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## **Level 5**

# **Overtaking a big risk on the road**

**28th May, 2015**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1505/150528-overtaking-5.html>

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**Please try Level 4 (easier) and the 26–page Level 6 (harder).**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1505/150528-overtaking-5.html>

A British survey shows that one in seven drivers has taken evasive action because of their risky overtaking. The road safety charity Brake surveyed 1,000 motorists. It found that 80 per cent of drivers have felt threatened by people's overtaking, while 94 per cent said they have witnessed dangerous overtaking. Young men aged 17-24 are the most dangerous at overtaking. In comparison, women are far safer. Nearly 40 per cent of 17-24-year-old male drivers admitted overtaking when they were not sure the road ahead was clear. The figure for female drivers doing this was just 15 per cent.

The charity found that the most dangerous place to overtake was on country roads. Drivers are twice as likely to die on rural roads than in urban areas. Many of these deaths are preventable. Brake said: "We're urging all drivers to avoid overtaking on country roads unless absolutely essential." It added: "Why risk it and rush? You could cause a devastating, high-speed, head-on crash that ends lives and ruins others....A significant minority are still taking the risk and performing this aggressive and selfish manoeuvre." It said "cool-headed and responsible drivers hang back and relax".

Sources: <http://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/579849/Dangerous-drivers-aggressive-overtaking-lives-at-risk>  
<https://uk.news.yahoo.com/dangerous-overtaking-risks-lives-230505243.html#GkUZZlf>  
<http://www.westernmorningnews.co.uk/Country-lanes-dangerous-UK/story-26568803-detail/story.html>

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1505/150528-overtaking-5.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                                     |                          |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. one in                           | a. overtaking            |
| 2. risky                            | b. threatened            |
| 3. 80 per cent of drivers have felt | c. ahead was clear       |
| 4. they have witnessed              | d. year-old male drivers |
| 5. women are far                    | e. for female drivers    |
| 6. Nearly 40 per cent of 17-24-     | f. seven drivers         |
| 7. not sure the road                | g. dangerous overtaking  |
| 8. The figure                       | h. safer                 |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. the most dangerous   | a. headed            |
| 2. country              | b. the risk          |
| 3. twice as             | c. roads             |
| 4. Many of these deaths | d. minority          |
| 5. head-on              | e. place to overtake |
| 6. A significant        | f. crash             |
| 7. still taking         | g. likely            |
| 8. cool-                | h. are preventable   |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1505/150528-overtaking-5.html>

A British survey shows (1) \_\_\_\_\_ drivers has taken evasive action because (2) \_\_\_\_\_ overtaking. The road safety charity Brake surveyed 1,000 motorists. It found that 80 per cent of drivers have (3) \_\_\_\_\_ people's overtaking, while 94 per cent said they have witnessed dangerous overtaking. Young (4) \_\_\_\_\_ are the most dangerous at overtaking. In comparison, women (5) \_\_\_\_\_. Nearly 40 per cent of 17-24-year-old male drivers admitted overtaking when they were not sure the road ahead was clear. The figure for female drivers (6) \_\_\_\_\_ just 15 per cent.

The charity found that the most dangerous place to overtake was on country roads. Drivers are (7) \_\_\_\_\_ to die on rural roads than in urban areas. Many of these deaths (8) \_\_\_\_\_. Brake said: "We're urging all (9) \_\_\_\_\_ overtaking on country roads unless absolutely essential." It added: "Why risk it and rush? You could cause a devastating, high-speed, (10) \_\_\_\_\_ that ends lives and ruins others....A significant minority are still (11) \_\_\_\_\_ and performing this aggressive and selfish manoeuvre." It said "cool-headed and responsible drivers (12) \_\_\_\_\_".

# OVERTAKING SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1505/150528-overtaking-5.html>

Write five GOOD questions about overtaking in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

