

Lesson plan

Topic: Car insurance

Level: E3 /Intermediate 1/ B1

Time: 2 hours

Aims

- to raise students' awareness of the need for car insurance when driving in the UK
- to develop vocabulary related to car insurance
- to give speaking practice of applying for an insurance quote over the phone

Introduction

This lesson plan is about raising the students' awareness of the need for car insurance when driving in the UK.

Preparation

Worksheets 1 and 2 – print out and cut up for each pair.

Worksheet 3 – print out the appropriate version for each student.

Task 4 - If you have an interactive whiteboard, display any YouTube video of an insurance price comparison advertisement. Alternatively bring in some magazine adverts with familiar images from price comparison websites.

Warmer – (10 mins)

- Write the phrase 'Driving in the UK' on the board and tell students they have 5 minutes to write down as many words and phrases as possible about 'Driving in the UK'.
- Elicit feedback by pooling ideas on the board.
- Make note of any ideas that relate to car insurance.

Task 1 – Quiz – What do you know about driving in the UK? (20 mins)

- Put students into groups of 3 or 4 and tell them you are going to test more of their knowledge of driving in the UK by doing a quiz. You can read the questions aloud, or write them on the board if you think it will be too difficult otherwise.

Quiz questions: What do you know about driving in the UK?

- 1 What's the minimum driving age in the UK?
- 2 What's the maximum driving age in the UK?
- 3 What does the sign 'L' mean on a car?
- 4 What does the sign 'P' mean on a car?
- 5 Can you name 3 documents that you must have if you drive a car?
- 6 Do you need insurance to drive in the UK?
- 7 If you own a car, but don't use it, do you need insurance?

- Elicit the answers and feed back any common errors you heard during the quiz and group discussion.
- Highlight any ideas from the warmer that relate to 'Car Insurance' (if there are any) and explain that this will be the focus of the rest of the lesson.

Task 2 – Vocabulary Building (20 mins)

- Put students in pairs and give each pair a set of the cut up vocabulary cards from **Worksheet 1**. Tell students to match words and expressions related to car insurance with their definitions.
- Elicit feedback of the answers and check pronunciation and word stress.
- **Differentiation** Some students may prefer to work with a version of **Worksheet 1** that is not cut up. Allow less confident students to use monolingual dictionaries. Others should use English-English dictionaries.

Task 3 – Discussion Activity ‘Understanding types of insurance (25 mins)

- Put students in pairs and hand out the sets of cut up cards from **Worksheet 2**.
- Tell students to look at the scenarios and explain that they have 10 minutes to match them with the correct answers.
- Elicit feedback and encourage an open class discussion by asking students if they were surprised by any of the answers.

Task 4 – Speaking Activity ‘Getting an insurance quote on the phone’ (35 mins)

Introduction

- Explain to the students that now they know they **must** have car insurance, the next step is to get the best price. Tell the students that they can phone different car insurance companies and get a quote, or find quotes online through price comparison websites.
- Elicit some famous examples, using YouTube sites or the magazine adverts you brought in.
- Elicit the advantages and disadvantages of price comparison websites (easy, saves ringing lots of insurance companies. **But** you only get information about companies which have paid to be included on the website).
- Tell the students that the way to find the best price is to phone different companies themselves.

Prepare the questions

- Hand out the most appropriate version of **Worksheet 3** and monitor as students complete them. Worksheet 3a (matching questions) for weaker students, Worksheet 3b (jumbled questions) for the majority and Worksheet 3c (Write the questions) for stronger students.
- Encourage students to compare their answers (which are the same for all 3 worksheets).
- Elicit the answers. You can also model and drill the questions with appropriate intonation and pronunciation.
- Put students in pairs to practise asking and answering their questions.

Speaking practice

- Elicit difficulties with phone communication – no body language, no facial expressions, intimidating etc. Encourage students to share their own experiences.
- Organise the students in pairs so they are sitting back to back to simulate a phone conversation. They then ask/answer the questions and when that’s finished, swap roles.
- Monitor, correcting errors where required.
- Tell the students that they will practise the conversation again, but with a new partner. Ask students to try to make the phone call from memory.

Cooler (20 mins)**Game – ‘Back to the Board’**

- Put students into 2 teams, e.g. Red and Blue.
- A student from each team sits with their back to the board, facing their team.
- The teacher writes a word or phrase on the board.
- The other team members have to try to get their teammate to say the word on the board by defining it.
- The first student to put up their hand and say the word correctly, wins one point.
- This is repeated with new students now sitting with their backs to the board.

Sample vocabulary

fully comprehensive insurance

third party insurance

third party, fire and theft insurance

a cover note

model of car

no claims bonus

an insurance policy

an insurance claim

Extension activities / Homework

- Tell the students to go to the ESOLNexus website and complete the online tasks that relate to Car Insurance: <http://esol.britishcouncil.org/driving/driving-car-insurance>
- Encourage students to repeat the activities until their score is 100%. You can get your students to print off the score page, as evidence for their portfolios as part of their Individual Learning Plan.
- Students can complete other online activities related to ‘Driving in the UK’ at: <http://esol.britishcouncil.org/driving>
- Check this website for useful information about driving and insurance: http://www.gov.uk/en/Motoring/OwningAVehicle/Motorinsurance/DG_067630

Answers

Task 1 - What do you know about driving in the UK?

- 1 17
- 2 There is no maximum age.
- 3 Learner driver.
- 4 Probationer (new) driver.
- 5 Insurance (to show it's insured), MOT (to show it's roadworthy), Registration (to show who owns it).
- 6 Yes, you **must** have insurance.
- 7 Yes, unless you have a SORN certificate (Statutory Off Road Notification)

Task 4

Worksheet 3a/b/c

1. What make is your car - VW
2. What model is your car? – Golf
3. How old is your car? – 3 years old
4. How old are you? - 26
5. How long have you been driving? – For 5 years
6. Have you ever made an insurance claim before? – Yes
7. What happened? – My car window was broken, and the radio was stolen.
8. Which type of insurance cover do you want? Fully comprehensive