

# 2

# Traffic and vehicles

## alpha

### OBJECTIVES

- types of vehicle
- registration plates
- radio telephony alphabet

## Is this your vehicle?



### [1.17] Reading and listening

### WORLD ENGLISH

- |       |       |
|-------|-------|
| UK    | US    |
| lorry | truck |
| coach | bus   |

**Task 1** Listen and read the descriptions of the vehicles. Then match them with the pictures.

- |  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| 1 a white van .....                            | 6 a silver grey moped .....      |
| 2 a metallic blue car .....                    | 7 a beige and orange coach ..... |
| 3 a blue car .....                             | 8 a light blue bicycle .....     |
| 4 a light blue HGV (Heavy Goods Vehicle) ..... | 9 a dark blue lorry .....        |
| 5 a big, black motorcycle .....                | 10 a small, red car .....        |

**Task 2** Match the words with the colours.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
metallic green	light green	dark green	silver grey	bronze	beige	dark purple

### Reading

**Task 3** Look at the vehicle registration plates. Read the text on the opposite page and answer the questions.



- Find a different expression for 'registration plate'. l ..... p .....
- Find a word which means 'the size and style of printed letters'. t .....
- Which of these is NOT a correct format for an EU registration plate?



- blue background black letters
  - yellow background black letters
  - white background black letters
- 4 Why are German licence plates special?

# REGISTRATION PLATES



IN THE EUROPEAN UNION, vehicles have white or yellow licence plates. The format is the same for all vehicles. There is blue strip on the left of the plate. On the blue strip is the EU symbol of 12 yellow stars and the country code of the state in which the vehicle was registered. The letters on the plate are black and the background is white or reflective yellow.

The typeface for registration plates in Germany is a special one. It is designed to be very difficult to change: for example, it is impossible to change the O to a Q, or the P to an R. It is very easy for a radar or license-plate reading machine to read this typeface. However, it is more difficult for the human eye to read it because the letters are so narrow.

**Task 4** Label the registration plates in task 3 with these countries. Which registration plates are from vehicles NOT registered in the European Union?

- 1 Germany      3 Poland      5 Brazil      7 Russia
- 2 Romania      4 India      6 China      8 France

[1.18] Pronunciation

**Task 5** Listen to the word stress for the names of the countries in task 4. Write them in the correct column.

■	■ ■	■ ■	■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■ ■
Spain	Japan Sudan	China	Italy	America Nigeria
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

[1.19] Listen and check.

[1.20] **Task 6** Law enforcers often use the international radiotelephony alphabet for international communication. Listen and repeat.

- A Alpha      G Golf      M Mike      S Sierra      Y Yankee
- B Bravo      H Hotel      N November      T Tango      Z Zulu
- C Charlie      I India      O Oscar      U Uniform
- D Delta      J Juliet      P Papa      V Victor
- E Echo      K Kilo      Q Quebec      W Whiskey
- F Foxtrot      L Lima      R Romeo      X X-Ray

[1.21] Listening

**Task 7** Listen and write the vehicle registration plates.

- 1 .....      3 .....      5 .....
- 2 .....      4 .....      6 .....

**Speaking**

**Task 8** Work in pairs. Look at the vehicles in task 1. Take it in turns to choose a vehicle and say the registration plate to your partner.

# Stolen car!

**OBJECTIVES**

- stolen vehicle database
- vehicle descriptions
- present continuous: positive and negative

