

## **Chapter 4 Minnesota traffic Laws : Sharing the road**

**The following laws and safety information pertains to situations involving other vehicles and pedestrians.**



# Stopping

Stop Signs - **Must be a complete stop.**

At the stop sign  
stop line

crosswalk - Marked or  
Unmarked

always before the intersection

**If your view is blocked stop  
first then creep ahead &  
prepare to stop again.**



1. TRUE OR **FALSE**. You do not have to stop for a stop sign if you can see clearly in all directions for 1000 feet.

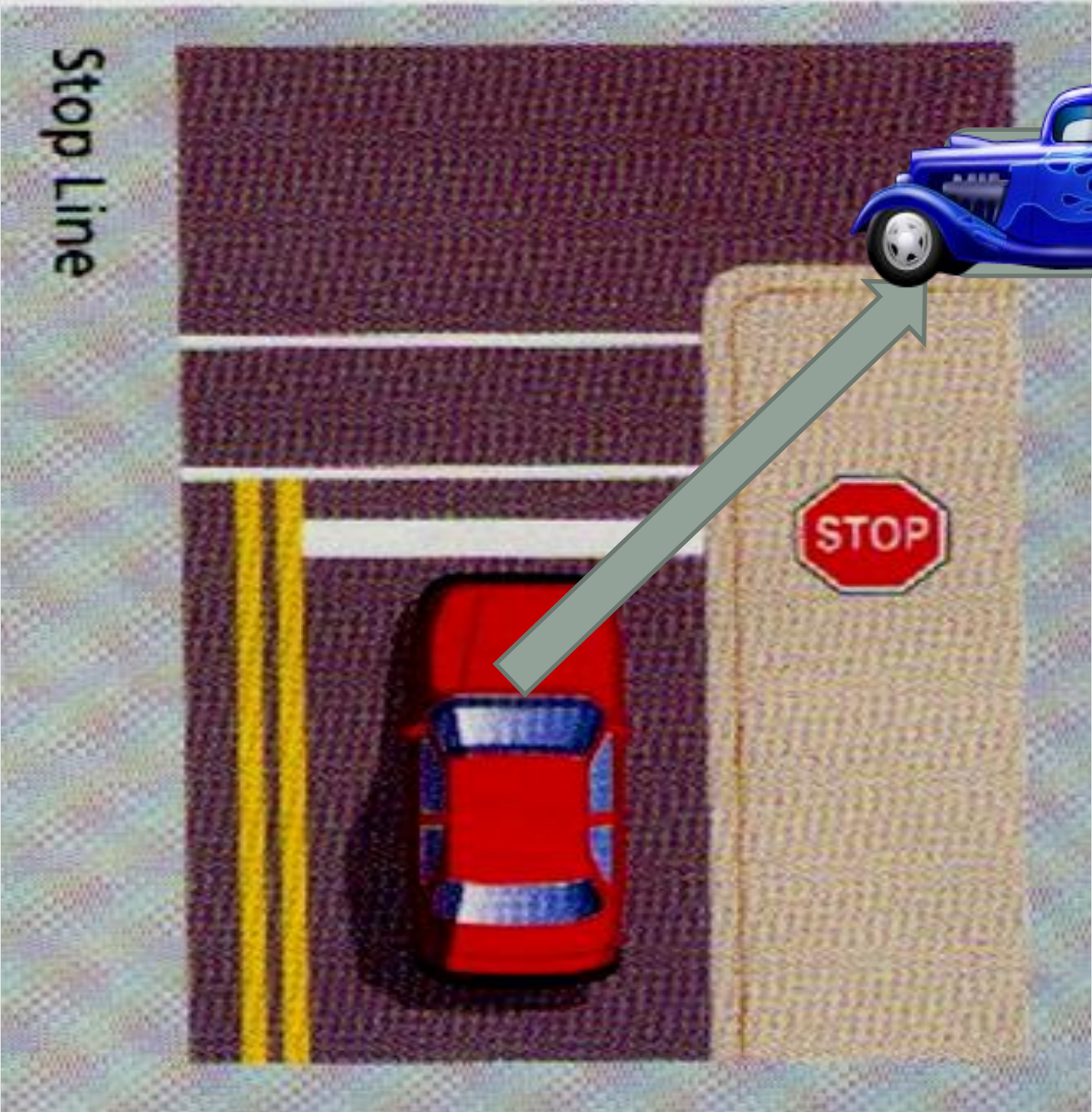
2. If your view is blocked at the stop sign, you must stop then **creep ahead**.

