

Please note that the driving school instructor may use a different presentation to teach this module.



## Module 3

### The Environment

# Outline of Module 3

- Activity: Courtesy Feels Good!
- Environmental factors
  - Other road users
  - Road and weather conditions (covered in Module 7 – OEA Driving Strategy)
- Traffic signs, signals and rules
  - Quiz

# Targeted Competencies

- Taking other road users into account
- Driving cooperatively and courteously
- Evaluating one's behaviour with regard to sharing the road
- Identifying the legal framework and the rules of courtesy that make safe, cooperative and responsible driving possible

# Activity: Courtesy Feels Good!

- Instructions (individually)

Complete the questionnaire entitled  
*Courtesy on the Road* (5 minutes)

# Other Road Users

***Drive proactively!***

**Driving proactively means anticipating problems to better prevent them.**

**Why?**

- To avoid finding yourself in a stressful situation and growing impatient as a result
- To avoid conflict with other road users

# Rules of Proactive and Courteous Driving

## PATIENCE, TOLERANCE AND COURTESY

- Avoid driving while fatigued, tense or feeling very strong emotions
- Leave earlier
- Take routes with less traffic
- Avoid tense conversations with passengers
- Remember that bad manoeuvres by others are not always conscious or deliberate
- Accept the pace of other drivers
- Protect more vulnerable or less skilful drivers

# Courtesy on the Road

*Courtesy on the road begins with obeying the Highway Safety Code (HSC) and traffic rules . . .*

- Obeying traffic lights
- Obeying road signs (stop, speed limit, yield, etc.)
- Respecting the right of way of other users (pedestrians, cyclists, etc.)
- Meeting certain obligations (communicating one's intentions, not following too closely, etc.)

*. . . but it also involves being polite and getting along with others*

# Disrespectful or Aggressive Behaviour

In your view, what are the most irritating behaviours of drivers on the road?



# Irritating Behaviours

- Cutting people off
- Following too closely
- Making unpleasant or aggressive gestures
- Speeding
- Honking needlessly
- Not obeying the HSC
- Not yielding the right of way or insisting on it
- Weaving between vehicles
- Not respecting rights of way
- Not signalling one's intentions
- Changing lanes frequently
- Passing on the right or on the shoulder
- Blinding others with one's headlights

# Consequences of Aggressive Driving

Other than increasing fear, risks and accidents, the conflicts caused by aggressive driving can lead to administrative penalties (fines) and criminal penalties (prison sentences depending on the seriousness of the aggressive actions).

# Traffic Signs, Signals and Rules

- Traffic rules:
  - Traffic rules are set by the *Highway Safety Code*

Examples of traffic rules: speed limits, safe turning and passing, signalling one's intentions, etc.
- Traffic signs and signals aim to:
  - Ensure the safety of road users
  - Improve the flow of traffic
  - Guide road users

Examples of traffic signs and signals: traffic lights, pavement markings, road signs, etc.

# Traffic Signs, Signals and Rules (cont.)

- Review of self-study since the beginning of the course
  - Chapters 3 and 4 of the *Driver's Handbook*
  - Review exercises (website)
  - Does anyone have any questions?
- Reminders
  - Preparation for the evaluation to obtain a learner's licence – Phase 1, Module 5
  - Preparation for the SAAQ knowledge test and road test at the end of the learning period

# Quiz



## Traffic Signs, Signals and Rules

# Question 1

You're driving in a town you don't know. There's no speed limit sign. What is the fastest you're allowed to go?

- 30 km/h
- 50 km/h
- 70 km/h

# Answer

50 km/h

In a town or city, the maximum speed limit is 50 km/h unless otherwise indicated.

## Question 2

In what situation can you be charged with impaired driving even if you haven't been drinking alcohol?

- You were involved in an accident.
- You didn't take medication prescribed by a doctor.
- You drove after consuming drugs.



# Answer

You drove after using drugs.

No one is allowed to drive a vehicle when their driving ability is impaired by alcohol or drugs.