**Reading Task 1** Complete the text about a database of stolen vehicles. Use these numbers.

151 4.8 million 37,000 2 26.4

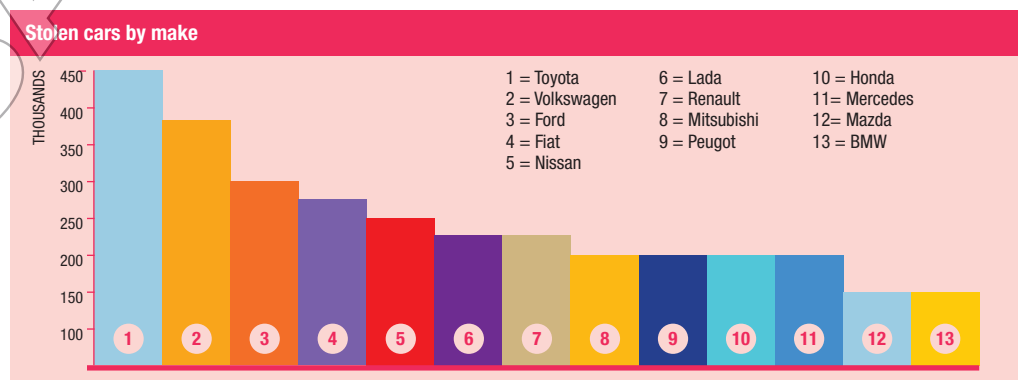
## INTERPOL's ASF-SMV database

- ▶ In the UK, a vehicle is stolen every (1) ..... minutes. In the US, this happens every (2) ..... seconds. The police find fewer than half of these vehicles.
- ▶ INTERPOL – the international criminal police organization – has an international database with details of stolen vehicles. This is the Automated Search Facility Stolen Motor Vehicle (ASF-SMV) database.
- ▶ At the end of 2007, the database had more than (3) ..... records of reported stolen motor vehicles. (4) ..... countries use the database regularly.
- ▶ In 2007, the ASF-SMV database helped police to recover more than (5) ..... motor vehicles worldwide.

[1.22] Now listen and check.

**Task 2** Look at the graph which shows vehicles stolen over the last 12 months. Answer the questions.

- 1 The most stolen make of car is .....
- 2 The least stolen makes of car are ..... and .....
- 3 Why do you think this is?
- 4 ..... the ..... and ..... are German cars.
- 5 ..... and ..... are French makes of car, and ..... is Italian.
- 6 The graph shows more ..... makes of car than any other.
- 7 The Lada is a ..... car and the ..... is American.



What is the most stolen make of car in your country?

[1.23]  **Pronunciation** **Task 3** Listen to the word stress in these words. Write them in the correct column.

American British German Swiss Indian Taiwanese Romanian

■	■ ■	■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■ ■ ■	■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
French	Russian	Chinese	African	Italian	Japanese
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

[1.24]  **Listen and check.**

[1.25]  **Listening** **Task 4** Listen and complete the vehicle descriptions.

	Vehicle 1	Vehicle 2	Vehicle 3
Make and model:			
Colour:			
Licence plate number:			
Registered in:			
Registered to:			

**Speaking** **Task 5** Work in pairs. Student A turn to File 5 on page 103. Student B turn to File 6 on page 104. Take it in turns to describe the vehicles.

## GRAMMAR present continuous: positive and negative

We use the present continuous tense to describe what is happening now.

### Positive

*I **am driving** along the motorway at the moment.* (I am = I'm)

*He / she **is overtaking** the car in front.* (he is = he's, she is = she's)

*You / we / they **are driving** too fast!* (you are = you're, we are = we're, they are = they're)

### Negative

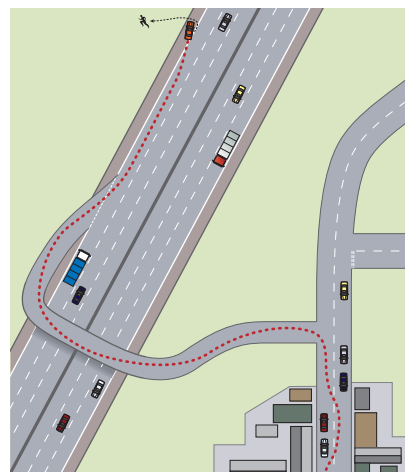
*I'm **not driving** too fast. The speed limit is 120 km per hour.*

*He / she **isn't slowing** down!*

*You / we / they **aren't driving** very well.*

**Writing** **Task 6** A police helicopter is following a stolen car. Look at the map and write what they are saying to Control. Then read the passage aloud to a partner.

- 1 He / go / straight ahead. / He / leave / the town.  
*He's going straight ahead. He's leaving the town.*
- 2 He / drive / very fast / and / he / overtake / lots of vehicles. It's very dangerous.
- 3 Now / he / turn left. / I think / he / go / in the direction of the motorway.
- 4 Yes, / he / on the motorway. / He / go north / and he / not slow down.
- 5 Now / he / begin / to slow down.
- 6 The car / stop. / It has no more petrol.
- 7 The driver / open / the door and he / get out.

