



Watch this!

Getting to know the law in my new country

Car accident

Teacher notes



One of a series of videos and worksheets containing listening comprehension activities Getting to know the law in my new country: Basic English version is produced by Footscray Community Legal Centre Inc. and AMES. The video contains information and advice about the most common legal issues experienced by recently arrived migrants and refugees: Driving on a learner's permit, Car accident, Power bills, Door to door sales, Travelling with the right ticket, Tenancy, Children and contracts, Centrelink obligations, Workplace injury, Correct wages, Family violence, Traffic infringements. Note that teachers do not need to know the legal implications of each issue, but may need to know how to refer appropriately.

This worksheet is based on the story *Car accident*.

Requirements

- Access to Watch this – Getting to know the law
- Realia: If possible, a Certificate of Registration, which is sent in the mail to a vehicle owner with the Registration sticker about a month before registration is due each year. The cost of the compulsory third party insurance is listed in the 'Charge Summary' on the certificate.

Key messages

1. If you have an accident, you have to exchange details with the other driver – i.e. name, phone number, car registration number and name of insurance company. The car registration number means the letters and numbers on the number plates on the car.
2. In Victoria, when you register your car, you pay for registration and Compulsory Third Party insurance. If the car you are driving kills or injures another person and it is your fault, the Traffic Accident Commission (TAC) will cover their costs.
3. If you are the driver of the car involved in an accident and it is your fault, you are also covered if you suffer injury.
4. It's wise to take out third party property insurance as well, because this covers any damage your vehicle causes the other person's car (i.e. the other person's 'property'). The cost could be around \$100 per year.
5. The sheriff is an officer sent by a court to enforce payment of e.g. a debt. The sheriff can seize and sell any valuable assets, such as cash, jewellery and antiques.
6. If Centrelink is your sole source of income, the law protects that income. This means that no one, including the sheriff, can force you to make instalment payments out of your Centrelink income.
7. A court order states the action a person has to do to carry out a decision made in a court.

Pre-teaching

Vocabulary: a text message, to brake, to crash, upset, the insurance company, to ignore, a debt collector, the sheriff, a court order, the Community Legal Centre, third party insurance, the damage, car registration, a number plate

Activity instructions

1. Play the video.
2. Students complete Exercise A. This focuses on the context.
3. Discuss answers to the questions.
4. Play the story again. Students complete Exercises B and C, which focus on the detail of the story. Check answers.
5. Play the story a third time. Ask the students to watch for the telephone number at the end of the story and write it down (Exercise D). Check the answer.



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For Help
To find your local Community Legal Centre
03 9652 1500
www.communitylaw.org.au
Victoria Legal Aid
9269 0120 (or country callers 1800 677 402)
www.legalaid.vic.gov.au
Ask for an interpreter if you need one.