

## Chatterbox #51 – Driving around Canada

### Transcript

Maura: Hello everyone, it's Maura!

Harp: And Harp!

Maura: And we're here with a Chatterbox episode at Culips.

Harp: Yeah. Culips English Learning Podcast, make sure you check out our website, that's Culips.com, C-U-L-I-P-S.com, because there, you can listen to all our older episodes and also find our learning materials, which come with detailed explanations, a transcript, and even a quiz.

Maura: Yeah. So if you're all the way over on iTunes, don't forget to visit us.

Harp: It's a far journey to the website.

Maura: Just a few key strokes. OK, so, in this kind of podcast, our Chatterbox podcast, we chat about all different kinds of topics, especially those related to Canada and new expressions.

Harp: Yeah. And today we're going to talk about driving.

Maura: Yes. Driving around in the city, across the country, all that kind of stuff. So we're going to start by talking about...

Harp: **Driving in Canada.**

Maura: Yes. And then we're gonna talk about driving through all the different seasons that we have and how that makes driving different.

Harp: And then we're gonna talk about road trips.

Maura: Yeah. Our long journeys in cars.

Harp: Exactly.

Maura: Now let's look at the first thing we're gonna talk about: **driving in Canada**. One thing that people may not know is that **automatic** cars are a lot more popular here than **standard** cars.

Harp: Yeah, I think most people have **automatic** cars.

Maura: Right. So, **automatic** means there's no gear change, there's no stick to shift. So, you can call that kind of car *manual*, **standard**, *stick*. Those are the ways

that we talk about a car that is not **automatic**.

Harp: Can you drive a manual car?

Maura: To be honest, I learned a little bit, probably about 10 or 15 years ago now, and it was difficult. I liked it but I **stalled the car** a lot.

Harp: Yeah, same thing. I learnt how to do it a long time ago

Maura: So, sometimes when you're driving, and this is something that I think annoys everybody, you might have a **backseat driver**.

Harp: I have to admit I'm a **backseat driver**.

Maura: It's annoying, isn't it?

Harp: Well, it's probably annoying for the driver, but because I'm the one doing it, I don't think it's annoying.

Maura: Right. So, a **backseat driver** is the person who is not driving the car. But they're in the car and they keep giving directions to the driver, like "Oh, turn here," or "You wanna go this way," or maybe "Slow down" or "Speed up," whatever. But it can be really annoying. But there is that tendency, when you know how to drive and you're in a car, you want some kind of control still, I think. So you wanna give your advice, but it can be bad.

Harp: Yes. Distracting for the driver.

Maura: Yup.

Harp: Maura, how old were you when you got your **driver's licence**?

Maura: I believe I was 16 when I got my **learner's permit**, and then after about a year, I got my full **licence**, so I was 17. So, with the **learner's permit**, I couldn't drive myself. I had to be with someone who had, I think, 4 years' experience. And the laws around **driver's licences** are always changing. And for each province it's a little bit different.

Harp: Yeah. 'Cause I got my **learner's permit** when I was 14.

Maura: 14!

Harp: Yeah, that was in Alberta, you could be 14 and get your **learner's permit**. You had to wait until you were 16 to get your full **driver's licence**, but you could still drive at 14.

Maura: That is crazy to me.

- Harp: It's too young. I'm glad they changed it.
- Maura: Yeah, for sure. And maybe a bit dangerous?
- Harp: Yeah, I think so.
- Maura: Something else that people who are listening might find interesting is that in Canada, we drive on the right side of the road, like many countries, and just like the United States. And we also don't have a Canadian car company. We have cars all over the road from the US, and Japan, and Germany...
- Harp: Yeah. There are some car-manufacturing companies here, so they're made in Canada, but they're not a Canadian brand.
- Maura: Right, exactly. And there are all different kinds of cars. I couldn't really say that one brand is really that much more popular than others. People have all different kinds of cars.
- Harp: You know, a lot of people say to me, when they come from Asia or from Europe to Canada, is that the cars are much bigger here.
- Maura: I've heard that too, yeah. We probably do have bigger cars, and I think one of the reasons for that is because, typically, the **gas has been cheaper here** than in Europe.
- Harp: Yeah. It definitely used to be cheaper, but it seems so expensive now.
- Maura: It is. Right now, at this time, it's the highest it's ever been, really. It's getting so high. For the past few months, it's been somewhere between \$1.30/litre and \$1.40/litre in Quebec. And it's different by provinces, too. Quebec is a bit more expensive.
- Harp: Wow. That is so expensive.
- Maura: Really, it really is. I remember when I was younger and you used to be able to fill up a tank for \$30, and the other day I filled it up and it cost \$70.
- Harp: Wow.
- Maura: Yeah, it's pretty crazy. But, as we know, oil is a finite resource, so **the price** is going up.
- Harp: Wow. I'm so glad I don't drive or have a car. That's so expensive.
- Maura: No, it really is, especially for people who have these big kind of cars, which are normally **gas guzzlers**, meaning they take a lot of gas and are really expensive to run.

