

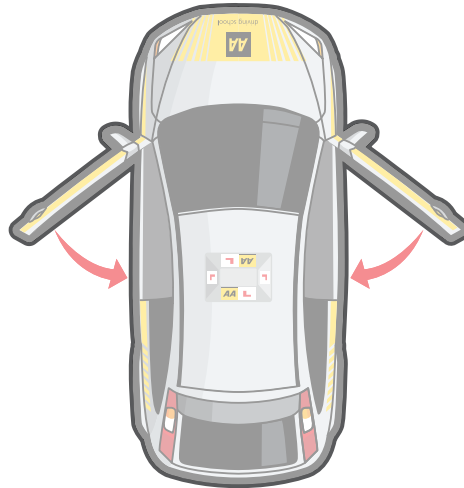
Cockpit checks

Before you drive you must carry out a quick check of your surroundings. This is known as the cockpit check, or DSSSM – doors, seat, steering, seatbelt and mirrors.

Use this sheet to remind you what you need to do every time you get in the car to drive.

Doors

- Make sure that all doors, including the bonnet and boot, are properly closed.



Seat

- Make sure the seat is properly positioned and you can reach all the controls.



Steering

- You should be able to reach the steering wheel with your arms slightly bent.
- Make sure that it does not obscure the speedometer.



Cockpit checks

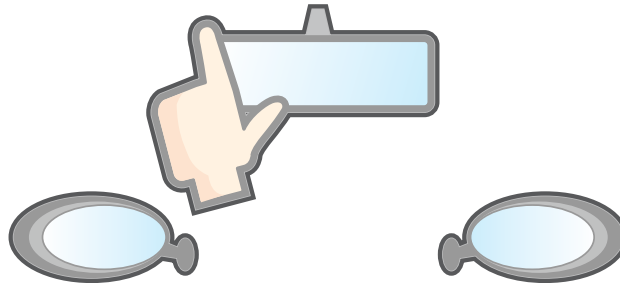
Seatbelt

- Everyone in the car must be wearing a seatbelt, make sure that it is properly adjusted and is tight across the body.
- Ensure that it is not twisted.



Mirrors

- Make the correct adjustments to ensure that as much as possible of the road behind you is visible in all three mirrors.
- You should be able to see the edge of the head restraint and the corners of the rear window in your internal mirror.



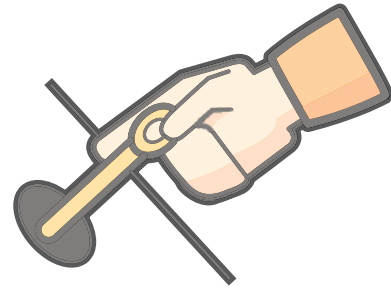
Show me, tell me

As part of your practical test, you will need to demonstrate your ability to carry out safety and maintenance checks on your car. You will be asked two 'show me, tell me' questions. Answering one or both of your questions wrongly will count as a driving fault in your test.

The possible questions and answers are listed below to help you prepare for this section of the practical test.

- Q1. Open the bonnet, identify where you would check the engine oil level and tell me how you would check that the engine has sufficient oil.**

Identify dipstick/oil level indicator, describe check of oil level against the minimum/maximum markers.



- Q2. Open the bonnet, identify where you would check the engine coolant level and tell me how you would check that the engine has the correct level.**

Identify high/low level markings on header tank (where fitted) or radiator filler cap, and describe how to top up to correct level.



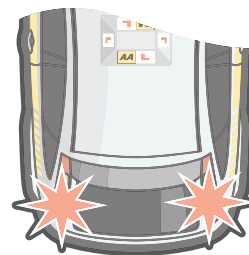
- Q3. Identify where the windscreen washer reservoir is and tell me how you would check the windscreen washer level.**

Identify reservoir and explain how to check level. Check your car's manual to see how to do this.



- Q4. Open the bonnet, identify where the brake fluid reservoir is and tell me how you would check that you have a safe level of hydraulic brake fluid.**

Identify reservoir, check level against high/low markings.

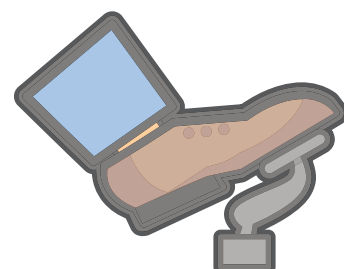


- Q5. How would you check that the brake lights are working on this car?**

Operate brake pedal, make use of reflections in windows, garage doors etc, or ask someone to help.

- Q6. How would you check that the brakes are working before starting a journey?**

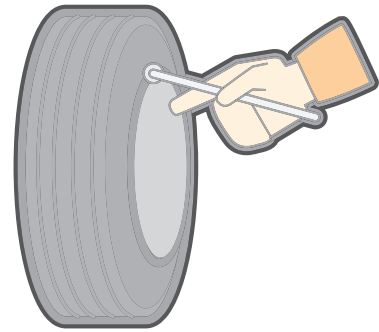
Brakes should not feel spongy or slack. Brakes should be tested as you set off. Vehicle should not pull to one side.



Show me, tell me

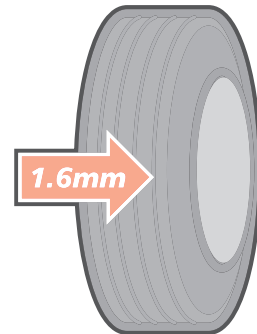
- Q7. Where would you find the information for the recommended tyre pressures for this car and how tyre pressures should be checked?**

Manufacturer's guide, use a reliable pressure gauge, check and adjust pressures when tyres are cold, don't forget spare tyre, remember to refit valve caps.



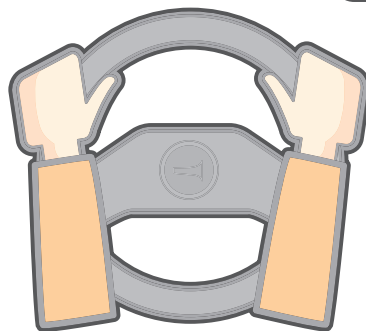
- Q8. How would you check the tyres to ensure that they have sufficient tread depth and that their general condition is safe to use on the road?**

No cuts and bulges, 1.6mm of tread depth across the central ¾ of the breadth of the tyre and around the entire outer circumference.



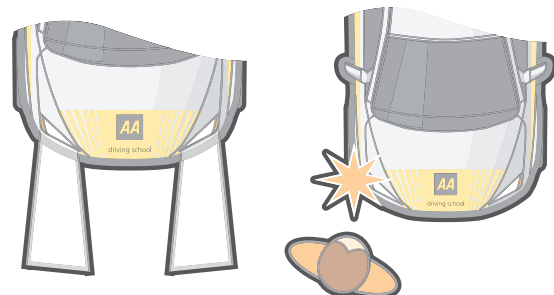
- Q9. Explain how you would check that the power-assisted steering is working before starting a journey?**

If the steering becomes heavy the system may not be working properly. Before starting a journey two simple checks can be made. Gentle pressure on the steering wheel, maintained while the engine is started, should result in a slight but noticeable movement as the system begins to operate. Alternatively turning the steering wheel just after moving off will give an immediate indication that the power assistance is functioning.



- Q10. How would you check that the headlights and tail lights are working?**

Operate switch (turn on ignition if necessary), walk round vehicle.



- Q11. How would you check that the direction indicators are working?**

Apply the indicators or hazard warning switch and walk around the vehicle to check functioning of all indicators.

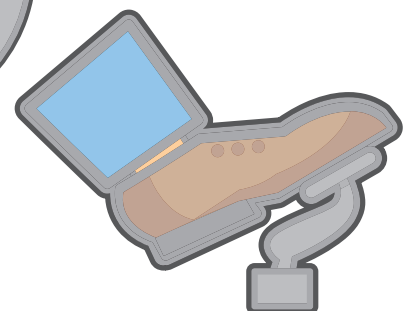
- Q12. How would you check that the horn is working (off road only)?**

Check is carried out by using control (turn on ignition if necessary).



- Q13. How would you check the parking brake for excessive wear?**

Demonstrate by applying parking brake that when it is fully applied it secures itself, and is not at the end of the working travel.

