

## Reading Part 4

Read the text and answer the questions. Use a maximum of three words for each answer.

### Learning to drive

Learning to drive isn't as simple as people think. First, you need a good teacher. Some people ask a friend or a family member to help but it's better to have lessons from a qualified driving instructor. These lessons are expensive, however, but it is worth the money.

Proper instructors have special cars, with extra mirrors and special controls, such as an extra brake pedal. They can use this if you have problems and stop the car themselves. This gives you confidence when you're learning, which is important, as drivers who are nervous might make the wrong decisions. When you're behind the wheel, you need to think quickly.

Other people also cause problems to learners. As well as worrying about how to use all the controls, looking in the mirrors and deciding where you're going, you have to work out what other drivers are doing. That's why it's better to learn to drive in the countryside on quiet roads where there isn't much traffic, rather than busy roads in town centres. Private roads or small villages are better than crowded streets or dual carriageways. Off-road driving centres where you can practise safely without being on real roads are also great for making you feel more confident.

You shouldn't spend too long on your first lessons, as there's a lot to remember. It's better to start with two or three one-hour lessons a week, then have one two-hour lesson a week after that.

Of course, it isn't only about having driving lessons. You need to get as much extra practice as possible. Ask patient people to help you though; this is very important because if they are impatient with you, they might destroy your new confidence. Then you need to decide on the route before you set off. It's also a good idea to discuss what you want to practise each time. Make it clear you don't want any surprises. Concentrate on one thing at a time – and you'll quickly become a confident driver.

1. What can instructors do with their special controls?

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2. How should drivers think?

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3. What are roads in the countryside like?

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4. How many hours should your first lesson last?

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5. In addition to lessons, what do you need to do?

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6. What sort of person can help you learn to drive?

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7. What should you plan before you set off?

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8. What don't you want your helper to give you?

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