

ROAD EDUCATION



READING

15 ES Read the text about Road Education and Road Safety. Then answer the questions.

Are you a safe road traveller?

"I'm old enough to know what to do when I am on roads", "I heard enough about road safety at Primary School", "I don't have to get more Road Education: I know all about that"...

These are the comments from young people when they are asked if they want to know more about road safety. In spite of this,



children and young people are very often involved in road accidents so they must learn to be safe as pedestrians, bicycle riders, motorists and passengers.

To be safe as pedestrians, you must use your eyes, ears and common sense.

STOP one step back from the kerb. LOOK and LISTEN in all directions for approaching traffic. THINK about what you are doing and if it is safe to cross the road. You mustn't loiter on zebra, pelican or toucan crossings, it can be dangerous. You must walk straight across the road. When you ride your bicycle, you don't have to wear a helmet, but it can be very useful for your safety. Wear fluorescent accessories: they help other road travellers see you in poor light. In the dark your cycle must have white front and red back lights on. You mustn't carry a passenger, hold on to a moving vehicle, ride in a dangerous manner. Use cycle



tracks and toucan crossings. You must obey all traffic signs and traffic light signals. If you have a licence to ride a scooter or a moped, on all your journeys you and your passenger must wear a protective helmet. You don't have to just have your helmet on, you must fasten it securely.

When travelling by car, you mustn't think that wearing a seat belt is a matter of personal choice. It isn't. The absence of the seat belt is certainly a major cause of injuries on roads. Have a safe journey!

1. What are young people's opinions about Road Education?
2. Why do they have to learn to use the road system?
3. Why do you have to use your eyes, ears and common sense before crossing a road?
4. What must and mustn't you do while crossing a road?
5. What are the dangerous actions you mustn't do while riding your bike?
6. When do motorcyclists have to wear their helmets?
7. Is wearing the seat belt in a car a matter of personal choice?
8. What can the absence of the seat belt cause?

safety = sicurezza

more = di più

involve = coinvolgere

common sense = buon senso

kerb = bordo del marciapiede o della strada

loiter = indugiare

pelican crossings = attraversamenti pedonali regolati da un semaforo azionato dai pedoni

toucan crossings = attraversamenti pedonali e ciclabili regolati da un semaforo azionato dai pedoni e dai ciclisti

on = (qui) accese

fasten = allacciare

matter = questione

injuries = danni



LISTENING

16a **1.42** Listen to a police officer who is giving a lesson about Road Safety to Secondary School students. Tick the three items the officer says are causes of distraction while crossing a road.

1. Using technological gadgets
2. Talking with schoolmates
3. Playing ball games
4. Reading comics or magazines
5. Looking at advertising posters
6. Looking at beautiful people

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16b **1.42** Answer the questions choosing a, b or c.

1. Katy can't do without her iPod. What doesn't she have to do?
 - a. She doesn't have to turn it off.
 - b. She doesn't have to keep the volume so loud.
 - c. She doesn't have to take it to school.

2. Fred likes playing football. What doesn't he have to do?
 - a. He doesn't have to invite his friends for a football match.
 - b. He doesn't have to play football when there's a lot of traffic.
 - c. He doesn't have to play football even if the road isn't busy.
3. Richard likes pretty girls. What does he have to do?
 - a. He must forget they exist.
 - b. He must look at them after crossing the road.
 - c. He must take them to the other side of the road.

16c The officer uses the expressions: "This can go by the wayside" and "You must have your heads screwed on the right way". Do you know what they mean? Try to explain in your own words.

SPOKEN INTERACTION

17 Work in group of three. Think of your usual behaviour as pedestrians and as bicycle riders. In turn, ask and answer, using the notes below. Take notes of your answers.

Example: A Before crossing a road, how do you use your eyes?

B I look left and right, but not always. Sometimes I cross roads without looking in any direction.

When walking in the street or on a road

1. use your eyes: how
2. use your ears: how
3. use common sense: how
4. use safe places to cross a road: how often
5. respect the traffic lights: how often
6. be distracted: what / who

When riding a bike

1. wear a helmet: how often
2. wear fluorescent accessories: how often / what
3. check if the bike is OK: how often / who
4. carry a passenger: how often / usually who
5. ride in a dangerous way: how
6. use cycle tracks: how often



WRITING

18 Work in the same group of three as in exercise 17. Write a report about the results of your group. When your behaviour is not correct, write what you must, mustn't or don't have to do.

Example: Luca doesn't always look in all directions before crossing a road. He must always use his eyes and carefully look left and right to be sure the traffic has stopped.