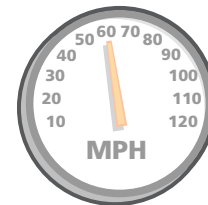
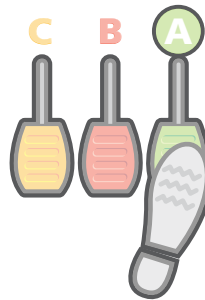


Controls and instruments

While driving, you will need to concentrate on what is going on around you. So knowing where all the controls are, and being able to use them easily, should be second nature to you. Use this sheet to remind you of the location of the controls and instruments and what they do.

Accelerator

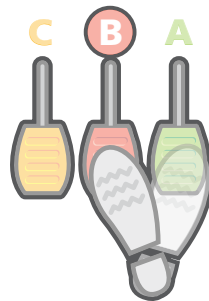
- Known as gas pedal
- Controls engine power
- Operated with right foot
- Light, sensitive pressure
- Gentle use for eco-driving



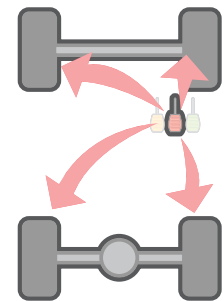
More gas,
more power

Footbrake

- Slows and stops the car
- Operates on all four wheels
- Shows the brake light
- Pivot the right foot
- Use progressively
- Use in conjunction with mirrors



Mirrors,
brake lights



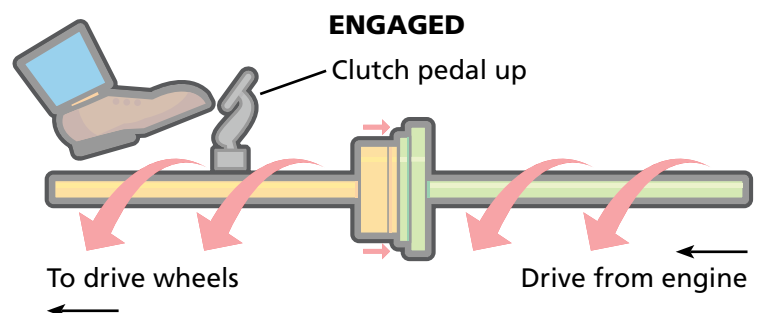
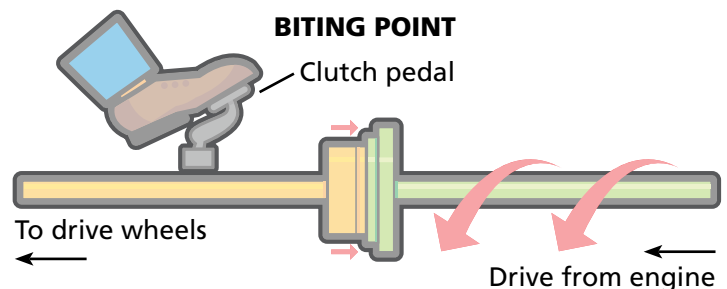
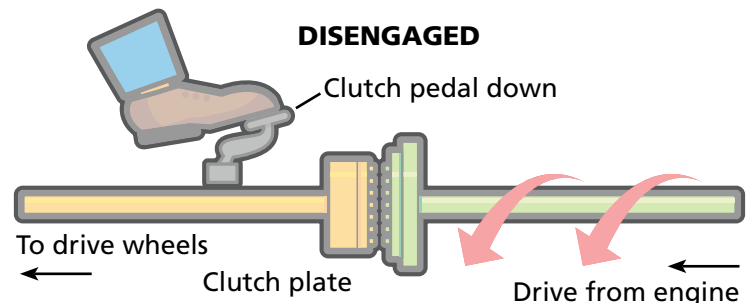
All four wheels

Clutch

- Breaks the link between the engine and the wheels
- Operate with the left foot
- Use gently and progressively

Smooth operation of the clutch

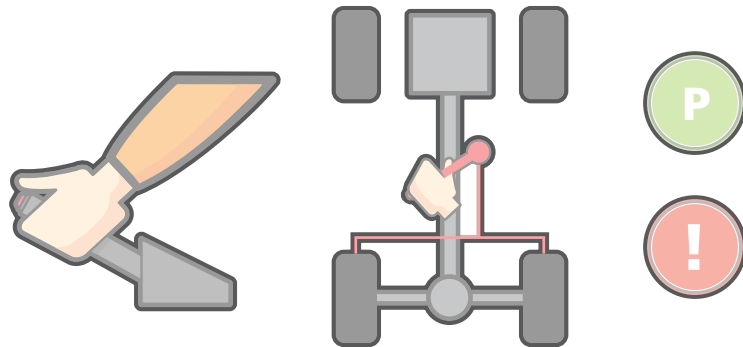
- Listen to the engine
- Balance clutch and gas
- Pause momentarily as clutch engages during gear changes
- Use clutch-control for low speed manoeuvring



Controls and instruments

Handbrake

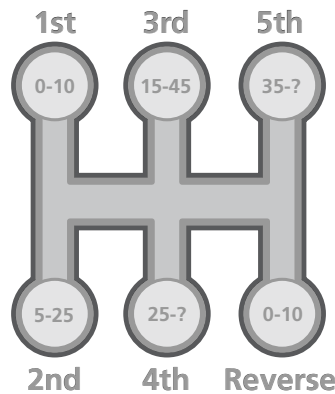
- Use when waiting or parking
- Works on rear wheels only
- Use button when applying
- Secured by ratchet



Rear wheels only

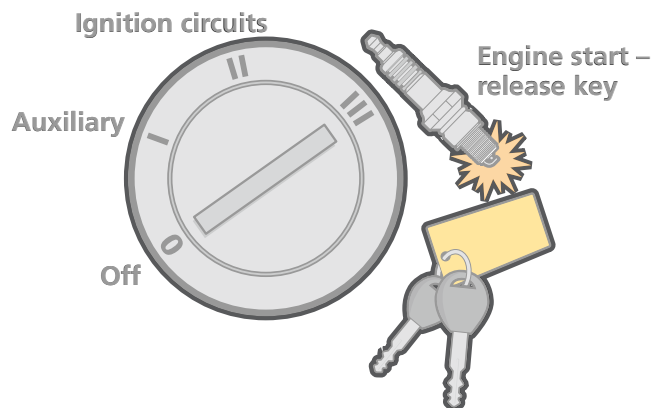
Gear lever

- Each gear has its own speed range
- Use the gear that fits speed and road conditions, skipping intermediate gears as necessary
- Lower gears deliver more power
- Palming method for accurate gear changes
- Look well ahead when changing gear
- Use neutral when parked



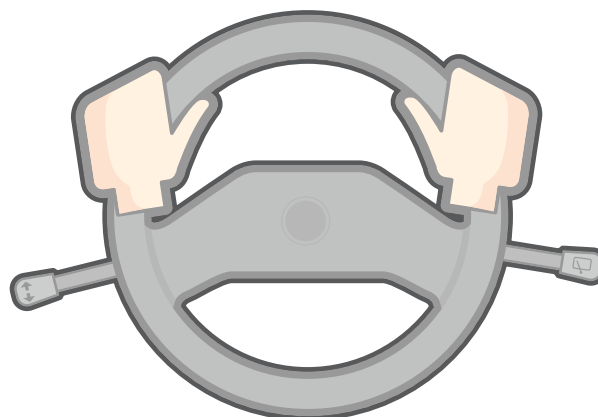
Engine start

- Handbrake / neutral check
- Ignition switch (3 positions)
- Release key on starting



Steering wheel

- Hands at ten-to-two
- Light grip, thumbs on rim
- Pull and push
- Look where you want to go, let your hands follow your eyes



Indicators

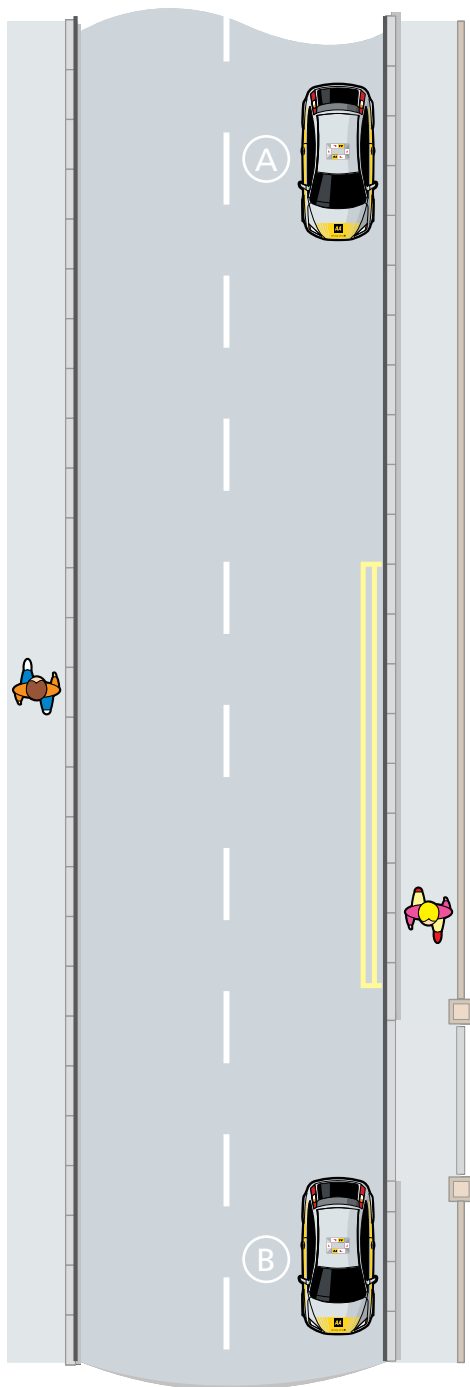
- Fingertip control
- Move the stalk in the same direction you turn the wheel

Moving off and stopping

What do you need to do to move off and stop safely and confidently? Use this sheet to help you think about the process.

