

## Traffic Education

A taxi driver, going from Rawalpindi to Islamabad, was driving rashly. He went zigzagging through the heavy traffic. Sometimes, he turned to the right and then suddenly turned to the left, squeezing through the traffic. But the same driver, entering Islamabad was a changed person. Why so? Observance of traffic rules by others and enforcement of them by the Islamabad police changed him.

Why is it that the traffic on the motor way is so orderly? Two factors are responsible for it i.e., the examples set by others and the observance of the rules for fear of being caught and fined heavily by the motorway police. So, we learn the rules by imitating others or for fear of being caught and punished for violating the rules. The police in Lahore should copy the methods of the Islamabad police in order to improve bad driving in their city. The donkey carts, rickshaws, wagons and motorists have no sense of traffic rules at all.

The cases cited above emphasize the importance of traffic education, which is seriously needed for the orderly and smooth flow of traffic in the cities. But from where can we get such an education?

There are institutions that can teach you how to drive. They also teach traffic rules to avoid accidents. You should get a driving licence after getting a proper training and passing the driving test. Only then you should drive a car or ride a motor cycle on the road. Pedestrians should also know the rules in order to walk safely on the road side.

Some of the rules are:

1. If you are driving a vehicle, keep to the left. However, if there are lanes, leave the extreme right lane for the fast traffic or for the over taking vehicles.
2. If there is no pavement, walk on the right side of the road so that traffic coming from opposite side may not disturb your walk.
3. While going from one side to the other side of the road, use the zebra crossing. Cross the road when the traffic is stopped on the red signal. If there is no zebra crossing or traffic signal, look on both sides and wait till the traffic becomes thin.
4. All the traffic, including the bicycles, must stop at the signal in respective lanes.
5. Observe speed limit - not more than 60 kilometers per hour in the city.
6. While entering the main road, stop to look to the right and left and then go, making sure that there is no approaching traffic.
7. Yellow light of the signal is a warning. It requires you to slow down and stop on

- the red light.
8. Try to follow the road signs displayed by the traffic police.
  9. The lights of your vehicle, though it may be bicycle, must be on at night.
  10. Consider the traffic constable your well-wisher who performs his duty even in an adverse environment.

Words	Meanings
zig zagging	taking sharp turn to left and right.
environment	surroundings
zebra crossing	wide alternate black and white lines across the roads, forming a pedestrian crossing.
pedestrian	the one walking or going on foot
impart education	teach
violate rules	break the rules
emphasize	stress
cite	mention by way of example
vehicle	a means of transport
imitate	copy

### EXERCISES

1. Choose the most appropriate answer to complete the sentence.
  - i. The taxi mentioned in the lesson
    - a) went smoothly through the traffic.
    - b) was stuck in the traffic.
    - c) passed with difficulty through the traffic.
    - d) passed easily through the traffic.
  - ii. The taxi
    - a) was caught in the traffic.
    - b) managed to pass through the traffic.
    - c) rushed swiftly through the traffic.
    - d) was pressed in the traffic.
  - iii. We learn the rules by "imitating" means
 

a) by copying others	b) by irritating others
c) by meeting people	d) by talking to others
  - iv. To develop the traffic sense means to
 

a) observe traffic rules	b) go on full speed
c) walk on the road	d) be challaned

2. Tick (✓) the true or false statements.

- i. The taxi driver was a rash driver.
- ii. The taxi passed straight through the traffic.
- iii. The Islamabad traffic had a negative effect on the driver.
- iv. The traffic on the motor way is very orderly.
- v. The police plays no role in the traffic education.
- vi. We need no training to get a driving license.
- vii. The cyclists should not follow the traffic rules.
- viii. Pedestrians should walk when the traffic light turns green.
- ix. We can go on driving on the yellow light.

True	False
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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3. Fill in the blanks with the correct prepositions given below:

to, on, into, at, by, of

- i. The driver was in the habit \_\_\_\_\_ driving fast.
- ii. The man was walking \_\_\_\_\_ the wrong side of the road.
- iii. He went \_\_\_\_\_ school \_\_\_\_\_ a bicycle.
- iv. We learn the rules \_\_\_\_\_ imitating others.
- v. He jumped \_\_\_\_\_ the river.
- vi. The traffic rules help us \_\_\_\_\_ drive safely.
- vii. While driving keep \_\_\_\_\_ the left.
- viii. The yellow light is a sign \_\_\_\_\_ slow down.
- ix. All of us should understand the meaning \_\_\_\_\_ the traffic signs.

4. Use the following words in sentences of your own.

zigzag, slow down, instruct, hurriedly, pedestrian, imitate, emphasize, pavement, vehicle

5. Answer the following questions.

- i. How was the taxi driver driving in Rawalpindi?
- ii. After entering Islamabad, the driver became a changed person. Why?
- iii. How can the police give us traffic education?
- iv. What is a zebra crossing and what is it for?
- v. Mention any two traffic rules.

6. Punctuate the following:

a taxi driver going from rawalpindi to islamabad was rashly driving the taxi  
he went zigzagging through the heavy traffic