Road Test: Driving Curriculum Lesson 8

**Goals:**
The goal of this lesson is for students to understand what they will be asked to do during the road test, how to conduct the maneuvers required during the road test, and to be prepared to carry on conversation with the test administrator. This lesson does not cover how to schedule a road test or the necessary requirements that must be met in order to keep the lesson concise, but another lesson could be created for this.

**Road Test Lesson Part A**

**Review**
Look back at the tile or your notes from each lesson. List 1 thing you remember from each lesson. Do you have any questions?

**Eliciting Prior Knowledge**
Describe a past experience when you were driving, if you have driven before. Describe how you felt. What was it like? What did you see and hear? Who was in the vehicle with you?

Now, imagine what it will be like to drive with an RMV examiner in the vehicle with you. Describe how you will feel.

Imagine a time when you have felt anxious about using language in a testing context. How do you feel about it? What was helpful for you?

Designed by the UMass Amherst/International Language Institute project on Driving in English. See [https://ili.edu](https://ili.edu) for more information and contact rlorimer@umass.edu with questions.
Mae is ready to take her road test. She gets into the vehicle with the RMV examiner in the passenger seat. She feels nervous and that is okay. She finds it helpful to listen for the following actions to do when driving the vehicle:

- Hand signals
- Start the engine
- Start the vehicle and stop the vehicle
- Parallel park
- Turn left and turn right
- Three point turn
- Yield

The RMV examiner asks her to begin by putting her hand out of the vehicle’s window to do hand signals. Then, the examiner asks her to start the engine. The RMV examiner asks Mae to press the accelerator to start the vehicle. Mae does not understand, and asks the RMV examiner to repeat themselves. Mae realizes they mean the gas pedal. Gas pedal and accelerator mean the same thing. She presses the gas pedal to start the vehicle. She presses the break pedal, or decelerator, to stop the vehicle. Next, the RMV examiner asks Mae to parallel park, to turn left using her blinker, but Mae does not understand what the RMV examiner means. She asks the RMV examiner if they mean that she should use her turn signal to turn left and turn right? The RMV examiner then asks Mae to do a three point turn and to yield to oncoming traffic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Road Test Term</th>
<th>Image/ Definition</th>
<th>Cultural Term</th>
<th>Relating to your Experience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle</td>
<td>![Vehicle Image]</td>
<td>Car</td>
<td>What is the word for this in another language that you speak?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Passenger seat</th>
<th>What is the word for this in another language that you speak?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hand signals</td>
<td>Have you heard of this before? Have you ever done this?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Start the engine</td>
<td>Start the car Do you know another word for this?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gas pedal/accelerator</td>
<td>Go/give it gas What is the word or phrase for this action in another language that you speak?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brake pedal/decelerator</td>
<td>Brake What is the word or phrase for this action in another language that you speak?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Parallel park</strong></th>
<th><img src="image1.png" alt="Diagram" /></th>
<th><strong>Have you ever done this?</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Three point turn</strong></td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
<td><strong>Have you ever done this?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Yield</strong></td>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Diagram" /></td>
<td><strong>What is an example of when you do this?</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Road Test Lesson PART B

Individual Activity
Match the term (that you will be asked to do during the road test) to the image that shows that activity.

Role Playing
One person should begin by being the examiner and asking the peer or instructor to complete the series of steps in the list above. Then, the roles should switch.

Reflection
How did you feel being the RMV examiner? How did you feel being the one taking the exam? How will this affect the way you take or prepare for the exam, if at all?

Questions
What do you have questions about? What will you be asked to do during the test? How do you do those things?

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For independent studying

1. To learn about the requirements of taking the road test, including vehicle specifications, students should consult pages 25-32 of the Driver’s Manual. The driving techniques that the test will assess are detailed in chapters 3, 4, and 5.

2. Observe people driving. Are there driving maneuvers or techniques that you want to practice? What parts of driving still seem unclear or difficult?

3. Try to identify the car that you will use for the driving test. Remember that the car must be insured, have an accessible handbrake, and in good condition for driving (see pages 25-29 in the Driver’s Manual).

Resources

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=road+test+dmv+ma
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fPNHz3x4lpc