Draw the different stages involved for driving the car from point A to point B. Write down what you need to be aware of and what you need to do while moving off and stopping.

You might like to show this to your instructor to talk through at your next lesson.

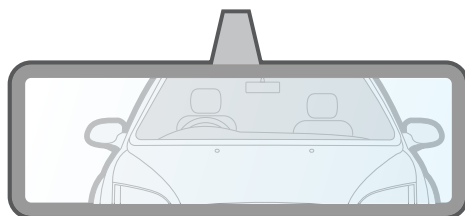
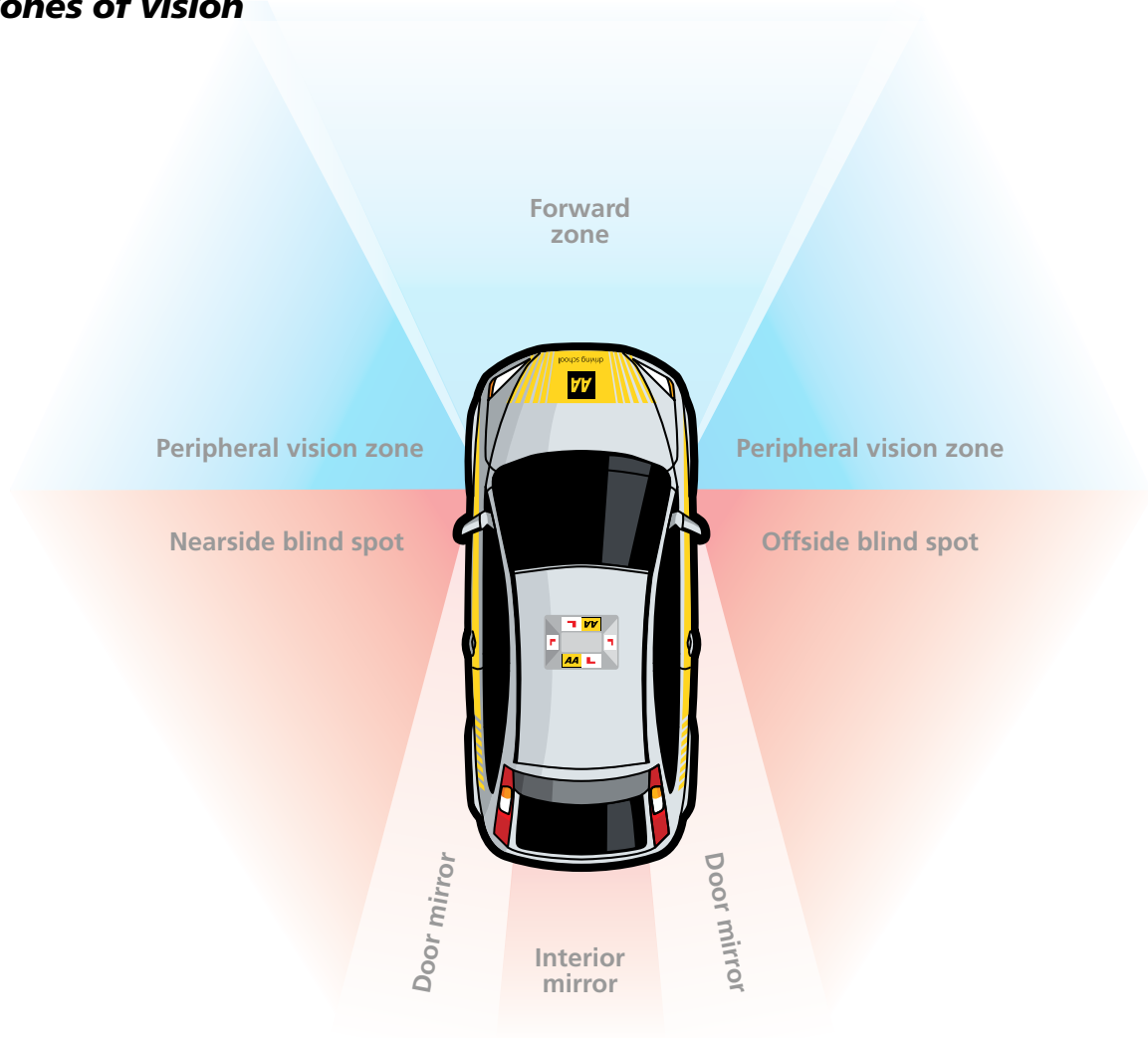


A large rectangular area with horizontal lines for writing notes.

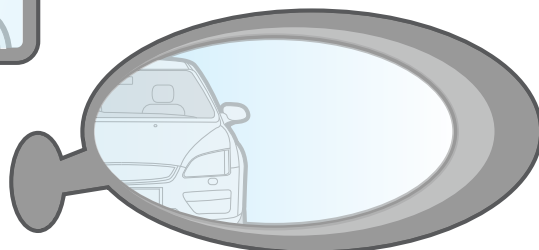
Mirrors

Effective, well-timed and regular observation of everything around you is a vital part of a safe driving routine. Use this sheet to remind you what you need to be aware of every time you get in the car to drive.

Zones of vision



Interior mirror/view
Flat glass



Door mirror view
Convex glass

Speed

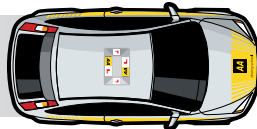
You must always make sure that you are travelling at an appropriate speed for the road and traffic conditions. When safe to do so, you should aim to drive at the speed limit, making good progress and ensuring that you are not holding up other road users.

The diagram below shows the thinking and stopping distance needed for different speeds.