- Harp: Yeah, no, definitely. **That must hurt.** If your car costs \$70 to fill, and you have a smaller car, I can't imagine how much **an SUV** or a truck costs.
- Maura: I know. It's really crazy. So, those are some general things that you should know about **driving in Canada**, but another factor when you're driving around is what season you're driving in.
- Harp: Yes. With the four distinct seasons in Canada, you really have to be aware of what season it is when you're driving. Yeah, you really have to be aware of the weather, because it changes in every season so much.
- Maura: Right. And, obviously, **it goes without saying** that the most difficult season to drive in is winter.
- Harp: Definitely.
- Maura: There are so many dangerous conditions that can **come up** in winter.
- Harp: Yeah. You have the snow, and then you have, sometimes, freezing rain. I'm so glad I don't drive. I can't even think about it anymore.
- Maura: Yeah, on the roads, if it rains and then it freezes, you have something called **black ice**, which means that the roads are covered in ice but you can't see, because it looks black, just like the road underneath. So that's very dangerous.
- Harp: Very dangerous. And we often have big snowstorms, so you get 30 cm of snow, and the big trucks can't come clear it. So you're driving with all the snow on the road, and it makes it slippery and hard to drive. It's just not fun.
- Maura: Yeah. You really have to drive more carefully in the winter, and slow down. This past winter, actually, I was driving in Montreal, and luckily it was early in the morning, so there weren't very many cars around, but I started to brake and I started sliding and I was coming to a red light.
- Harp: Did you go through the red light?
- Maura: Well, there were cars in front of me, so what happened is I just turned my steering wheel and I slid right around and did a **180°**, and I was faced in the other direction.
- Harp: Thank goodness you were OK.
- Maura: Yeah. Luckily, there weren't any other cars coming, but it was definitely because of icy conditions.
- Harp: Definitely.

- Maura: Yup. But I think that Canadians are generally good at driving in winter like that because we know how to handle it, we've had experience. I always think back to when I was living in England and a little bit of snow fell on the ground and everyone freaks out, and "Oh no! How can we drive?"
- Harp: Yeah. That's actually how it is in Vancouver and Victoria. When they get a little bit of snow, they freak out. They don't know how to drive.
- Maura: Right. It's all what you're used to. That's another factor with winter driving, is when you live in the city and you park on the street, you have to shovel yourself out in the mornings, which I've had to do.
- Harp: Oh, that does not look like fun.
- Maura: No. It's a pain, for sure.
- Harp: Yeah.
- Maura: Yeah. It's really hard. And then when you come home after being out, you only have certain little spaces that you can park in, because the snow is piled up everywhere else.
- Harp: Yeah, it's the worst when the **snow ploughs** come and they push all the snow to the side. It's not fun. We actually have some great pictures about snow and roads on Facebook, so go check that out.
- Maura: Yeah. Those were taken after some big storms we had this year. So they're pretty cool pictures.
- Harp: Yeah, definitely.
- Maura: Another thing, because of all the snow and rain and crazy weather, our cars rust a lot more quickly than in warm places.
- Harp: Yeah, definitely. They go through a lot here.
- Maura: Yup.
- Harp: You know, one thing I don't know though, is that in Alberta, it's so cold that we plug our cars in at night time. So, in your car, you have a block heater, and it has, basically, a little extension cord at the front of it, and then you put another extension cord and you plug it into the electrical outlet in the building. But here people don't do that. Do you know why?
- Maura: No, I don't know why. I guess because it doesn't get quite that cold.
- Harp: OK.

