

The Highway Transportation System

Every time you drive, you are part of an extensive system known as the Highway Transportation System

The three main parts of the Highway Transportation System (HTS)	People, vehicles, and highways.
The purpose of the HTS	To move people, vehicles, and cargo from one place to another in a safe, efficient, and economical manner.
Users of the HTS	Drivers, passengers, motorcyclists, bicyclists, pedestrians, trucks, buses, recreational vehicles, horse-drawn vehicles, and other users.
The least trained and most vulnerable users of the HTS	Pedestrians, some of whom don't drive and may not know driving rules and regulations.
Some dangers on the HTS	Children, the elderly, the distracted, animals, bad weather and poor road conditions.
The HTS is a sub-system of the National Transportation System (NTS)	The NTS is made up of the highway, rail, water, air, pipeline and transit systems.

The Highway Transportation System

1 Who do you know on the road right now?

2 How would you feel if someone violated the rules of the HTS and hurt someone in your family?

3 What behaviors do irresponsible users of the HTS demonstrate?

4 How can you be a responsible member of the HTS community?



Highway Transportation System: Language of the Road

1 How does communication get used on the road?

2 Why is communication important on the road?

3 Does effective communication have anything to do with safety?

4 How is it possible to successfully communicate when a driver cannot “speak” to the other drivers around him/her?



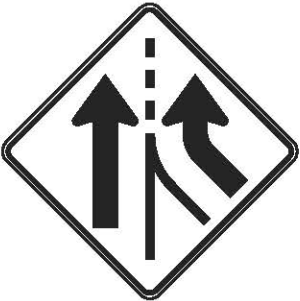


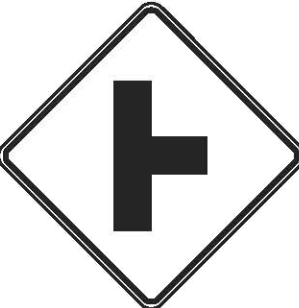

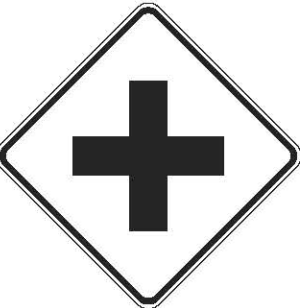


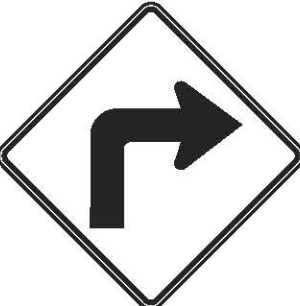

5 How do signs, signals, and pavement markings communicate to other drivers?

6 How do signs, signals, and pavement markings contribute to safety?

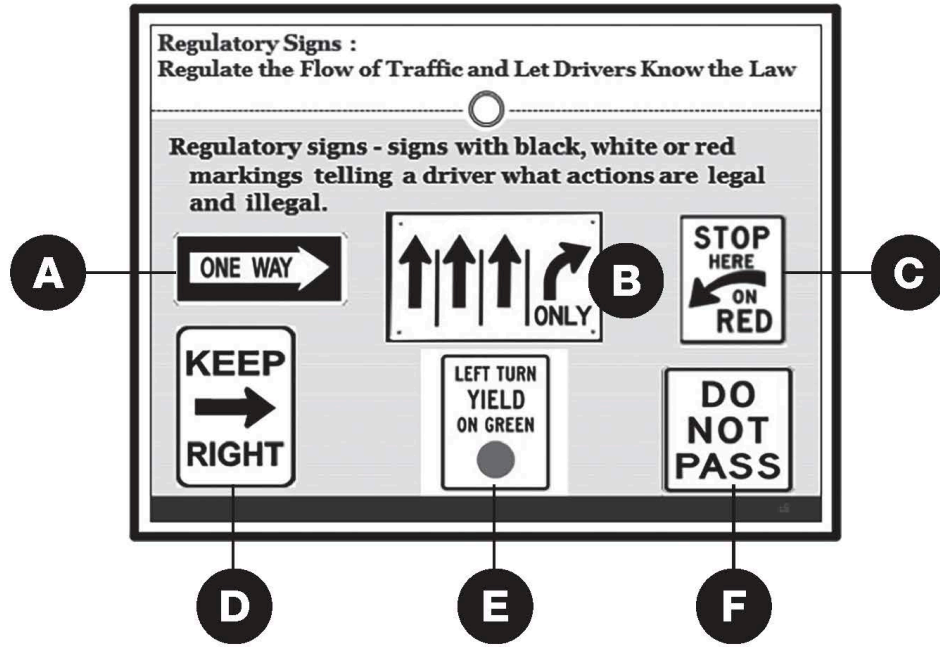
7 How would distraction impact the communication of signs, signals, and pavement markings?

Warning Signs

What are the messages being conveyed by these warning signs?

Regulatory Signs



1	What are each of the above signs telling a driver that he/she can or cannot do?	
A		D
B		E
C		F
2	Where might a driver find each of these types of signs?	
A		D
B		E
C		F
3	What does each sign allow a driver to do or prohibiting them from doing?	
A		D
B		E
C		F
4	What might the risks for each sign be if a driver failed to obey or recognize the sign?	
A		D
B		E
C		F

Toward Zero Deaths in Maryland - Speeding

1 Why do police officers feel so passionately about speeding and its effects?

2 According to the video, what are some of the most significant consequences of speeding?

3 What are at least three pro's and three cons of speeding?

4 What is your reaction to this statement made by Dr. Thomas Scalea from Shock Trauma, "Speeding makes everything worse. It amplifies the effects of all injuries. It takes a relatively minor set of injuries and makes them life-threatening"



Does Anybody Stop at Stop Signs?

Did most of the drivers in the video stop correctly? Did they stop safely and legally? Check off below whether the stop was legal or illegal and why you thought so.

1	Red SUV turning right	Legal	Illegal
Why?			
2	Green SUV turning right	Legal	Illegal
Why?			
3	Red Passenger car turning right	Legal	Illegal
Why?			
4	Gold van turning right	Legal	Illegal
Why?			
5	Blue passenger car turning right	Legal	Illegal
Why?			
6	Black passenger car turning right	Legal	Illegal
Why?			
7	Light brown passenger car turning right	Legal	Illegal
Why?			
8	Green passenger car turning left	Legal	Illegal
Why?			
9	Silver SUV turning right	Legal	Illegal
Why?			
10	Black pickup truck turning right	Legal	Illegal
Why?			
11	Gold SUV turning right	Legal	Illegal
Why?			

**What kinds of risks did these drivers create?
How could their errors be corrected?**

Special Lanes

HOV Lanes	HOV lanes may be separated from traffic by a concrete barricade or may be separated by a double white line and have a white diamond shape in the lane.
Bike Lanes	Usually separated by double lines and usually have BIKE LANE written in white in the lane. Bike lanes may also be indicated by a picture of a bicycle on the pavement.
School or Pedestrian Crossings	Indicated by a series of diagonal white lines. May also have yellow warning signs to prepare drivers to stop or pay attention.
Stop Line for Rail Crossings	Indicated by white lines. Drivers are also usually warned of an upcoming railroad crossing by a warning sign or a crossbuck.
Shared Left Turn Lanes	Special lanes for turning left from a highway and onto a highway.
Extension of Lane Indicators into an Intersection	Special guides through very large intersections.
Reversible Lanes	Special commuter lanes. They change direction depending on time and the direction of commuter traffic.