## Question 3

What is the permissible blood alcohol concentration for the holder of a probationary licence?

- Zero-alcohol rule
- 20 mg% (.02) rule
- 80 mg% (.08) rule

# Answer

## Zero-alcohol rule

The holder of a probationary licence is not allowed to drive a road vehicle after consuming alcohol.

**Remember the zero-alcohol rule!**

## Question 4

Are you allowed to pass the bicycle in this situation?

- No
- Yes
- No, because cyclists have the right of way



# Answer

No

You may not pass the bicycle, because there is not enough room to do so safely since a vehicle is coming in the opposite lane.

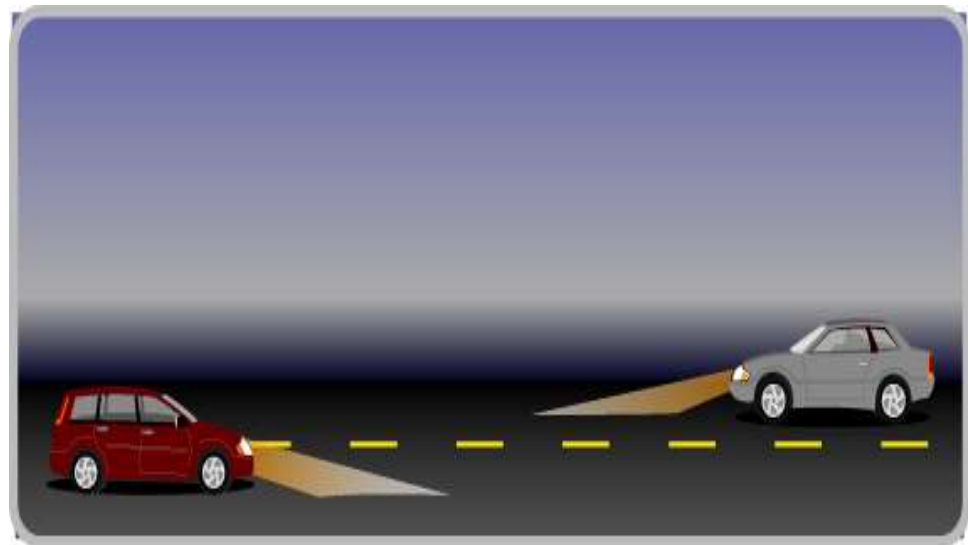
Rule for passing a cyclist in zones of:

- 50 km/h or less: 1 m
- More than 50 km/h: 1.5 m

## Question 5

At night, you must switch from the high beams to the low beams when a car coming from the opposite direction is at a distance of less than:

- 50 metres
- 100 metres
- 150 metres



# Answer

150 metres

When an oncoming vehicle is less than 150 metres away, you must switch to the low beams so as not to blind the other driver.

## Question 6

You're following a farm tractor up a hill. Are you allowed to pass it?

- No
- Yes
- Yes, because it's a tractor





# Answer

No

You are not allowed to pass, because you cannot check to see whether the left lane is free.

## Question 7

It is prohibited to pass using the lane reserved for oncoming traffic:

- As you near and reach the top of a hill
- Alongside a bicycle path
- In a 50 km/h zone

# Answer

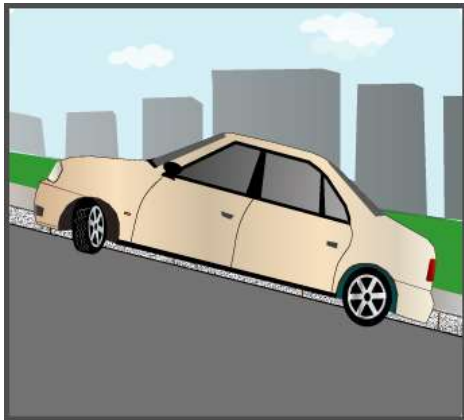
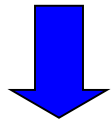
As you near and reach the top of a hill

Near or at the top of a hill, it is prohibited to pass using the lane reserved for oncoming traffic.