- Maura: I grew up in Ontario, which is the province **right next door** to Quebec, and no one plugs in their cars there either.
- Harp: OK, that's interesting. Yeah, I remember you had to plug your car in.
- Maura: Right. Or else, it was so cold that in the morning when you woke up, you couldn't start your car.
- Harp: Definitely.
- Maura: Yeah. That's not a problem here. Most cars start. But, now that you mention it, my car does have that little extension, we do have the plug.
- Harp: OK. So you have a block heater in your car.
- Maura: I guess so.
- Harp: Interesting.
- Maura: Now, winter is definitely the worst, but in the spring, which comes after, you can get a lot of **potholes** in the streets.
- Harp: Yeah. So we have **potholes** in Canada. And they're basically holes in the road, and they happen because, like we said, in Canada, it's very cold. So when it gets really cold and then when it thaws out, the cement breaks down and there are big holes. So when you're driving on the roads in the spring, there are so many holes you have to almost swerve around them.
- Maura: Oh yeah. It's really not good for your car to drive in them. And Montreal is notorious for **potholes**.
- Harp: It's so bad here.
- Maura: Yeah, it's pretty crazy. Some of the roads are in horrible condition.
- Harp: Yeah. There was a story in the newspaper a couple weeks back, where a car drove in a **pothole** and actually got stuck, like, the car fell into the hole.
- Maura: I've heard stuff like that. But I've also heard, at a party, someone was mentioning that the reason for this is because Montreal is trying to put more money into public transportation, so that's why we're not using the money for road repair.
- Harp: Well, because I use public transportation a lot, I'm OK with that.
- Maura: Yeah, I think it's a good thing but it does make driving more difficult.

- Harp: And more dangerous.
- Maura: Yeah, because you have to watch for the lights changing. You have to watch for other cars, pedestrians, and you also have to watch for **potholes**.
- Harp: Yeah. And Montreal is also notorious for having some pretty crazy drivers.
- Maura: That is true. So, driving in the summer is not really a big deal, you roll the window down, you put the air conditioning on, and you're good.
- Harp: Yeah. You do one or the other, you don't roll your window down and put the air conditioning on.
- Maura: That's true.
- Harp: Yeah, summer driving's much easier.
- Maura: Yeah. Except if you get caught in traffic with no air conditioning, because then it's so hot and humid, but that can happen anywhere.
- Harp: Definitely.
- Maura: Now, the last thing we wanted to talk about was our own road trips.
- Harp: Yeah, Canadians like to take road trips.
- Maura: We do. And compared to people in other countries, that I've had conversations with about this, we drive long distances. So, to go somewhere for the weekend and drive two or three hours is very common and not strange.
- Harp: Yeah. Sometimes even five hours for a weekend trip isn't that bad.
- Maura: Nope, I agree. But for people who live in other countries where the gas is even more expensive and they have to pay tolls to take highways, they wouldn't drive that far in such a short amount of time.
- Harp: And I think things are just closer. You know, like, Canada is just such a big country that you really have to drive far to go anywhere. But in Europe, you drive five hours and you can be in two different countries, so...
- Maura: Yeah, that's true. A lot of people have actually driven across Canada, from Ontario or Quebec all the way to Vancouver, which is probably about a two- or three-day drive.
- Harp: Minimum. I think it's more like four days.

- Maura: Yeah, it's a far trip.
- Harp: Yeah.
- Maura: I haven't done a road trip quite that far, but I have driven back and forth between Vancouver and Calgary, which is such a beautiful drive.
- Harp: Beautiful drive.
- Maura: Yeah. And it doesn't even feel like you're going very far or it's too long because it's, like, beautiful mountains the whole way.
- Harp: Yeah. You're driving through the Rocky Mountains, and there are beautiful lakes. Oh, it's amazing!
- Maura: Yeah, yeah. Time passes so quickly.
- Harp: Yeah. You know, I grew up taking quite long road trips, now that I think about it. Because I grew up, actually, in Fort St. John, which is a small town in northern British Columbia. And it's 15 hours north of Vancouver.
- Maura: Wow, Harp. I really never realized how isolated you were.
- Harp: Yeah, it was a very small town. I lived there until I was 13 and I think we would go to Vancouver at least two times a year.
- Maura: OK. Makes sense, because it's the biggest city close to you.
- Harp: Yeah, exactly. And I remember one year, we drove from Fort St. John to Vancouver, which is 15 hours, then we drove to California, all the way to Fresno, California, which took us at least two days, then we drove all the way to Tijuana, Mexico.
- Maura: Wow. With your family?
- Harp: Yeah. It was a big road trip and it took us, all together, three weeks. It was a slow trip for us. We stopped a lot of times. We visited a lot of different places. But yeah, we did it.
- Maura: That's the way to do it, I think, is to not be in a rush and take your time and make it not about the destination but about the journey.
- Harp: Definitely.
- Maura: With my family, we drove down to Florida from Ontario and I think that took us about two or three days, but we stopped along the way, and stayed at a hotel and had fun.