Thinking distance + Braking distance

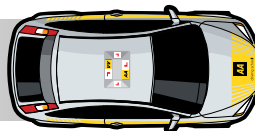
6 metres + 6 metres



= 12 metres (40 feet) or 3 car lengths



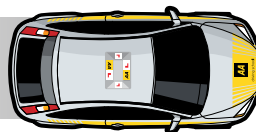
9 metres + 14 metres



= 23 metres (75 feet) or 6 car lengths



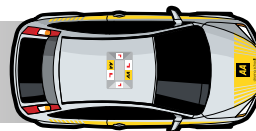
12 metres + 24 metres



= 36 metres (120 feet) or 9 car lengths



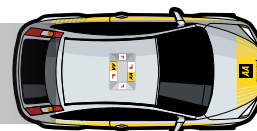
15 metres + 38 metres



= 53 metres (175 feet) or 13 car lengths



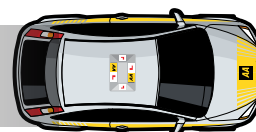
18 metres + 55 metres



= 73 metres (240 feet) or 18 car lengths



21 metres + 75 metres

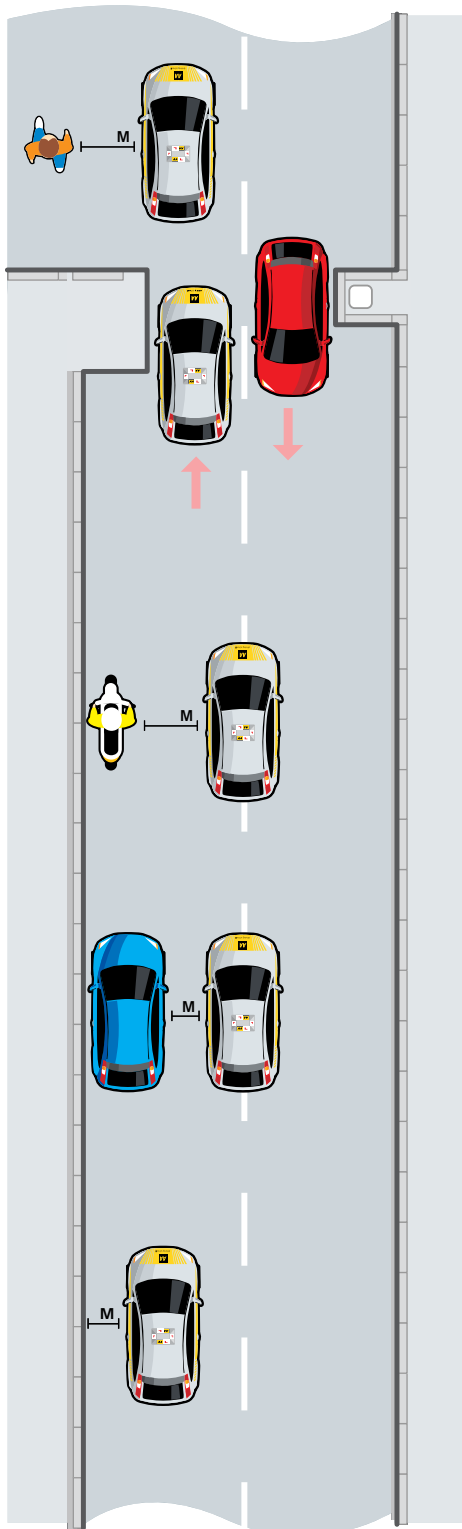


= 96 metres (315 feet) or 24 car lengths

Safe positioning

The position you take up in the road is not just important for your safety, it is also very important for the safety of other road users. When you're driving you must make the right judgments when it comes to where you are on the road, the conditions around you and what's ahead of you.

Fill in the missing distances on the diagram and write down what you need to do when encountering other road users and pedestrians.



A large rectangular area with horizontal lines for writing.

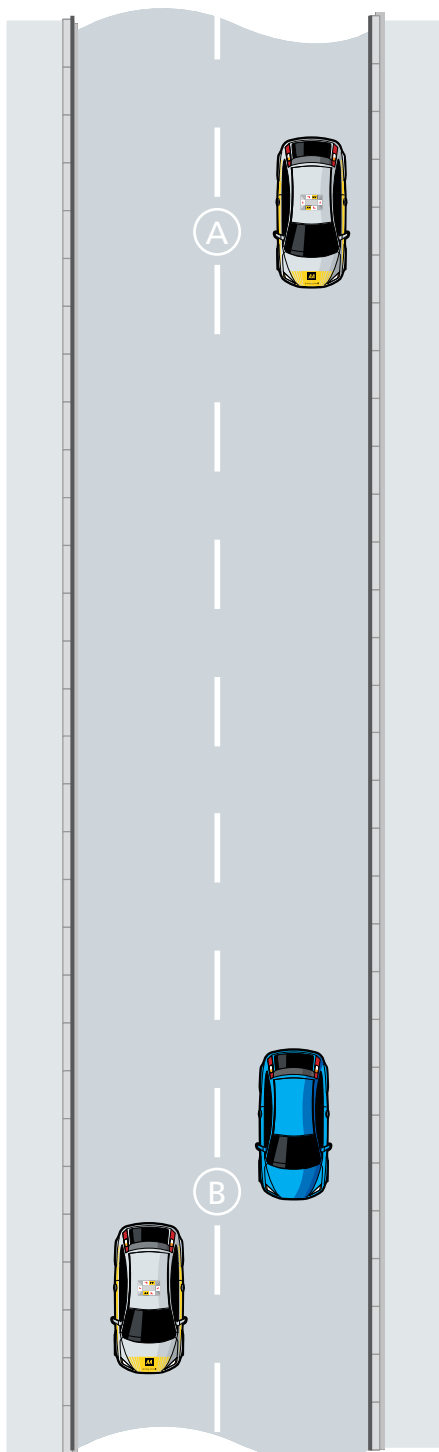
Other traffic

Being aware of other traffic on the road and knowing how to deal with them, when you meet, overtake or cross their path, is a must.

Use this sheet to indicate how you would firstly overtake, and secondly cross the path of an oncoming vehicle. Draw the different stages involved for driving the car from point A to point B. Write down what you need to be aware of and what you need to do.

You might like to show this to your instructor to talk through at your next lesson.

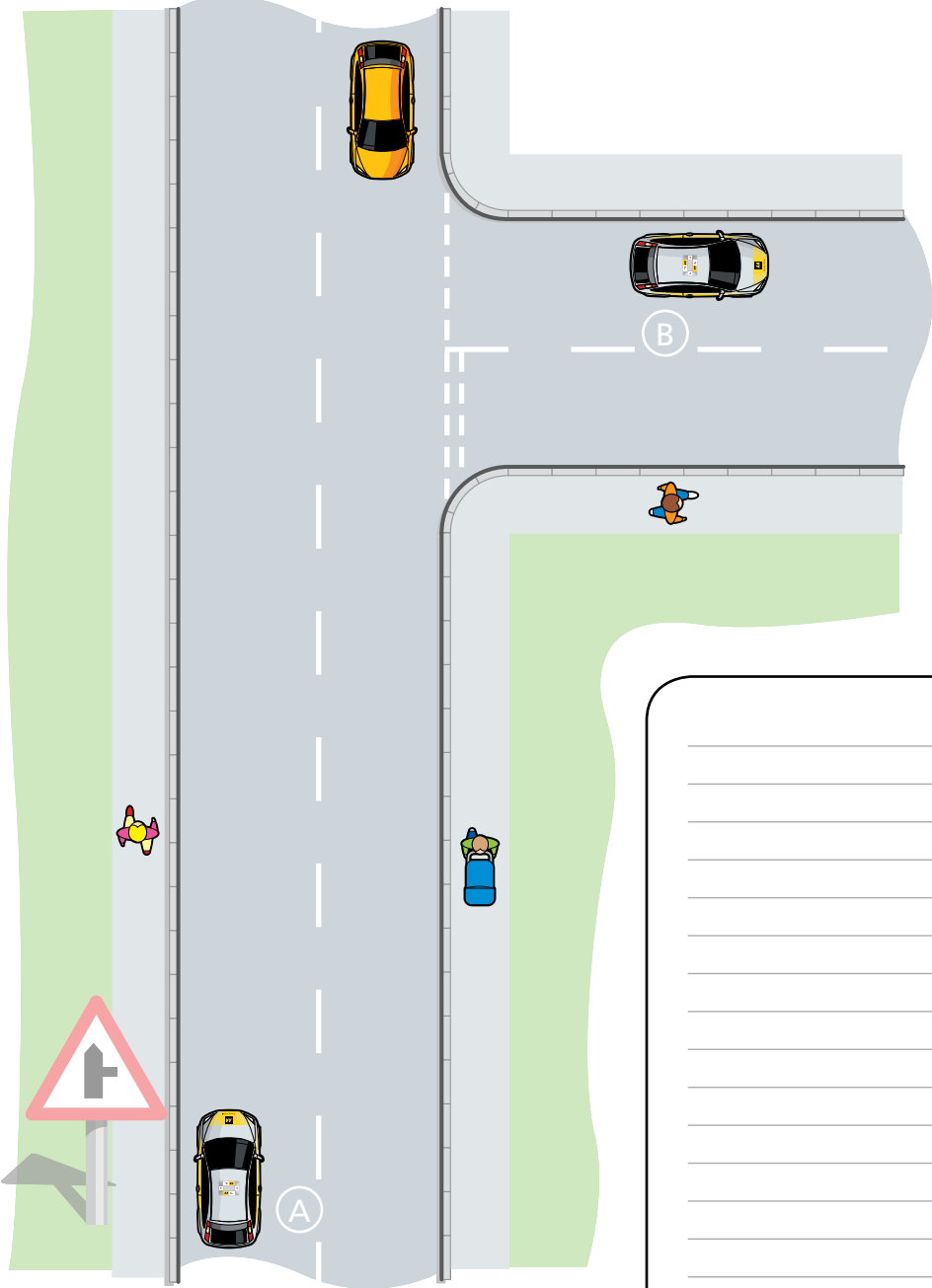
Overtaking



A large rectangular area with horizontal lines for writing, intended for drawing and notes related to the overtaking exercise.