12. TRUE OR **FALSE**. At an all-way stop the driver in the biggest and newest car should go first.





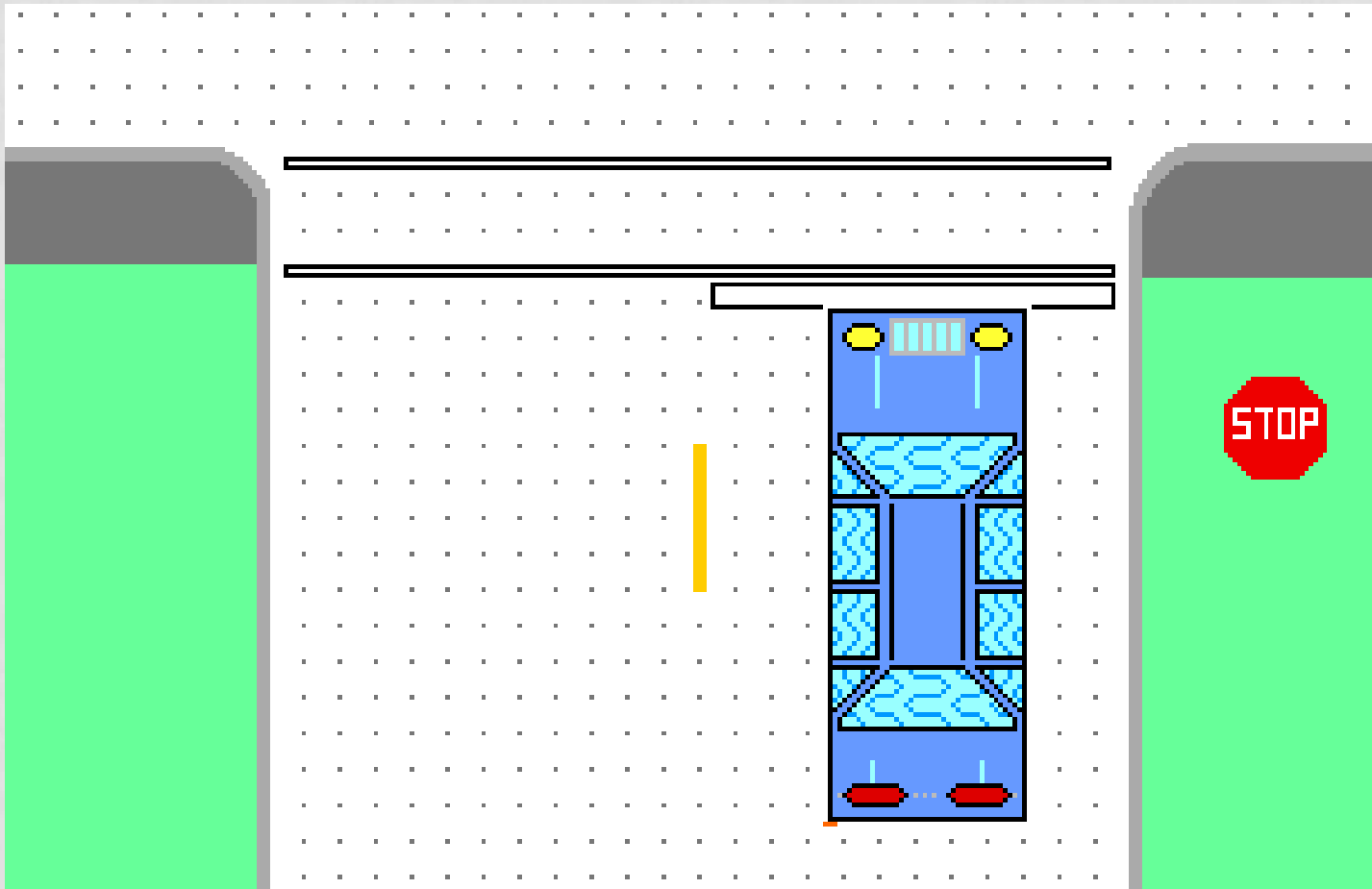
Stop Line