- Harp: Yup.
- Maura: It's fun to do in the winter because you leave Canada and it's so cold, with snow everywhere, and then every day it gets nicer and nicer, and you can take off a layer every time.
- Harp: I love it.
- Maura: Yeah. So, because we're all connected and there isn't a lot of water separating us, we can travel across Canada and down to the US pretty easily with a car.
- Harp: Yeah, definitely. It's quite easy.
- Maura: Yeah.
- Harp: Yeah. And like you said, it's easy to travel anywhere in Canada or the US, but you definitely have to stop at the border and show your passport now before you can go into the US.
- Maura: Yeah. So, at busy times, you can actually have to wait in your car to finally pass. Some of the border crossings are bigger than others, but you always have to stop. And, like you said, Harp, now you have to show your passport and they ask you what your plans are, just regular stuff that you go through when you go into a new country.
- Harp: Yeah. And you have to do the same thing when you come back to Canada.
- Maura: Right. But it is interesting that when we were younger, you didn't have to show your passport. You had to have some kind of ID, but often you didn't even have to show it. The borders have definitely been built up but it's still pretty easy to get through. You would rarely get turned away. OK, so there's actually even more we could talk about, because I guess North America is a car culture, and we love our cars.
- Harp: Yup.
- Maura: First, we talked about **driving in Canada**.
- Harp: And then we talked about driving in the different seasons.
- Maura: And last, we shared with you our fun road trips, which, hopefully, we'll still be able to take with **the cost of gas** going up.
- Harp: Yeah. Maybe just **carpool** and have more people in the car.
- Maura: Yeah. Good idea. So, again, don't forget to go to our website, Culips.com,

and **drop us a line** if you liked this episode.

Harp: And check out the pictures on Facebook.

Maura: We'll see you later. Bye!

Harp: Bye everyone!

## **Detailed Explanation**

### Driving in Canada

**Driving in Canada**, in many ways, is like driving in most other parts of the world. And just like other places in the world, driving can be quite different depending on exactly where you are. Driving in a big city is a lot different than driving on a quiet country road.

In Canada, we drive standard and automatic cars, we drive on the right side of the road, and we generally follow the rules. In bigger cities, people tend to drive more aggressively. In the winter, we change our tires and drive a bit more slowly. In some places, people even put heavy chains around their tires in the winter, to help the wheel dig in and hold onto the icy, snowy road.

### Automatic and standard cars

An **automatic** car is one that adjusts to the different speeds automatically. In cars like this, there are no gears to shift. **Automatic** cars are more expensive than the **standard** version of the same kind of car. **Automatic** cars are generally very popular because they're a little easier to drive.

A **standard** car is one in which you must change the gears manually to drive at different speeds, and to put the car in reverse. Because these kinds of cars are less popular here, there are many people, like Harp and Maura, who don't really know how to drive them.

A **standard** car can also be called a *manual* or *stick shift*. The gear shift can also be called a *stick* or a *stick shift*.

### To stall a car

**To stall a car** is to cause the car engine to stop running. This happens a lot when people are first learning to drive a standard car. The reason this happens is that the gear is not changed properly by the driver. When the gear is not changed at the right time, the car engine will stop running.

There are other reasons that a car can **stall**, but not changing gears at the right moment is the most common one.

Here is an example with **to stall a car**:

Irene: Oh! You **stalled the car** again.

Mike: I know. But I just learned to drive a stick shift last week.

A backseat driver

**A backseat driver** is a passenger in the car who tells the driver how to drive. If someone is sitting in the back seat, of course they cannot drive, because the steering wheel is in the front. But **a backseat driver** does not need to be actually sitting in the back seat. They can be sitting shotgun, in the front passenger seat. Some people want to give their opinions about how to drive or which direction to drive in even when they are not the driver. This is almost always annoying and bothersome to the driver.

Here's an example talking about **a backseat driver**:

Hugh: Sharon drives me crazy in the car.

Karen: I know. She's a bit of **a backseat driver**, isn't she?

Hugh: A bit? She never stops telling me where to turn and how to get to where we're going!

A driver's licence/permit

If a person has a regular **driver's licence**, this means that they can drive a car. Different provinces in Canada have different standards, tests, and ages for allowing people to drive. **A permit**, often called **a learner's permit**, usually means that the person can drive, but only under certain circumstances. Often, when people have **a permit**, it means that they can drive a car only when there is another, more experienced, driver in the car with them.

