

Young drivers – Functional English tasks

Name _____ Date _____

Young drivers



As a young driver you are more at risk of being involved in collision in the first two years - and many collisions occur as a result of excess speed.

- 1 in 5 drivers crash within their first year of driving.
- 1 in 3 male drivers aged between 17 and 20 years crash in the first two years after passing their test.
- An 18 year old driver is more than three times as likely to be involved in a crash as a 48 year old driver.

Why?

Lack of experience

This is one of the main reasons. As new drivers gain more driving experience their accident rate begins to fall.

Attitude

Young drivers, especially men, tend to be over confident and are more likely to drive in risky ways: too fast, too close to the vehicle in front and dangerous overtaking. Young drivers consistently rate their own performance as above average and are more likely to regard 'good' driving as the ability to master the controls of the car at higher speeds.

Hazard Perception

Young drivers often have excellent vehicle control skills and fast reactions. However, they are poor at identifying potential hazards and assessing risk, and tend to overestimate their ability to avoid hazards and accidents. It takes new drivers up to two seconds longer to react to hazardous situations than more experienced drivers.

Peer pressure

Young drivers, especially men, who carry friends, are more likely to have a crash.

Gender

Novice male drivers have higher accident rates than novice female drivers, and are more likely to commit driving offences.

Source: www.rosipa.com

Young drivers – Functional English tasks



Name _____ Date _____

Discussion

The facts in the text mean that it is a good idea to raise the age at which people can learn to drive to 19 for women and 21 for men.

What do you think about this statement?

Questions

1. How many drivers crash in their first year of driving?
2. What happens when drivers become more experienced?
3. Name three ways in which the way young men drive is risky.
4. What are young drivers excellent at?
5. Why do **you** think that young drivers who have friends in the car are more likely to crash?
6. What is the purpose of the text?

Young drivers – Functional English tasks



Name _____ Date _____

Check your work and write your **neat copy** here.

A large, light gray rectangular area containing 20 horizontal lines for writing.