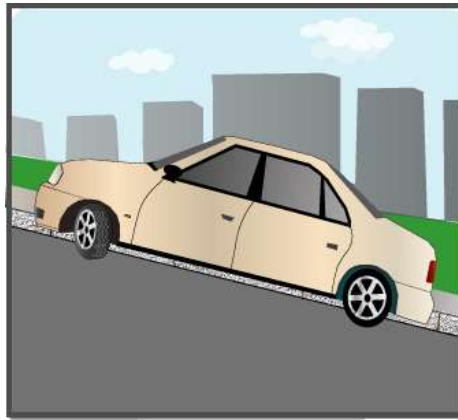
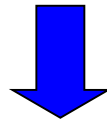
## Question 8

You're parking uphill. Which way are you supposed to turn the wheels?

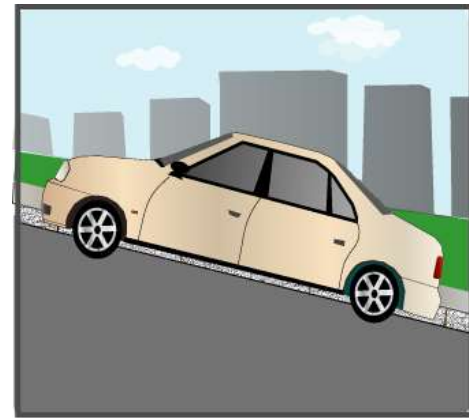
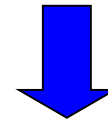
To the left



To the right



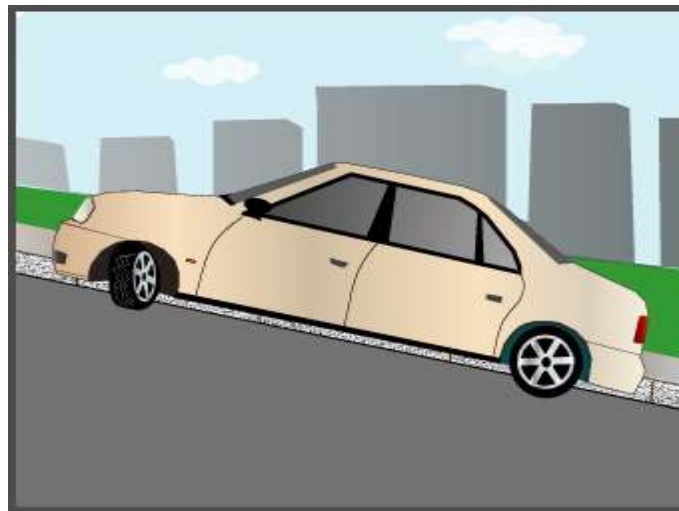
Straight ahead



# Answer

To the left

In the event of parking brake or transmission failure, the vehicle will be stopped by the curb.



## Question 9

To back up, your father unbuckles his seat belt. Under the *Highway Safety Code*, is he allowed to do so?

