

CONTENTS

UNIT 1 | Becoming a Good Driver

PREVIEW	.5
LESSON 1: Learning to Drive	6
LESSON 2: Driver's License	8
LESSON 3: Bad Weather and Other Hazards	10
LESSON 4: Using a City Map	12
REVIEW	14

UNIT 2 | Buying a Car

PREVIEW	15
LESSON 1: Sticking to Your Budget	16
LESSON 2: Comparing Used Cars	18
LESSON 3: Interpreting a New Car Sticker	20
LESSON 4: Financing a Car	22
REVIEW	24

UNIT 3 | Maintenance and Repair

PREVIEW	25
LESSON 1: Benefits of Upkeep	26
LESSON 2: Car Repair Estimates	28
LESSON 3: Instructions for Using Jumper Cables	30
LESSON 4: New Tire Warranty	32
REVIEW	34

UNIT 4 | Driving and the Law

PREVIEW	35
LESSON 1: Automobile Registration	36
LESSON 2: Shopping for Car Insurance	38
LESSON 3: Traffic and Parking Tickets	40
LESSON 4: Dangerous Driving Habits	42
REVIEW	44

WORD LIST	45
-----------	----

PREVIEW | Becoming a Good Driver

■ How much do you already know about the material in this unit? Circle letters or words to correctly complete the sentences. Answers are upside down at the bottom of the page.

1. You could take a driver's education class (from your parent or guardian / at a public school).
2. Driving lessons at a private school are paid for (by the state / by the student).
3. A (parent or guardian / same-age friend) would be a good driving teacher for a 16-year-old.
4. Before you take a written test for a driver's permit, you should (ask a friend what's on the test / study the driver handbook).
5. A driver handbook will tell you (the rules of the road / how much to pay for a car).
6. To pass the test for a driver's license, you must be able to show that you (know your way around town / can drive safely).
7. If you're driving in bad weather, you should
 - a. slow down to a safe speed.
 - b. speed up to hurry home.
 - c. use your fog lights.
8. To drive safely in snow conditions, you need
 - a. a working heater.
 - b. a warm jacket.
 - c. a set of tire chains.
9. If you are driving and need to refer to a city map, you should
 - a. open the map across the steering wheel so you can still watch the road.
 - b. pull over and stop first.
 - c. spread the map out across the passenger seat.
10. Suppose you're looking for Maple Street on a city map. The first place you should check is
 - a. the map itself.
 - b. the compass rose.
 - c. the map index.

Answers: 1. at a public school 2. by the student 3. parent or guardian 4. study the driver handbook 5. the rules of the road 6. can drive safely 7. a 8. c 9. b 10. c

LESSON

1 Learning to Drive

DIEGO'S PLAN

Diego is almost 16 years old. He wants to learn how to drive. In the state where he used to live, he could already have had a license. But in the state where he lives now, the laws are different. Before getting a learner's permit, he must take driver education in a classroom setting.

His school is offering a driver education class. Diego has decided to sign up for it. He will get classroom training for one semester. There, he will learn the rules of the road. He will also get some tips on how to drive safely. The class will prepare him for the written test for a permit.

Once Diego has a permit, he will be able to get some behind-the-wheel training. For that, he will attend a professional driving school. A professional instructor will give Diego four 90-minute lessons of in-car training.

In Diego's state, a minor must have completed 50 hours of supervised driving practice. Ten of those hours must be at night. Diego's mother and father will help him complete the required time behind the wheel before he takes his driving test.

KAYLEE'S PLAN

Kaylee is 18 years old. Like Diego, she wants to get a driver's license. She is no longer a minor, so the rules for her are different than they are for Diego. She does not have to take driver education in the classroom. She does not have to take driver training behind the wheel. But, like Diego, she does have to prove that she can drive.



Kaylee will read the driver handbook to study for the written test. Once she has her permit, she will start getting behind-the-wheel training. Her sister will teach her. By law, Kaylee can practice driving only with a person over age 25. That person must have a valid driver's license. Kaylee will not have to get 50 hours of practice, as Diego does. She can take the driving test as soon as she feels ready.

MEGAN'S PLAN

Megan is 25 years old. She has never had a driver's license, but she wants one now. She knows that she is not required to take driver training behind the wheel. But she thinks that she will be a better driver if she does. So she plans to go to a driver training school. Professional instruction is not cheap, but Megan thinks it will be worth it. She worries that she won't be able to pass the driving test without it.

