

# Safe Driving Lesson Plan

## Persuasive Essay

**Grade level:** 10-12

**Subject area:** English

**Duration:** 20-50 minutes

### Objectives:

Students will do the following:

- Study the potential dangers, risks and statistics associated with a variety of road safety issues such as speeding, driving while distracted and driving while drowsy.
- Discuss ways in which behaviors affect safe driving, and ways to improve driving safety.

### Materials:

- Impact Posters
- Impact Probability Wheel
- Impact DVD mini-documentaries

### Procedures:

### Vocabulary

#### **Defensive driving**

*Definition: Anticipating danger to avoid accidents.*

Basic Concepts of defensive driving:

- Slow down, especially during inclement weather conditions or at night
- Do not follow too closely
- Concentrate on your driving at all times
- Never drive if you are impaired by lack of sleep or being under the influence
- Check your mirrors frequently
- Assume that drivers will run through stop signs or red lights at intersections and be prepared to react
- Keep a watchful eye on pedestrians and pets along the roadside.

#### **Speed Limit**

*Definition: the maximum permitted speed, usually set by law, at which a vehicle may travel on a specific stretch of road.*

#### **Distraction**

*Definition: something that interferes with concentration or takes attention away from something else*

#### **Responsibility**

*Definition: a form of trustworthiness; the trait of being answerable to someone for something or being responsible for one's conduct*

#### **Reckless**

*Definition: marked by a lack of thought about danger or other possible undesirable consequences*

### Assignment:

Pick one of the words from the list above and write a five-paragraph persuasive essay, focusing on the importance of safe driving.

### Standards

The following standards are from the American Association for Health Education for students in grades 9-12 and supported by the National Council of Teachers of English:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the elements of discourse (e.g., purpose, speaker, audience, form) when completing narrative, expository, persuasive, or descriptive writing assignments.
- Structure ideas and arguments in a sustained, persuasive, and sophisticated way and support them with precise and relevant examples.