

Reasons the police stop cars

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Are the following sentences true (T) or false (F) ?

1. The car belongs to Ms Guo
2. Ms Guo was driving too fast
3. Ms Guo's light was broken
4. Ms Guo didn't pay a fine
5. The company can help Ms Guo fix the light.

What words do you think go in these gaps?

It's still your responsibility. ____ should be ____ ____ get in touch with the rental company and they ____ help ____ fix it. But please do get it fixed soon. If ____ stopped again, the officer will know that ____ got this warning because it's in the system.

Steps for a Police Officer –

1. Introduce yourself. Ask for driving licence and registration?
2. Explain why you have stopped the car/ Ask the driver if they know why
3. Discuss what you will do. (Write a ticket/ Give a warning)
4. Give back the driving licence and say goodbye

Bare Bones Lesson Plan

- 1. Ss brainstorm reasons police might stop cars in groups. Write them up on the board. Elicit a few more if Ss aren't feeling very creative.
 - 2. Play Ss a short listening extract - dialogue on next page. Ss check if any of their reasons were in the audio.
 - 3. Ss listen again and complete a short true/false task.
 - 4. Learners look at short section of audio and see if they can remember/predict/deduce what words are missing. Then play that short section and try to fill in some gaps. Focus on weak forms – some drilling/reading along with the text to accompany this.
 - 5. Ss try role-playing the task in pairs. (I made some silly paper police hats to help) Some steps to guide Ss. Demo with some strong Ss
6. Some delayed feedback and a quick reflection task to finish.

Dialogue

- Officer: Good evening ma'am. I'm Officer Davis with the City of London Police Department. Can I see your driving license and vehicle registration, please?
- Driver: Sure, here they are.
- Officer: Oh I see you're from China, Ms Guo. Is this your vehicle?
- Driver: No, it's a hire car. I'm just here on holiday for a week.
- Officer: Okay ma'am do you know why I've stopped you this evening?
- Driver: No, I don't. Was I speeding?
- Officer: No you weren't speeding, I stopped you because one of your lights, your left brake light, is out. Did you know that?
- Driver: No, I didn't.
- Officer: Okay. Please stay in the car and I'll be back with you in a minute.
- Officer: Okay, ma'am. I'm not going to give you a fine today, this is just a warning for the brake light. You need to get that fixed as soon as possible.
- Driver: Oh, but it's not my car and I've just picked it up...
- Officer: It's still your responsibility. You should be able to get in touch with the rental company and they can help you fix it. But please do get it fixed soon. If you're stopped again, the officer will know that you got this warning because it's in the system.
- Driver: Okay. I'm really sorry Officer. I'll contact the company now.
- Officer: And here's your license and registration.
- Driver: Thank you.
- Officer: Enjoy your holiday and drive safely!