Other traffic

Crossing the path of oncoming vehicles



A large rectangular area with horizontal lines for writing, intended for students to describe the traffic situation or provide answers to questions related to the diagram.

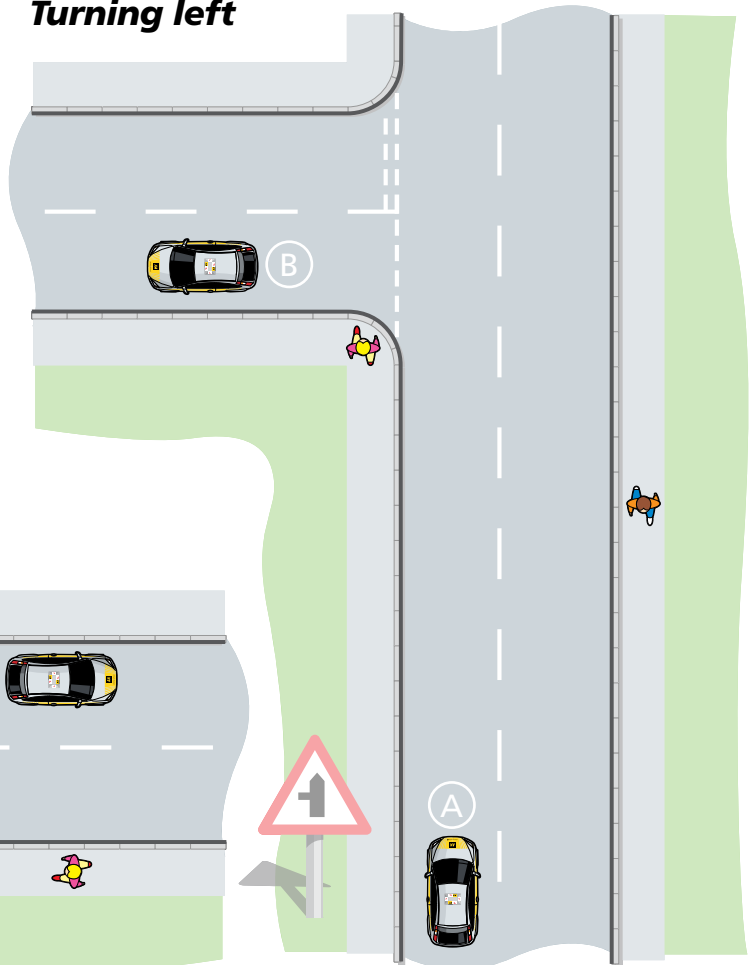
Junctions

There are many different types of junction. You need to be able to negotiate any junction on any type of road safely and without holding up other traffic.

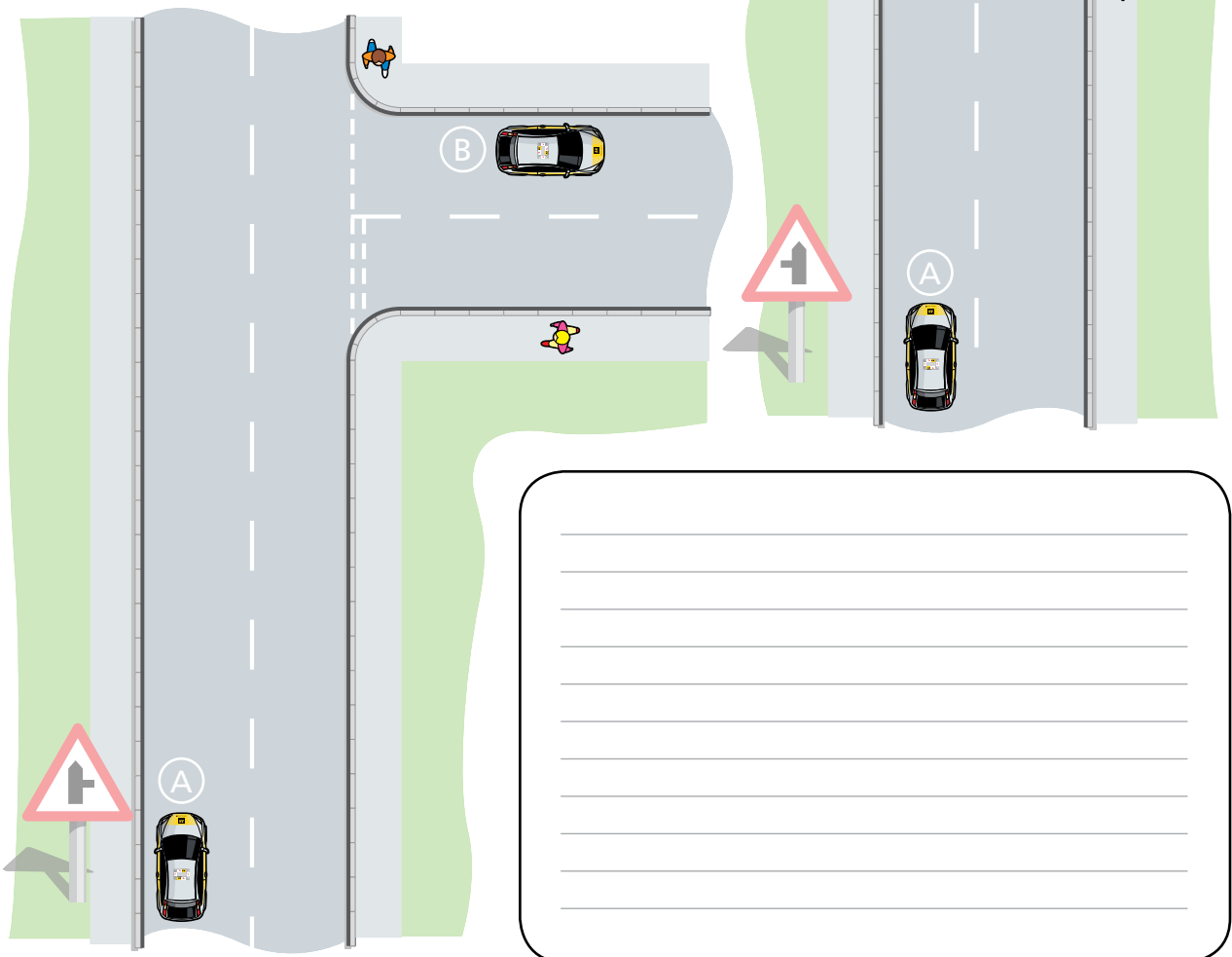
Draw the different stages involved for driving the car from point A to point B. Write down what you need to be aware of and what you need to do.