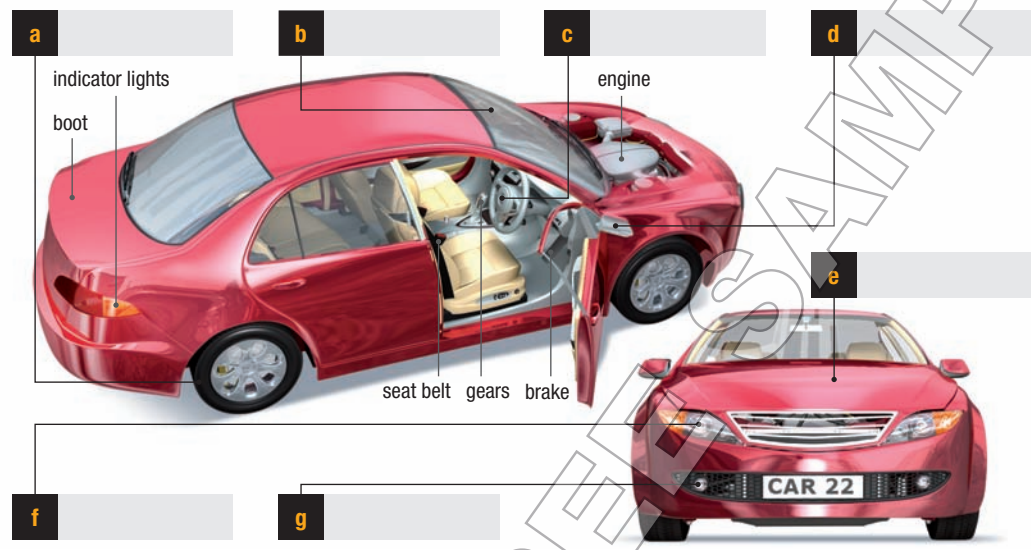




## Vehicle check

### OBJECTIVES

- parts of a car
- vehicle offences
- *must / mustn't*



### WORLD ENGLISH

UK	US
bonnet	hood
boot	trunk
windscreen	windshield
indicator	turn
lights	lights
driving licence	driver's license
tyre	tire

**Task 1** Work in pairs. Tell your partner about the car you drive (colour, year, make, model). Does it have any problems?

**Task 2** Label the car in the picture. Use these words.

tyre bonnet windscreen steering wheel headlights fog lights mirror

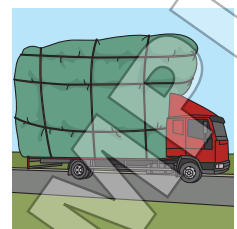
[1.26] Listen and check.

**Task 3** What are the problems? Complete the sentences. Use these words.

out of date don't work flat cracked overloaded



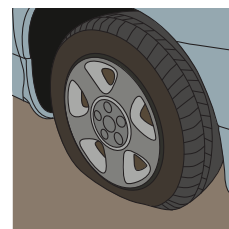
1 Your driving licence is not valid. It is .....



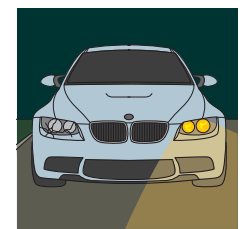
2 The lorry is too heavy because it's .....



3 The driver can't see properly because his windscreen is .....



4 The front right-hand tyre is completely .....



5 This vehicle is dangerous. The headlights .....

### GRAMMAR *must / mustn't*

*Must* is the same in all persons.  
 I / you / he **must wear** a seatbelt. (= it's the law; it's compulsory)  
 We / you / they **must have** vehicle insurance.  
 I / you / he **mustn't exceed** the speed limit. (= it's against the law; it's illegal)  
 We / you / they **mustn't drive** without a seatbelt.

**Task 4** Write positive (✓) and negative (✗) sentences. Use *must* / *mustn't*.

- 1 Drivers / drive / on the right-hand side of the road. ✓  
*Drivers must drive on the right-hand side of the road.*
- 2 You / drive / when you are drinking alcohol. ✗
- 3 Small children / sit / in the front seat / of the car. ✗
- 4 Vehicles / have / child seats / for small children. ✓
- 5 Motorcycle drivers / and passengers / wear helmets. ✓
- 6 You / drive at more than 50 km per hour on this road. ✗
- 7 You / use a mobile phone when you are driving. ✗

**Task 5** Work in pairs. Talk about what drivers must and mustn't do in your country.



[1.27] Listening

**Task 6** Listen to four conversations between law enforcers and drivers. Complete the table.

	Conversation 1	Conversation 2	Conversation 3	Conversation 4
Where are they?	on a motorway	at a b ..... c .....	on a motorway	on a motorway
What's the problem?				

[1.28] Task 7 Listen and complete these sentences from the conversations.

**Conversation 1**

- 1 Can I see your ..... and ....., please?
- 2 Do you ..... for children are compulsory in this country, madam?

**Conversation 2**

- 3 You must ..... at all times.
- 4 It's illegal to .....

**Conversation 3**

- 5 The ..... isn't working, sir.
- 6 Can you ..... the car, please?