# *Stopping at a Stop Sign*

Stop before the stop line

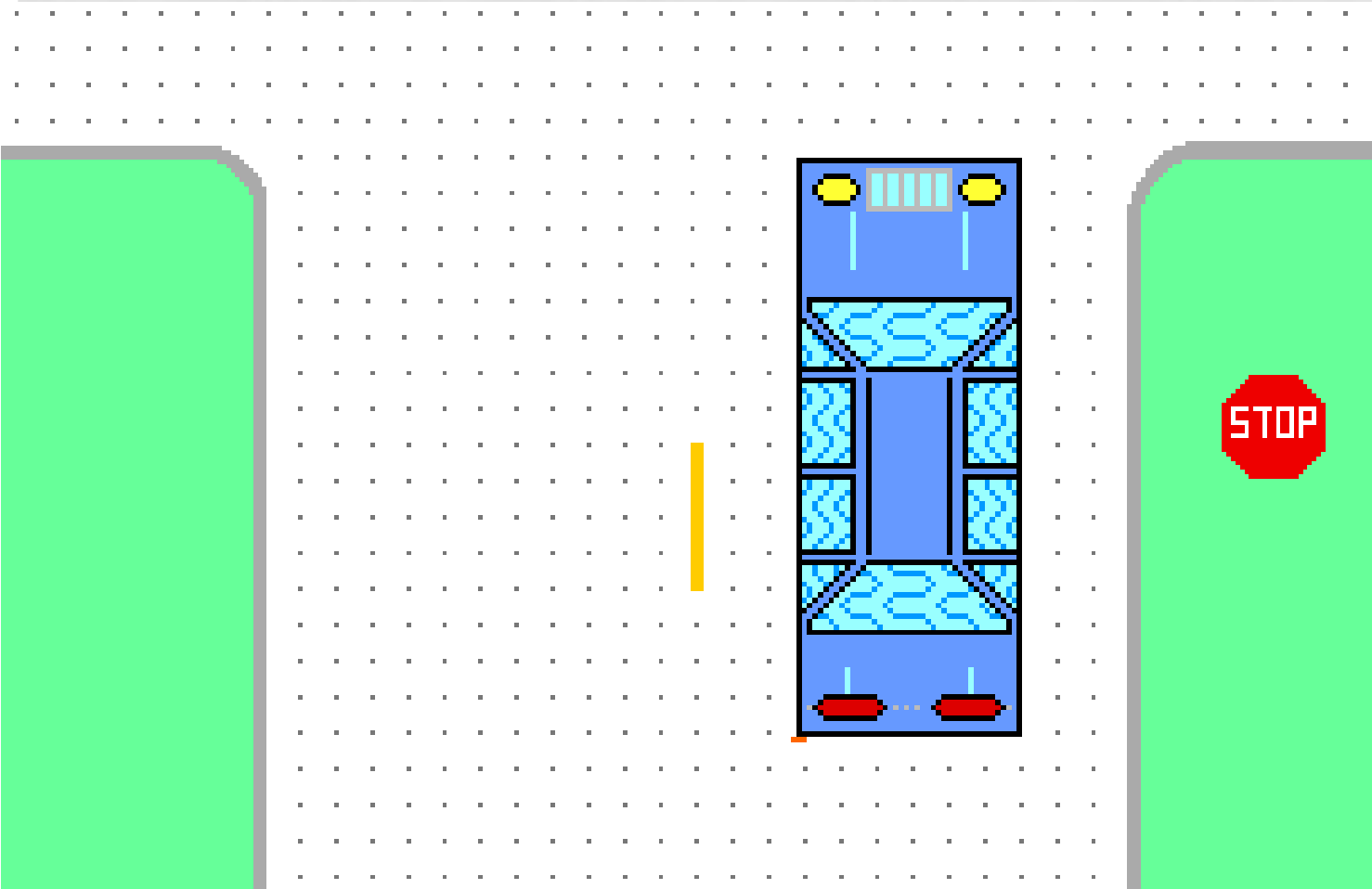


Did you  
stop at the  
stop bar?

If there is  
no stop bar  
stop at the  
crosswalk.