There are also different kinds of **driver's licences**. Most people have a regular **licence**, which allows you to drive most cars. There are also special **licences** for motorcycles and larger vans and trucks.

The **driver's licence** is a one of the most commonly used pieces of identification in Canada. When people are asked to prove their identity or age, this is often the card they show.

The word **licence** is one of those tricky ones that has different spellings in different countries. British English uses **licence**, with two C's, while Americans tend to use **license**, with a C and an S. Here in Canada, you might see it spelled either way, but the official spelling that the Canadian government uses is the British **licence**.

Gas prices

At this moment in history, **gas prices** are going up all the time. **Gas prices** are different all over the world, for a variety of economic or political reasons. Canada and the US often have relatively cheap gas prices compared to other developed countries. At the time of the release of this episode, **gas prices** in most parts of Canada range from about \$1.10 to \$1.40 for one litre of gas. (Of course, these prices are in Canadian dollars.)

A gas guzzler

**Gas guzzler** is a slang term for a vehicle that uses a lot of gas. *To guzzle* is to drink something quickly. In this way, it relates to a car “drinking” the gas quickly. **Gas guzzlers** are most often older cars that are not efficient on gas for a variety of reasons, or new, large vehicles.

This term is sometimes written with a hyphen: **gas-guzzler**.

That must hurt

To say that something **hurts** most often refers to physical or emotional pain. We can say that something **hurts** when it does not feel good. Spending a lot of money, especially on unexciting things, can be said **to hurt**.

In this episode, Harp says “**that must hurt**,” when talking about gas prices. She means that the cost of gas is so expensive that it doesn’t feel good to pay so much or that the price **hurts** your bank account, because you have to spend so much money.

Here are a couple more examples using **hurt** when talking about money:

Hank: My car broke down this weekend, and I had to pay so much to have it repaired.

Bernice: **That’s gotta hurt**.

James: I hate having to pay so much at once for something.

Luke: I’m not gonna lie. It **hurt**.

An SUV

This is one example of a gas guzzler. **SUV** stands for sports utility vehicle. An **SUV** is a mix between a car and a truck. It has four-wheel drive, which is also known to use more gas. **SUVs** can be driven in cities and in more rural or natural areas.

Some vehicles that most would call **SUVs** include the Ford Explorer, the Range Rover, and the GMC Yukon.

Abbreviations, like **SUV**, are sometimes written with a period after each letter, like **S.U.V.** As an abbreviation becomes more common, people often stop using the period, but the abbreviations are understood just as easily.

It goes without saying

If something **goes without saying**, it means that it is obvious and everyone knows it already, so nothing more needs to be said about it. The funny part is that this expression is used when people say it anyways!

In this episode, Maura says that **it goes without saying** that winter is the most difficult season to drive in. She says that winter is the most difficult season to drive in, and then she says that she doesn't really even need to say that because everyone already knows it.

You can use **it goes without saying** to explain that you know what you say is obvious, like Maura did, or you can say it in response to something obvious that someone else just said. Here is an example of the second case:

Justin: We need to be finished our assignment before the deadline.

Sylvia: **That goes without saying.** I think we should even try to finish it a few days early.

### To come up

Here's another two-word verb that can have a few different meanings. **To come up** is used in this episode to mean *to arise* or *to present itself*. When something **comes up**, it means that it naturally happens without planning.

When talking about winter driving, Maura says, "There are so many dangerous conditions that can **come up** in winter." She means that dangerous conditions naturally occur in winter and we cannot know when they are going to happen.

Here are a couple other examples with **to come up** meaning *to arise*:

Dean: Whenever we talk, the subject of the break up always **comes up** eventually.

Anne: You both must want to talk about it.

Hannah: If the topic **comes up** in class, we'll talk about it.

Maggie: Good!

### Black ice

This is a weather condition that is specific to winter and frozen roads. Like we explain in this episode, **black ice** is ice on the road that you cannot see. The ice looks black because the road underneath it is black. This type of ice on the road is especially dangerous because you can't see it.

### To do a 180°

Maura talks about a dangerous situation that happened when she was driving, where her car did a **180°** (which is said as "one eighty"). In this case, **180°** is referring to the degree of the turn. Maura's car turned 180 degrees, so her car was facing in the opposite direction of where she wanted to go.