- Yes
- Yes, but only to back out of a private driveway
- No

# Answer

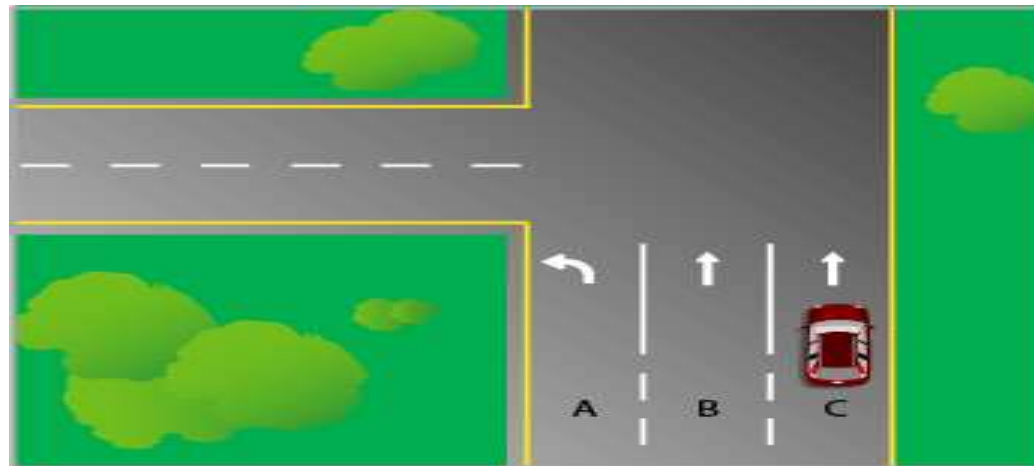
Yes

The *Highway Safety Code* does not require the driver to wear a seat belt while backing up.

## Question 10

A driver is travelling in lane C. He wants to turn left at the intersection. What does he have to do?

- He can't turn left; he has to go to the next intersection.
- He has to change lanes twice: from C to B and from B to A.
- He can cross two travel lanes at once.





# Answer

He can't turn left: he has to go to the next intersection.

A driver must plan turns and the lane changes that precede them.

## Question 11

When you reach this sign, what do you have to do?

- Stop immediately
- Prepare to stop
- Do nothing in particular



# Answer

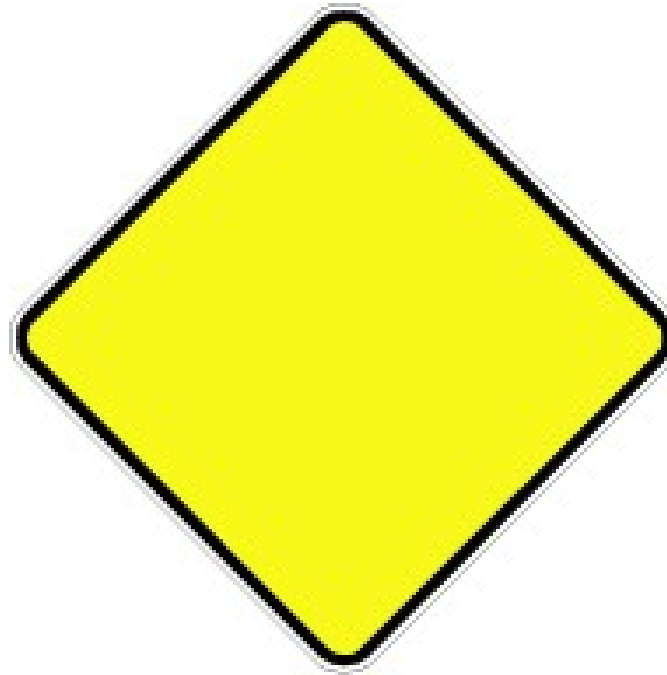
Prepare to stop

This sign announces a stop sign ahead: start slowing down, because you'll have to stop soon.

## Question 12

The shape and colour of this sign are reserved for indicating:

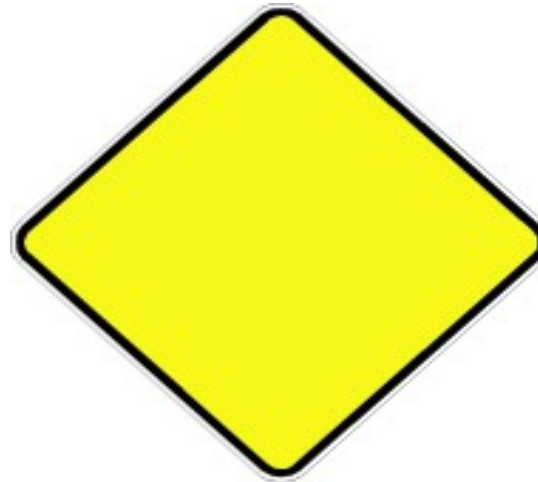
- Speed limits
- Hazards
- Road work



# Answer

## Hazards

Signs with this shape and colour warn you of a road hazard.