# *Stopping at a Stop Sign*

If there is no stop line or crosswalk, stop at the curb line.



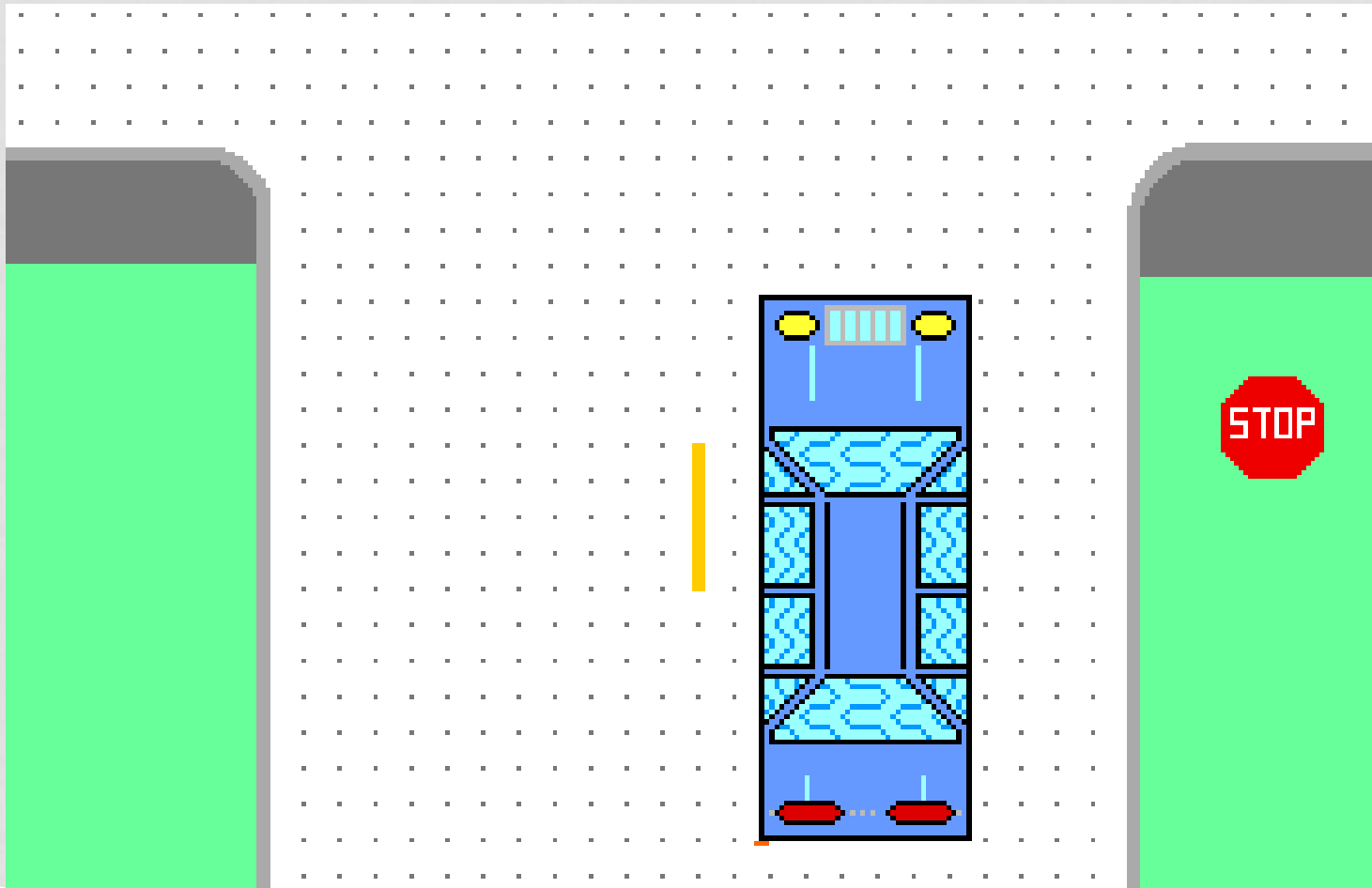
Did you  
stop at the  
curb line?



