. You have a responsibility to obey the law, cooperate with other road users, etc.
- E. Where alcohol was a major factor in a traffic fatality.
- F. Government and/or civil liability as a consequence of a wrong or wrongful act.
- G. Drivers between the ages of 16 and 19 are involved in more alcohol-related collisions.
- H. Texas legislation requiring individuals to be 21 years of age or older to consume alcoholic beverages.
- I. The inconvenience of being unable to drive and the embarrassment of the conviction.
- J. lawyer's fees, fines, vehicle seizure/forfeiture, and all other fees related to the trial etc.



Date: ____/____/____

Name: _____

FILL-IN THE BLANKS EXERCISE

SESSION 10 - CHAPTER 19 (A & B)

Fill-in the blanks in the spaces provided below.

1. A _____ is considered responsible when _____ are in accord with the _____, whether explicit or _____.
2. Your _____ for improper action is a fine, _____ of user privileges and, most seriously, the possibility of personal _____, as well as the injury or even _____ of other road users.
3. _____ is defined as a wrong or _____ act. Courts _____ who is at fault in an action committed by an individual or _____, with government and/or _____ liability as a _____.
4. In 2001, in the _____, there were an estimated 6,323,000 police-reported _____, in which _____ people were killed and 3,033,000 people were _____, 4,282,000 crashes involved _____ only.
5. _____ - _____ fatalities rose to 17,448 - _____ of all traffic fatalities for the year.
6. Since all states have enacted _____ year-old minimum _____ age laws, _____ estimates that these laws have reduced traffic _____ involving drivers 18 to 20 years old by 13 percent, and have _____ an estimated _____ lives since 1975.
7. In _____, an estimated _____ lives were saved by minimum drinking age laws.
8. _____ drivers are at a much _____ risk of being involved in a _____ motor vehicle crash when alcohol is involved.
9. In 1998, there were 1,054,120 under _____ - _____ - _____ licensed drivers in Texas; this represented _____ of all licensed drivers. 3,350 of these were involved in alcohol-related _____; this represented _____ of all alcohol-related crashes. This is a _____ - _____ by teen drivers.



Session 10 Review Test**Chapter 19 (A & B)**

Circle the the letter that best answers or completes each question or statement.

1. **The overall alcohol / traffic safety problem in Texas includes:**
A) over-involvement of teenagers. C) significant health & accident insurance losses.
B) about one-half of all traffic crashes. D) all of these.
2. **As a responsible driver, you should:**
A) limit your alcohol consumption when you know you will be driving.
B) let someone else who has been drinking drive your vehicle when you are not capable.
C) never drink and drive.
D) ride with someone else who has been drinking when you are not able to drive.
3. **Which of the following are all reasons why people drink and/or use drugs and then drive?**
A) Peer pressure, social factors, anxiety excuse, and having a good time.
B) Peers, anxiety factors, price, and having a good time.
C) Everybody else does, social pressure, feeling good, and fear.
D) All of these.
4. **When considering the risk in the "short term pleasure" of drinking, you should:**
A) never risk more than you can afford to lose.
B) not risk a lot for a little.
C) consider the odds and your situation.
D) all of these.
5. **Age-specific analysis of alcohol-related crashes and risk demonstrates that the risk of death for drivers 16 to 19 years of age is higher and rises faster with an increase in BAC. When the BAC is between .08 and .099, the increased risk of death for this age group is _____ times higher.**
A) 9. B) 30. C) 40. D) 90.
6. **"Zero tolerance" in Texas laws regarding drivers under the age of 21 means:**
A) no alcohol consumption is allowed.
B) no alcohol may be consumed while driving.
C) the driver's blood alcohol concentration (BAC) may not exceed 0.02%.
D) all of these.
7. **In 2001, the NHTSA estimates that _____ teens were saved by minimum drinking age laws - 21 years of age.**
A) 517. B) 927. C) 1279. D) 1729.
8. **Since 1975, the NHTSA estimates that _____ teens were saved by minimum drinking age laws - 21 years of age.**
A) 20,970. B) 30,970. C) 40,970. D) 50,970.
9. **In Texas in 1998, under legal-drinking-age licensed drivers were 7.8% of all licensed drivers. 3,350 of them were involved in alcohol-related crashes which represented 12.7% of all alcohol-related crashes. This represents a:**
A) 26% under-involvement by teen drivers in alcohol-related crashes.
B) 36% over-involvement by teen drivers in alcohol-related crashes.
C) 62% under-involvement by teen drivers in alcohol-related crashes.
D) 63% over-involvement by teen drivers in alcohol-related crashes.
10. **In 2001, in the United States, alcohol-related fatalities rose to 17,448 - 41% of all traffic fatalities for the year; on average one alcohol-related fatality occurred every _____ minutes.**
A) 10. B) 20. C) 30. D) 40.