■ **Thinking It Over**

1. If you take a driver education class, you
 - a. are sure to pass the written test for a permit.
 - b. learn how to drive by practicing in a car.
 - c. are taught in a classroom.
2. If you take driver training, you
 - a. get behind-the-wheel instruction.
 - b. are sure to pass the test for a license.
 - c. don't have to take the driving test.
3. A minor is someone who is younger than
 - a. 25.
 - b. 18.
 - c. 16.
4. The laws about driver's licenses are
 - a. different from state to state.
 - b. the same in every state.
 - c. too complicated for most people to follow.

■ **Everyday Math**

1. Diego needs 50 hours behind the wheel before he can take the driving test. Ten of those hours must be at night. How many hours of daytime practice will he need in all? _____
2. During driver training, Diego has four 90-minute lessons behind the wheel in the daytime. How many hours is that? _____

3. After his driver training course, how many more hours of daytime practice will he need? _____

■ **Key Vocabulary**

1. *Driver education* is _____
_____.
2. *Driver training* is _____
_____.
3. A *minor* is _____
_____.
4. A *driver's permit* allows you to _____
_____.
5. A *driver's license* allows you to _____
_____.

■ **Drawing Conclusions**

The laws regarding driver's licenses are stricter for persons under the age of 18. Why do you think this is so?

■ **On Your Own**

Would you rather learn to drive from a family member or in a driver training school? Why?

_____.

LESSON**2 Driver's License**

This checklist is published by the state of California. It is for the parent or guardian of a teenager. It tells what habits the student driver should have acquired before taking the driving test. If the parent can check off each box, it means that the student driver has developed safe driving habits.

Locate the Controls

Your child knows where the following controls are located and how they work:

- Horn
- 4-way flashers
- Heater/defroster
- Windshield wipers
- Emergency and parking brakes
- Headlights

Before Starting the Vehicle

- Adjusts mirrors.
- Fastens safety belt.

Starting the Vehicle

- Vehicle is in "Park" or "Neutral."
- Foot on brake.
- Starts vehicle smoothly.

Moving Forward

- Signals.
- Looks over shoulder before pulling into traffic.
- Uses both hands on opposite sides of steering wheel.

Stopping

- Stops when necessary behind crosswalk or limit line.
- Uses correct foot on brake pedal.

Turns

- Signals and slows for turns.
- Begins and ends turns in correct lane.
- Yields right-of-way when necessary.
- Accepts legal right-of-way when safe.
- Sees and reacts to hazards.

Backing

- Looks back over right shoulder when backing out the car.

- Checks mirrors and glances quickly to side while backing.

Changing Lanes

- Signals.
- Checks mirrors.
- Checks over shoulder.
- Changes lanes safely.

Hill Parking

- Signals.
- Curbs wheel properly.
- Sets parking brake.
- Signals and checks over shoulder before entering traffic.

Parallel Parking

- Signals.
- Looks over shoulder while backing.
- Yields to other vehicles when necessary.

Driving On the Freeway

- Checks traffic flow.
- Signals.
- Times entry onto freeway.
- Checks over shoulder as he or she accelerates into gap in traffic.
- Signals early and slows down on the exit ramp to posted speed limit.
- Adjusts speed to road conditions.

Defensive Driving Techniques

- Checks mirrors frequently and before braking.
- Checks cross streets before entering intersections.
- Checks signal lights and signs.
- Keeps eyes "moving" (watches shoulders (sides) and middle of road).
- Keeps a "space cushion" around the car.
- Follows at a safe distance.

■ **Thinking It Over:** Write **T** for *true* or **F** for *false*.

1. ____ You should adjust the mirrors and fasten your safety belt before starting the vehicle.
2. ____ When you are starting the vehicle, you should be in first gear.
3. ____ If you have the legal right-of-way, you should always take it.
4. ____ When changing lanes, you should not only signal but also check over your shoulder.

■ **Everyday Math**

1. Kwan paid \$65 for each of four 90-minute classes of in-car training. Then she paid \$12 to take the test for a driver's permit. So far, how much has she spent to get her license? \$_____
 2. The Martinez family was paying \$1,500 a year for car insurance. Then their two teenage boys got licenses in the same year. Their insurance went up by \$2,100. How much is the Martinez family now paying per year? \$_____
- How much is that per month? \$_____

■ **Key Vocabulary**

1. What is a *crosswalk*?

2. What does the *brake* on a car do?

3. If you *accelerate* while driving, what do you do?

■ **Recalling Details**

1. You should begin and end turns in the
 - a. right lane.
 - b. left lane.
 - c. correct lane.
2. You should yield the right-of-way
 - a. when necessary.
 - b. always.
 - c. when it is safe.
3. When you are driving straight ahead, your hands should be
 - a. on the left side of the steering wheel.
 - b. on opposite sides of the steering wheel.
 - c. on the right side of the steering wheel.

■ **On Your Own**

Write a paragraph to explain how a driver can safely enter the freeway.