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Turning left

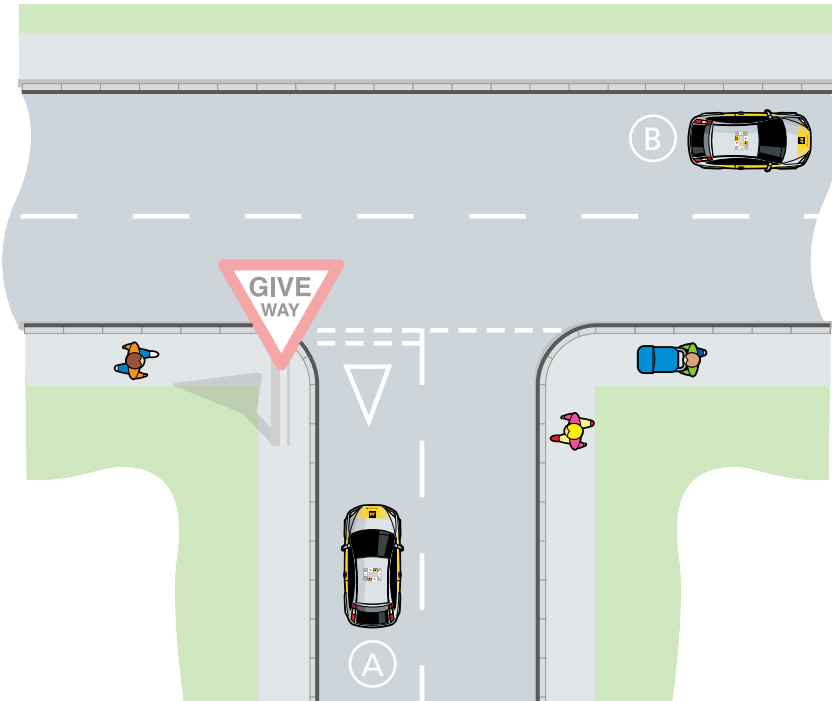


Turning right



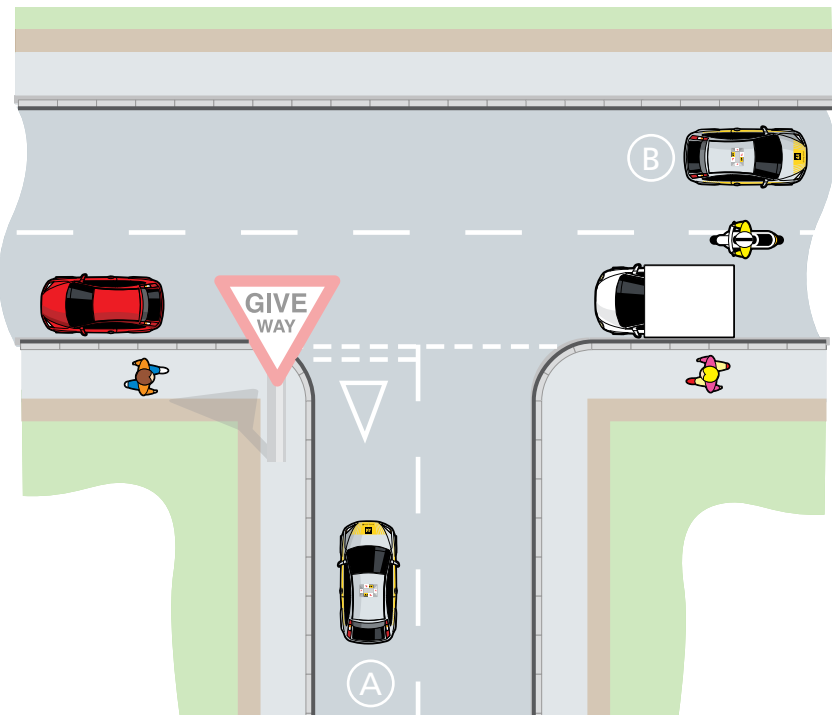
Junctions

T-junction Emerging – open



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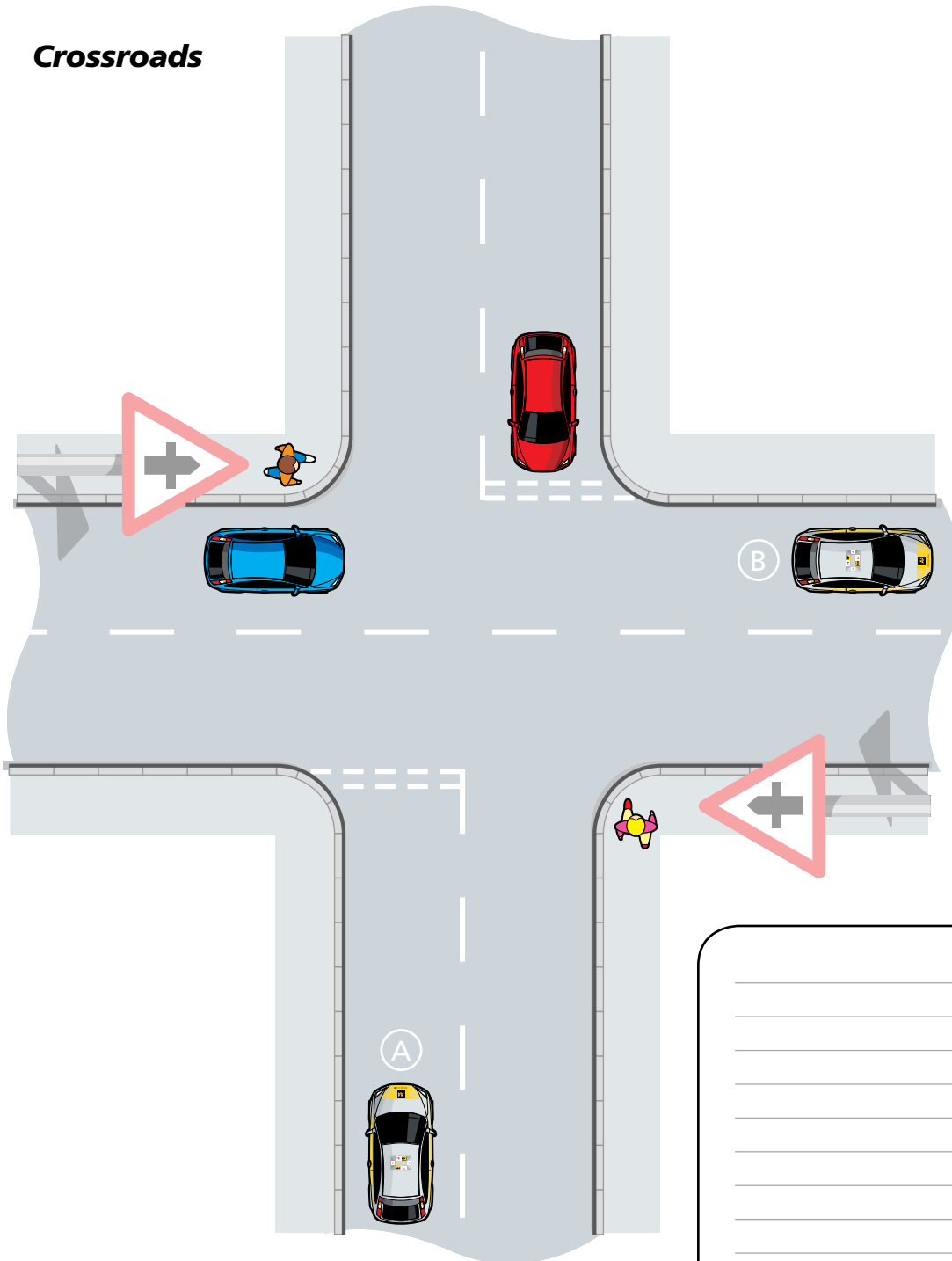
T-junction Emerging – closed



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Junctions

Crossroads



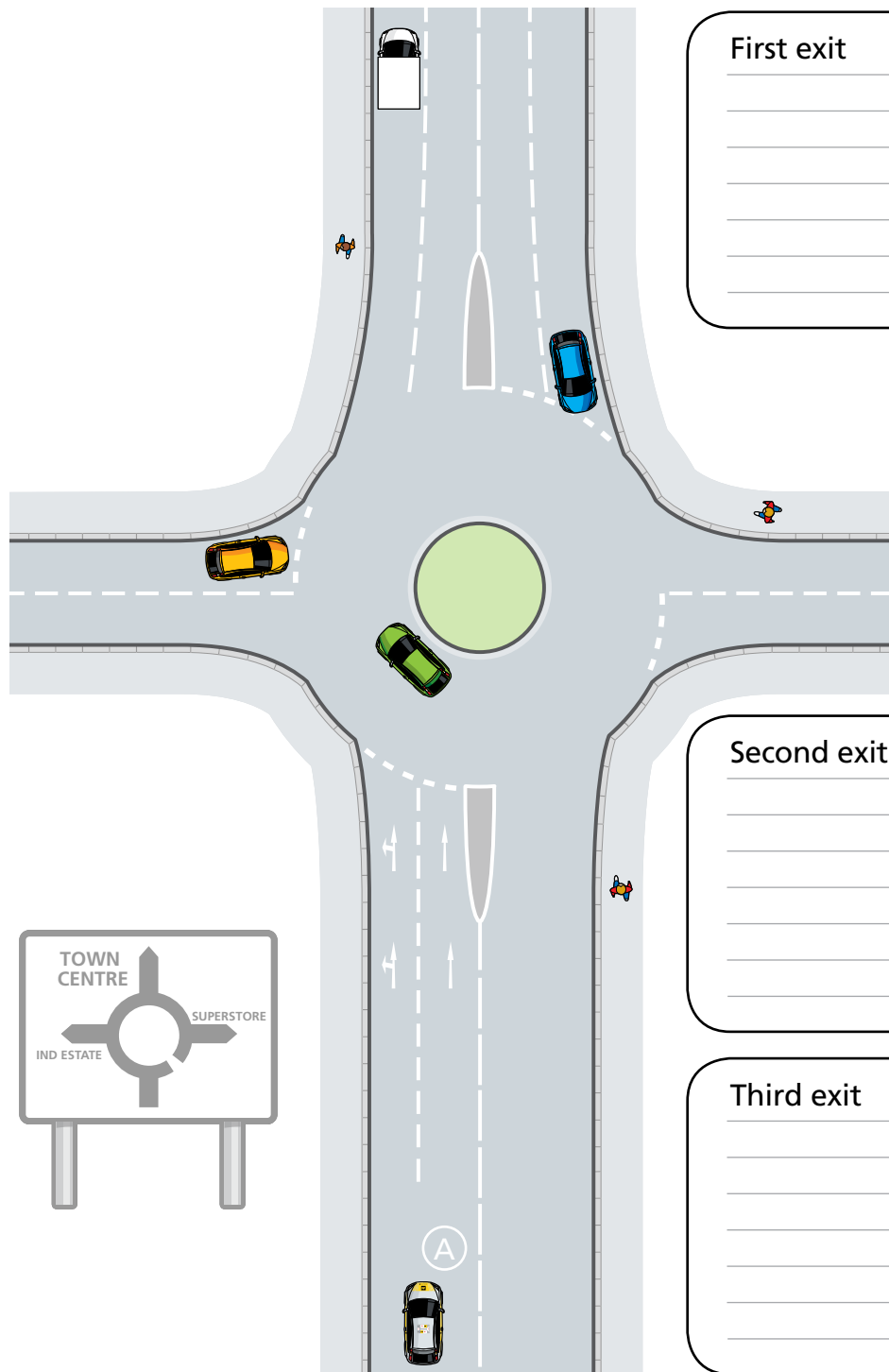
A large rectangular box with rounded corners and a black border, containing ten horizontal lines for writing.