# *Stopping at a Stop Sign*

If there is no marked cross walk but there is a sidewalk. Stop before the sidewalk.

Did you stop  
before the  
crosswalk?







**Before entering  
from an alley to a  
public road you  
must come to a  
complete stop**

ENTERING STREET  
FROM ALLEY OR  
DRIVEWAY



Always stop before  
the sidewalk or cross  
walk

**31-37**

# Stopping

- 31.** Alley, private drive or parking ramp
- 32.** Red Light & **33.** Flashing Red Light
- 34.** When directed to stop by construction worker or police
- 35.** Freeway ramp meter, when the light is red
- 36.** RR Xing with stop sign
- 37.** At a bridge that has been raised for boats to pass beneath



# Stopping for a School Bus

School buses are equipped with yellow and red lights that flash alternately to warn drivers they are stopping to load or unload students

**38. What color alternating lights are school buses equipped with?**

**38. Yellow & red**

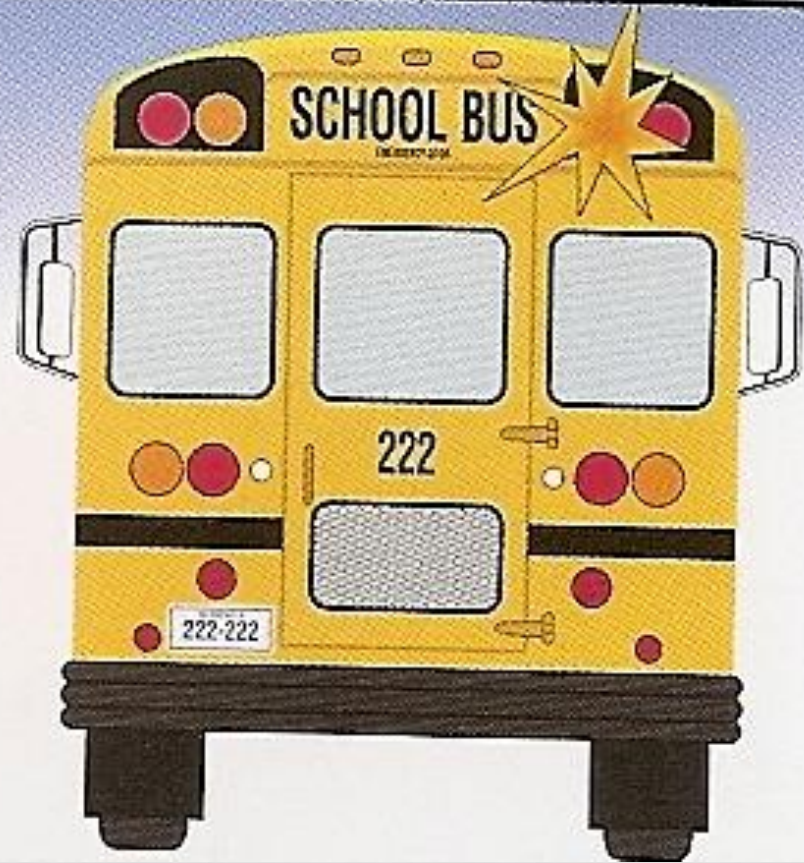
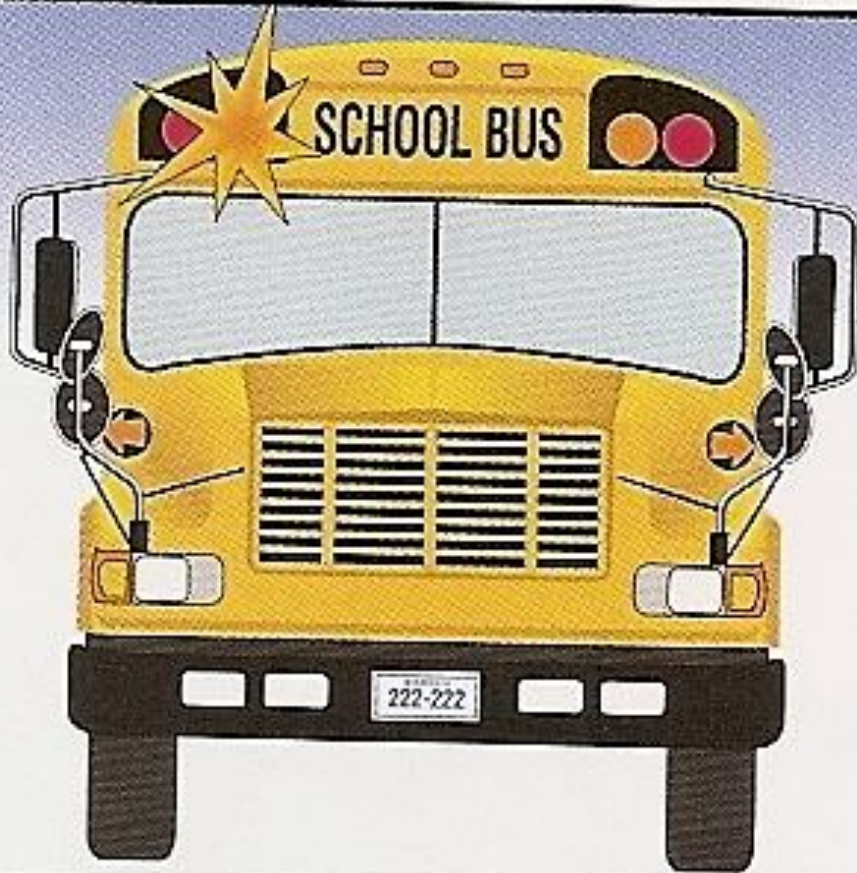
# FLASHING YELLOW LIGHTS

- Activated at least **100** feet before the actual stop. In speed zones of **35mph or less**
- Activated at least **300 feet** in speed zones of **more than 35mph**