**Conversation 4**

- 7 I ..... you for dangerous driving.

**Speaking**

**Task 8** Write a conversation between a police officer and a driver. Work in pairs and read your dialogues.

# Traffic offences and penalties

**OBJECTIVES**

- driving licences
- penalties
- *have to / don't have to; may / might*



**Task 1** Look at the driving licence. Find the information.

- |                                  |                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 Name and surname of the driver | 4 Place of birth of the driver  |
| 2 Nationality of the driver      | 5 Date of expiry of the licence |
| 3 Date of birth of the driver    | 6 Address of the driver         |

**Task 2** Label the licence. Use these words.

identity photo signature date of birth issuing body address

**Speaking**

**Task 3** Write the questions you need to ask the driver to get the information in task 1.

**Task 4** Work in pairs. Student A turn to File 7 on page 103, Student B turn to File 8 on page 104. Ask questions to complete your licences.

**[1.29] Listening**

**Task 5** Listen to a UK police officer talking about driving offences and penalties in the UK. Complete the table.

Driving offences and penalties in Great Britain		
Offence	Penalty	Fine
Causing death by dangerous driving	up to (1) ..... in prison	unlimited
Dangerous driving	lose (2) .....	(3) .....
Failure to stop or report an (4) .....	up to (5) ..... in prison	up to £5,000
Speeding offences	penalty points	up to (6) .....
Drink driving	lose licence	up to (7) .....
Using a mobile phone (car)	penalty points	up to £1,000
Using a mobile phone ((8) ..... or bus)	penalty points	up to (9) .....

**WORLD ENGLISH**

**UK** drink driving

**US** drunk driving



## GRAMMAR *have to / don't have to and may / might*

We use *have to* to talk about rules or things that are necessary. It isn't as strong as *must*.  
I / you / we / they **have to stop**. He / she **has to wait**.

I / you / we / they **don't have to stop**. He / she **doesn't have to wait**.

**Do** I / you / we / they **have to have insurance**? Yes, they **do**. / No, they **don't**.

**Does** he / she **have to pay the fine**? Yes, he **does**. / No, he **doesn't**.

We use *may / might* for possibilities, or things that can happen.

If you drive too fast, you **may / might** have an accident.

If he doesn't have a licence, he **might** be arrested.

**Task 6** Make true sentences about driving offences and penalties in your country. Use *have to* or *may / might* and these expressions.

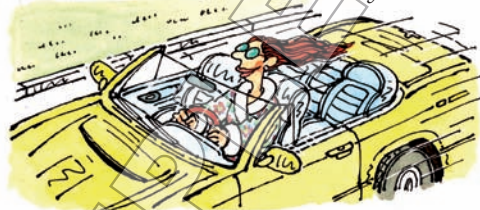
pay a fine   lose your licence (permanently / temporarily)   go to prison  
get penalty points on your licence   take a driving test   wear seatbelts

- 1 If you park in a non-stopping area, you .....
- 2 If you drink and drive, you .....
- 3 If you exceed the speed limit, you .....
- 4 If you want to drive, you .....
- 5 All your passengers .....
- 6 If you cause an accident by dangerous driving, you .....

### Speaking

**Task 7** Work in pairs. Student A look at this text about unusual driving laws. Student B look at File 9 on page 102. Ask each other questions to complete your text. Use a dictionary and be prepared to explain difficult words to your partner in English!

What do taxi drivers *have to* carry in Australia?   What can't drivers do in Alaska?



## Unusual driving laws of the world

Some parts of the world have unusual driving laws. Some of these laws seem strange because they are very old – others just seem strange!

- 1 If taxi drivers in Finland play music in their cars while they are driving customers, they have to .....
- 2 Luckily for dogs, in Alaska, it is illegal to tie a dog to the roof of the car.
- 3 Women, if you go for a drive in California, don't forget that it is illegal to drive a car if you are wearing a housecoat. It is also useful to know that the speed limit for a vehicle without a driver is 60 miles / 80 km an hour!
- 4 If you take a taxi in Australia, ask the driver what is in the boot / trunk of the car. By law, it is compulsory for taxis to .....
- 5 Drivers in New Jersey will be happy to know that it is illegal to plant trees in the middle of the road.
- 6 If you go to New York, make sure you are happy with what you are wearing before you drive into town. It is illegal to .....
- 7 You have to think fast if you are driving in Oregon. In this American state, you can .....
- 8 It is not illegal to drink beer in Rhode Island but it is illegal to drive with beer in your car. Even if the beer isn't open, this is still an offence.