Roundabouts

You must approach roundabouts at a safe speed, taking the appropriate position on the road and indicating correctly. It is important to keep moving, no matter how slowly, if at all possible – a roundabout is designed to keep traffic flowing smoothly.

Draw the different stages involved for driving the car from point A and leaving on different roads. Write down what you need to be aware of and what you need to do.

You might like to show this to your instructor to talk through at your next lesson.



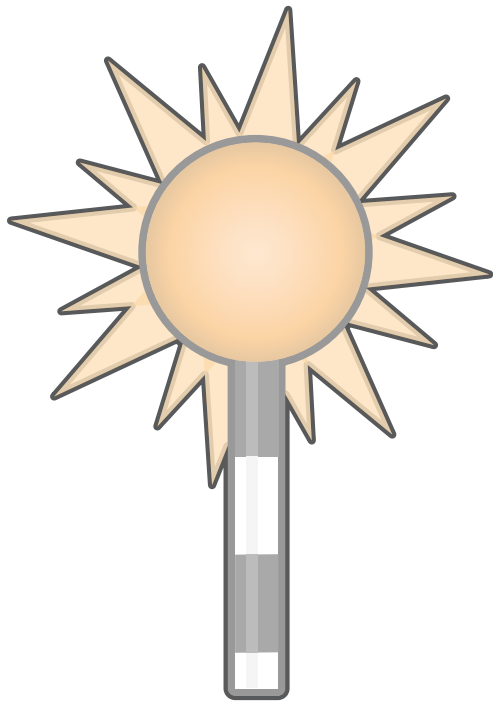
First exit

Second exit

Third exit

Pedestrian crossings

There are five main kinds of pedestrian crossings. Identify each one and note down how it differs from the others and what you need to do when approaching each crossing.

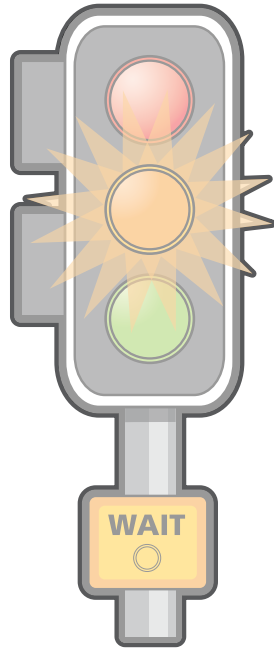


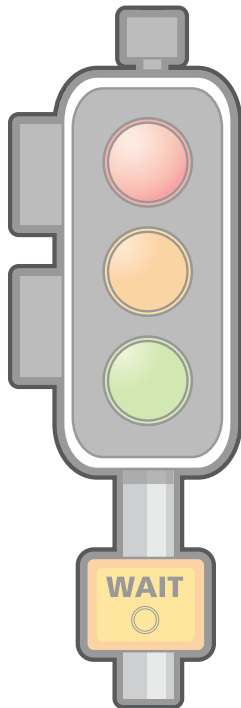
A large rectangular box with rounded corners, containing ten horizontal lines for writing notes.



A large rectangular box with rounded corners, containing ten horizontal lines for writing notes.

Pedestrian crossings



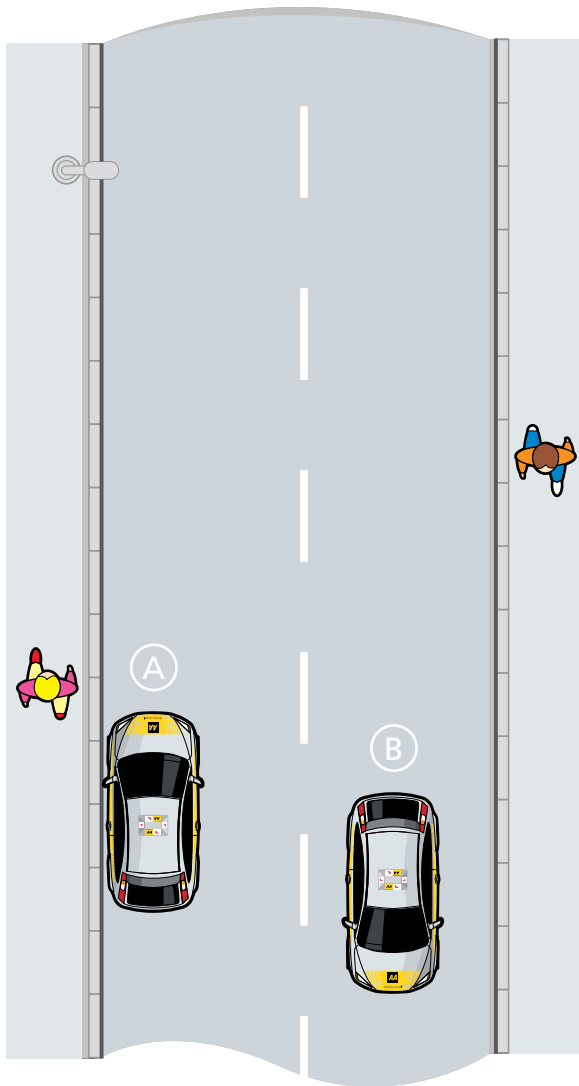


Turning the vehicle

What do you need to do to turn your vehicle around in a controlled and safe manner?

Draw the different stages involved for manoeuvring the car from point A to point B.
Write down what you need to be aware of and what you need to do.

You might like to show this to your instructor to talk through at your next lesson.



A large rectangular area with horizontal lines for writing, intended for the student to draw the stages of turning the car and write down what they need to be aware of and what they need to do.