## Question 13

The shape of this sign indicates that:

- A school zone begins
- A school zone is ahead
- A school crossing is ahead



# Answer

A school zone begins

The shape of this sign indicates you're entering a school zone.



## Question 14

This sign indicates that:

- A bridge is ahead
- The pavement ends
- Road construction begins





# Answer

The pavement ends

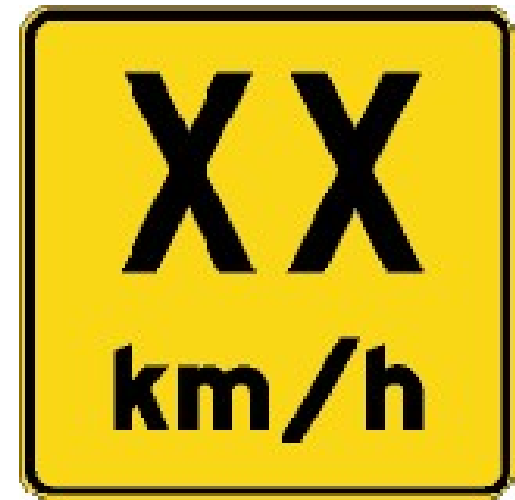
The road surface will change from asphalt to gravel or dirt.



## Question 15

This sign indicates:

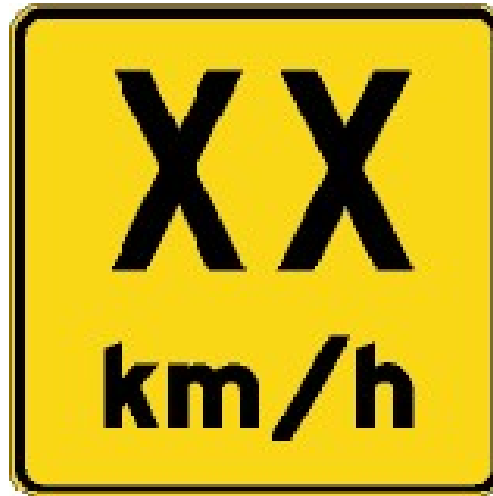
- The slowest speed allowed
- The fastest speed allowed
- The recommended speed



# Answer

The recommended speed

This sign indicates the recommended safe speed near an obstacle or a hazardous place on a public roadway.



## Question 16

When you come to a yellow light, you have to:

- Stop
- Speed up
- Slow down

# Answer

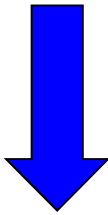
Stop

You must stop, unless you are in the intersection or so close to it that it would be dangerous to stop.

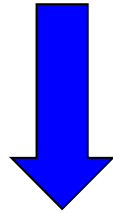
## Question 17

You can cross over a solid single line to pass one of the following vehicles. Which one?

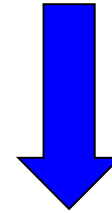
A bus



A truck



A carriage



# Answer

A carriage

- If it is safe to do so, a solid line may be crossed, exceptionally, in order to pass a vehicle drawn by an animal.



## Question 18

What does this sign tell you?

- Before entering a road, you must yield the right of way to the vehicles travelling on it.
- The vehicle travelling the fastest has the right of way
- You must yield the right of way to vehicles coming from the opposite direction.





# Answer

Before entering a road, you must yield the right of way to the vehicles travelling on it:

This sign tells a driver wishing to enter a road that he or she must yield the right of way.



## Question 19

This sign indicates that:

- Stopping is prohibited
- Parking is prohibited
- Access is prohibited



# Answer

Access is prohibited

- This sign indicates that automobiles are not allowed to enter a road or a traffic lane.



## Question 20

Which sign warns you that a road ahead is temporarily closed to traffic?

1



2



3



# Answer

## Sign 2

This sign warns you that a road ahead is temporarily closed.



# References

- *Driving a Passenger Vehicle*
- *Driver's Handbook*
- *Road Access Binder*
- Review exercises