

Passenger safety

Recognising distractions and speaking up

As a passenger in a car, it is your responsibility to protect yourself. A passenger can support the driver by not distracting them or being distracted themselves, by assisting the driver to spot potential hazards, by respecting the driver's rules and by speaking up if the driver is making unsafe decisions.

To keep yourself and other road users safe, complete the questions below by ticking the correct answer.

Hint: There may be more than one answer.

1. The driver is on their mobile phone, talking to a friend.

As a **passenger**, what can you do?

- Do not say anything Speak up and ask the driver to stop using their mobile phone Answer the mobile phone for the driver

2. The music is loud and other passengers in the car are talking and singing loudly.

As a **passenger**, what can you do?

- Speak up and ask everyone to be quiet Carry on singing and talking in the car Turn the music down, so the driver can concentrate

3. The driver is using their earphones while driving, so they will not be able to hear important sounds such as an approaching ambulance siren.

As a **passenger**, what can you do?

- Before you start the drive, ask the driver to not use their earphones Do nothing and just enjoy the ride Tell the driver to remove their earphones, so they can react to important sounds on the drive

4. The driver is telling you a stressful story about something happening in their life. They are visibly upset.

As a **passenger**, what can you do?

- Encourage the driver to continue telling you the story because you are intrigued Listen to the driver, but not say anything, even though you know they are distracted Tell the driver it's best to pull over so that you can have a chat about it properly



For the better

5. You get into a car and the driver is eating a burger and chips. They begin to drive.

As a **passenger**, what can you do?

- Tell the driver that they can finish eating their burger in the driveway before you take off - it will be more enjoyable that way!
- Nothing and just eat my burger and chips
- Pass the driver their soft drink

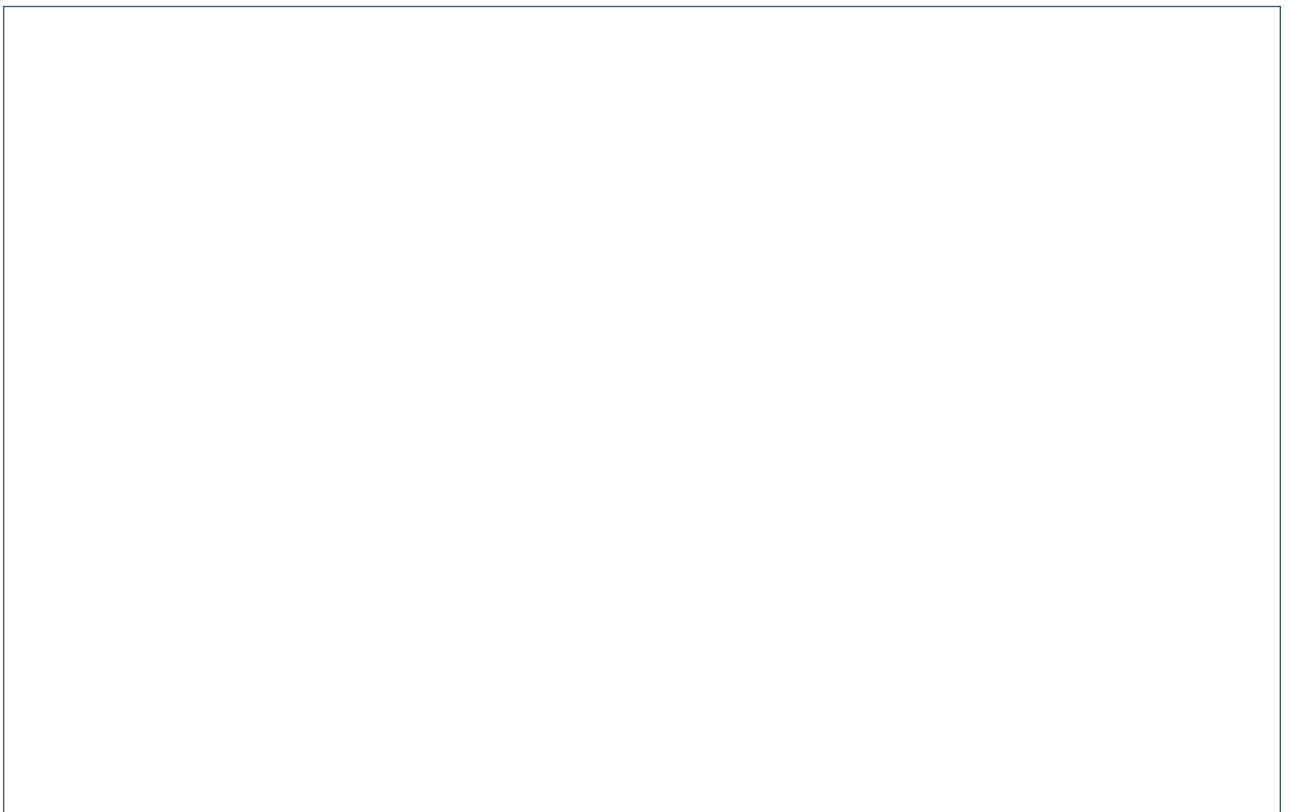
How important is it to speak up in a car if the driver seems distracted or unfocused on the road?

- Not important Slightly important Extremely important

Complete the following sentence

As a passenger, I will always speak up because:

In the box below, **draw a picture** of a passenger explaining to a driver why it is important to stay focused and not get distracted on the road.



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Answer key

1.

- » Speak up and ask the driver to stop using their mobile phone
- » Answer the mobile phone for the driver

2.

- » Speak up and ask everyone to be quiet
- » Turn the music down, so the driver can concentrate

3.

- » Before you start the drive, ask the driver to not use their earphones
- » Tell the driver to remove their earphones, so they can react to important sounds on the drive

4.

- » Tell the driver it's best to pull over so that you can have a chat about it properly

5.

- » Tell the driver that they can finish eating their burger in the driveway before you take off - it will be more enjoyable that way!

6.

- » Extremely important



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