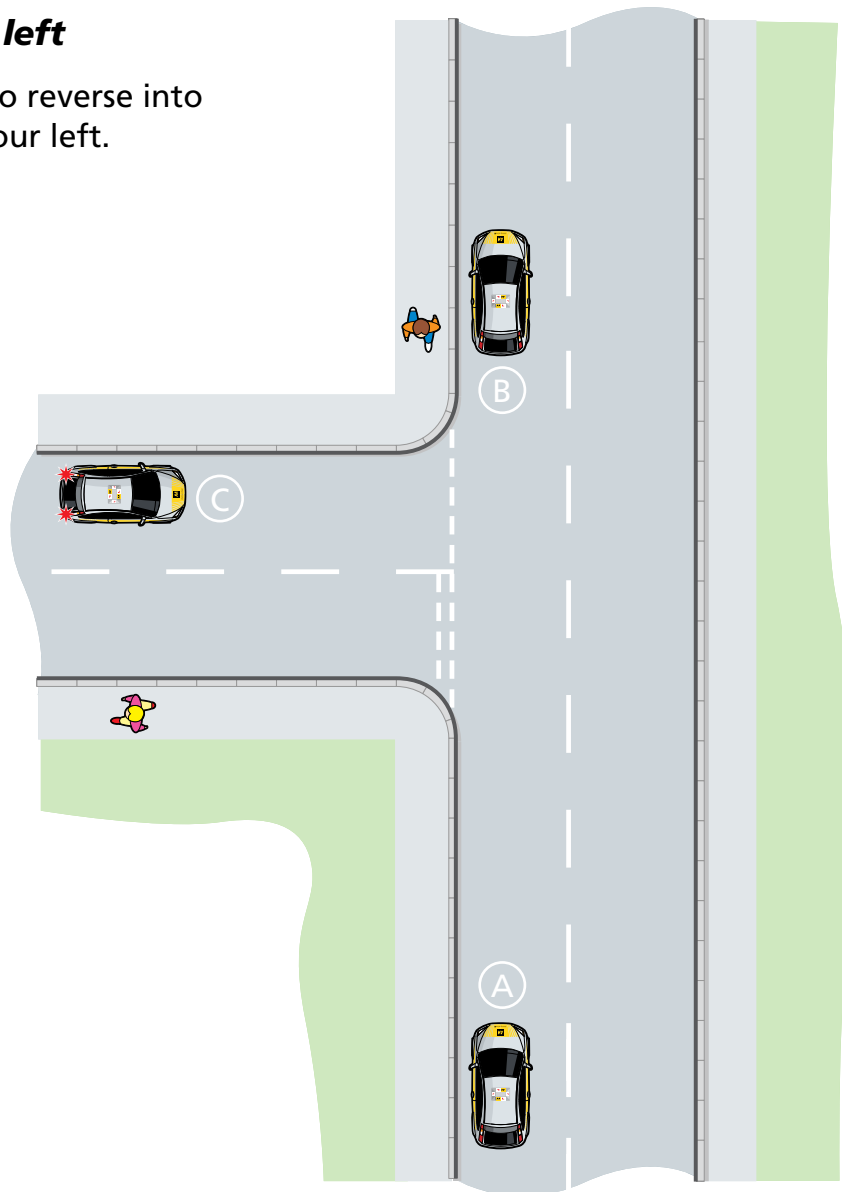
Reversing

What do you need to do to reverse your car successfully? On each of the examples draw the different stages involved for manoeuvring the car from point A to point B to point C. Write down what you need to be aware of and what you need to do. It might be useful to note down what you should not do during these manoeuvres as well.

You might like to show this to your instructor to talk through at your next lesson.

Reversing left

Show how to reverse into a road on your left.

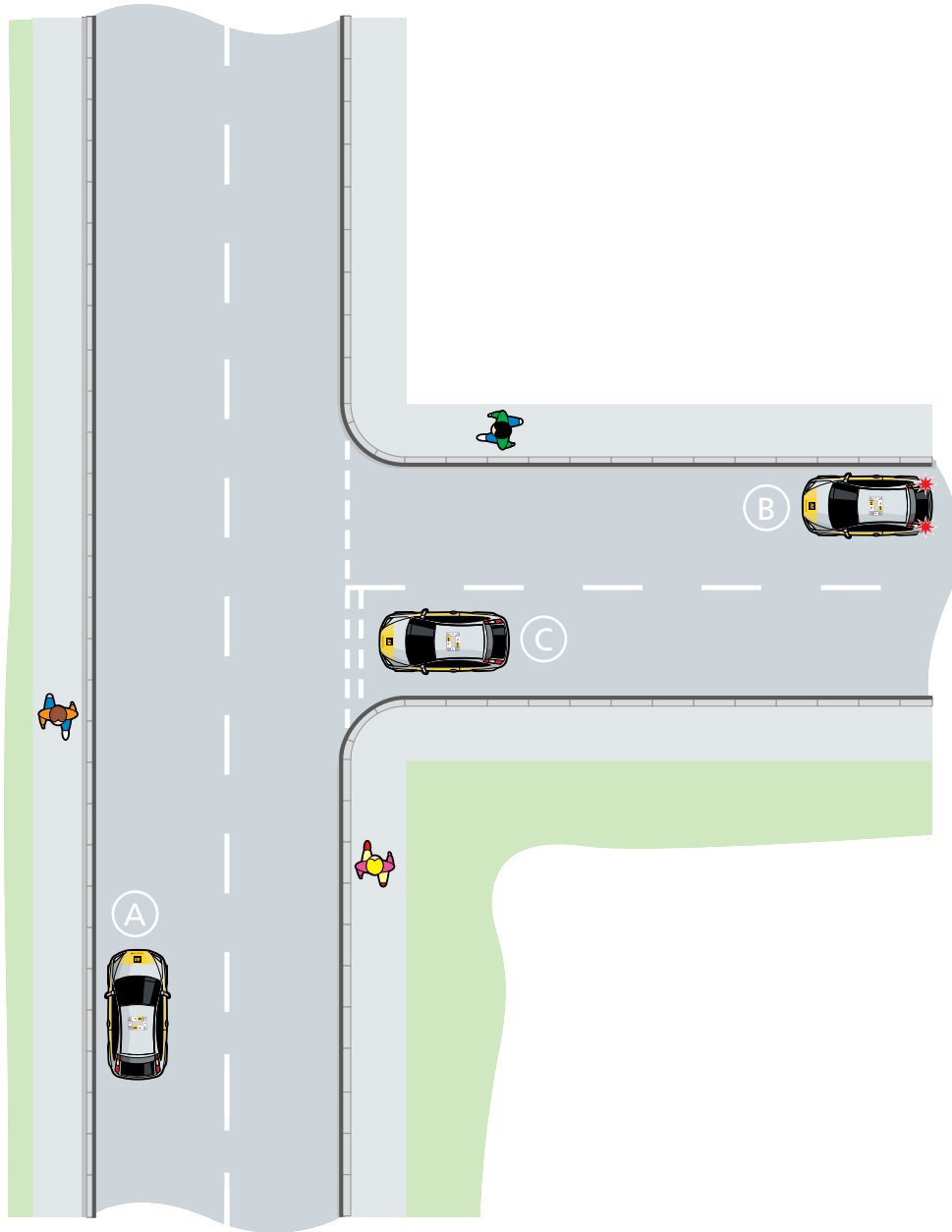


Handwriting area with horizontal lines for notes.

Reversing

Reversing right

Show how to reverse into a road on your right.

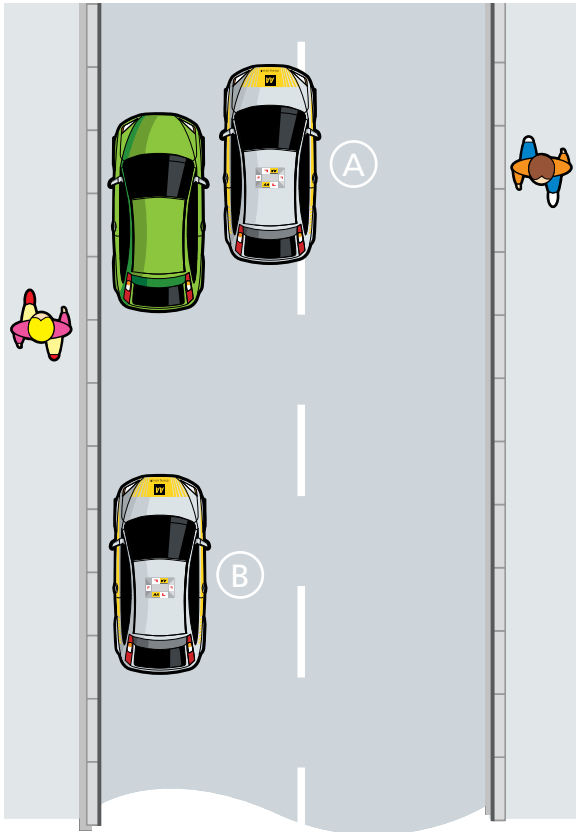


Handwriting practice area with seven horizontal lines.

Parking

What do you need to do to park your car in a bay or by the side of the road?
Draw the different stages involved for driving the car from point A to point B.
Write down what you need to be aware of and what you need to do.

You might like to show this to your instructor to talk through at your next lesson.



Blank lined area for writing notes.



Blank lined area for writing notes.

Emergency stop

Effective scanning and reading of the road ahead will cut down on the likelihood of having to make an emergency stop. But sometimes the unexpected does happen and it may become important to bring your car to a stop as quickly as possible, maintaining full control at all times.

Write down what you need to do when stopping in an emergency and how to move off afterwards.