Doing a **180°** doesn't only happen in a car. It could also be a person turning or another object changing its direction. When used in this expression, **180°** must be said as "one eighty." It does NOT sound natural to say *to do a one hundred and eighty* or *to do a one*

*eighty degrees*. The little round symbol after the number is a degree sign, but we never actually say the word *degree* when talking about doing a **180°**.

You can also say *to do a 360°*, which means that something turned completely around and ended up back where it started. Just like a **180°**, you must say *to do a three sixty*, not *three hundred and sixty*.

Here is one more example:

Greg: When Jon was snowboarding last week he did a 360° in the air!

Nancy: Impressive! So far, I can only do a **180°**. I need to practice more.

#### A snow plough

Snow ploughs, also spelled *snow plows*, are big trucks that are responsible for moving and removing snow. **Snow ploughs** clear the streets and make it safer for people to drive.

#### To be right next door

**To be right next door** to someone is to live beside that person. You can imagine that the door to your home is next to their door. But this expression can also be used to mean that a thing or a person is next to another, or even just very close, even if there are no doors involved!

Maura uses this expression in this episode to talk about her home province of Ontario and the province of Quebec, which is where Montreal is and where this podcast is made. She says that Ontario **is right next door** to Quebec. This simply means that the two provinces are beside each other. Obviously, there are no actual doors on the provinces themselves!

Here's another example with this expression:

Yasmina: I'm going to the mall after work.

Ken: I'll meet you there. It's **right next door** to my office.

#### A pothole

**Potholes** are holes in an asphalt road. They are mostly round, but can take any shape. Some are quite small and others very large, like the ones that Harp talks about in this episode. In Canada, lots of new **potholes** appear in the spring. The reason for this is that the snow and ice damage the road. The freezing and thawing of the road with cars driving on it cause a lot of **potholes**.

When you drive and see a **pothole**, most people try to avoid driving on it if possible. When you drive over **potholes**, it can do damage to your car or tires, especially if it is a large hole.

To carpool

**To carpool** is to drive with other people. Many people in North America drive a car with only one person in it. When you **carpool**, there are at least two people in the car. Some people **carpool** to work every day and other people **carpool** if they are going on a long trip. A **carpool** is also the name of a group of people who share the driving on a regular basis.

We have organizations in Canada that try to connect people who want to **carpool** and are going to the same place when driving long distances. There are also parking areas beside some highways especially for people to leave their car there and **carpool**. Some cities also have **carpool** lanes, so if there are at least two people in the car, you can go in this lane and drive a bit faster.

Here is an example with **to carpool**:

Jennifer: Hey, we live close. We should **carpool** to work.

Ryan: That's a good idea. Let's organize that.

To drop someone a line

We use this expression at the end of this episode. **To drop someone a line** means to write a message to someone, most literally to write someone one line of text. Nowadays, you can also **drop someone a line** by emailing or texting them. It's a casual way of saying that you want to stay in contact with the person, and the mode of communication is not so specific.

Here's another example with this expression:

Paul: It was nice seeing you.

Felix: Yeah. You too. **Drop me a line** next time you're in town.



**Quiz**

1. Which of the following is a slang way to say that a car is standard?
  - a) a shifty
  - b) a stick shift
  - c) a general
  - d) an automatic
  
2. If a car has stalled, what does that mean?
  - a) It is stuck in traffic.
  - b) It is a new car.
  - c) It has been in a car crash.
  - d) It has stopped running.
  
3. What do you call a person who is a passenger but tells the driver how to drive?
  - a) a designated driver
  - b) a cab driver
  - c) a frontseat driver
  - d) a backseat driver
  
4. What is a gas guzzler?
  - a) a car that's good on gas
  - b) a car that uses a lot of gas
  - c) the place where you buy gas
  - d) the container you keep gas in
  
5. What does SUV stand for?
  - a) standard urban vehicle
  - b) sports utility vehicle
  - c) special under vehicle
  - d) sports urban vehicle

6. **Marsha:** Canada can be quite cold in the winter.  
**Bradley:** \_\_\_\_\_. Everyone knows that.

**Please fill in the blank with the best response.**

- a) Really?
  - b) I'm surprised that came up.
  - c) That goes without saying.
  - d) How do you know that?
7. **What is a hole in the road called?**
- a) a roadhole
  - b) a pothole
  - c) a pot
  - d) a holy road
8. **What is a carpool?**
- a) a group of people who travel in one car instead of driving separately
  - b) a car with a pool in it
  - c) a piece of equipment for playing the game pool
  - d) a kind of fish

**Answers:**    1.b    2.d    3.d    4.b    5.b    6.c    7.b    8.a