**39. It is against the law to pass on the right side of the bus while displaying red or yellow lights**

**39. T**

# PRE-WARNING SIGNALS



100 feet in town

300 feet in speed zones faster than 35mph

Illegal to pass



# FLASHING RED LIGHT

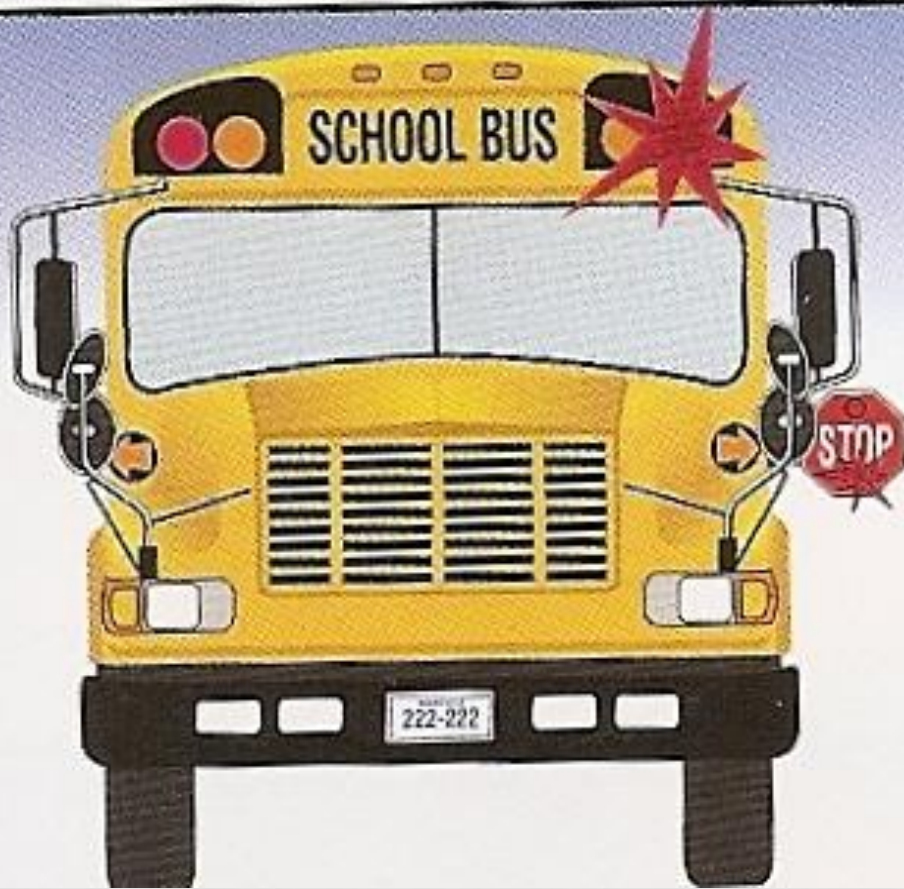
- Flashing red light warn motorists that the bus is loading or unloading students
- Traffic must remain stopped until the stop arm is retracted.

**40. When a school bus displays flashing red lights, what warning is this signaling to motorists?**

**40. Loading & unloading students**



# RED LIGHTS & STOP ARM



**Stop 20 feet from bus.**

Remain stopped until the stop arm is retracted



# Stopping for a School Bus

- If the lights are activated you must come to a complete stop 20 feet away from the bus.
- If you break this law:
  - 1. Misdemeanor
  - 2. Fine not less than \$300
  - 3. License suspended

3. You must stop your vehicle at least **20 feet** away from a stopped school bus.

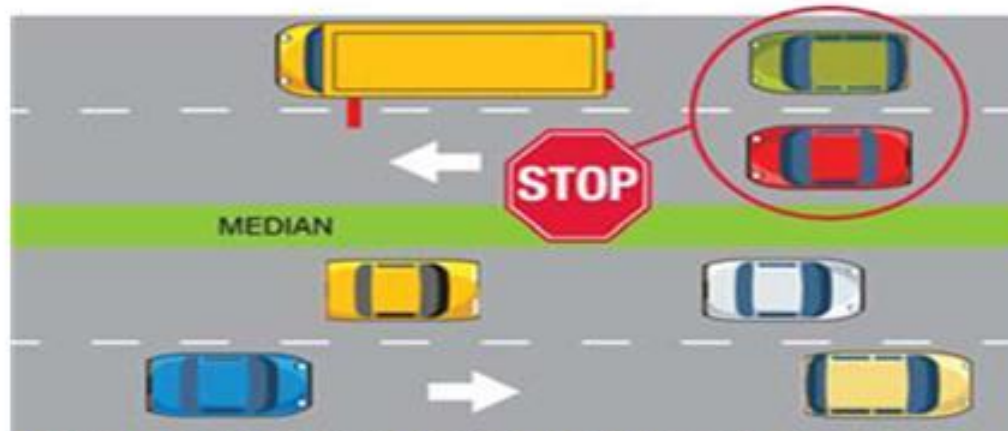
4-5. The penalty for failing to stop for a school bus is a fine of not less than (4) **\$300** and your (5) **drivers license** may be **suspended.**

65. When a school bus is stopped with its red lights flashing and its stop arm extended, you must stop your vehicle at least **20 feet** from the bus.

# Passing a School Bus

- It is illegal to pass a school bus when the red lights are flashing and the stop arm is extended.

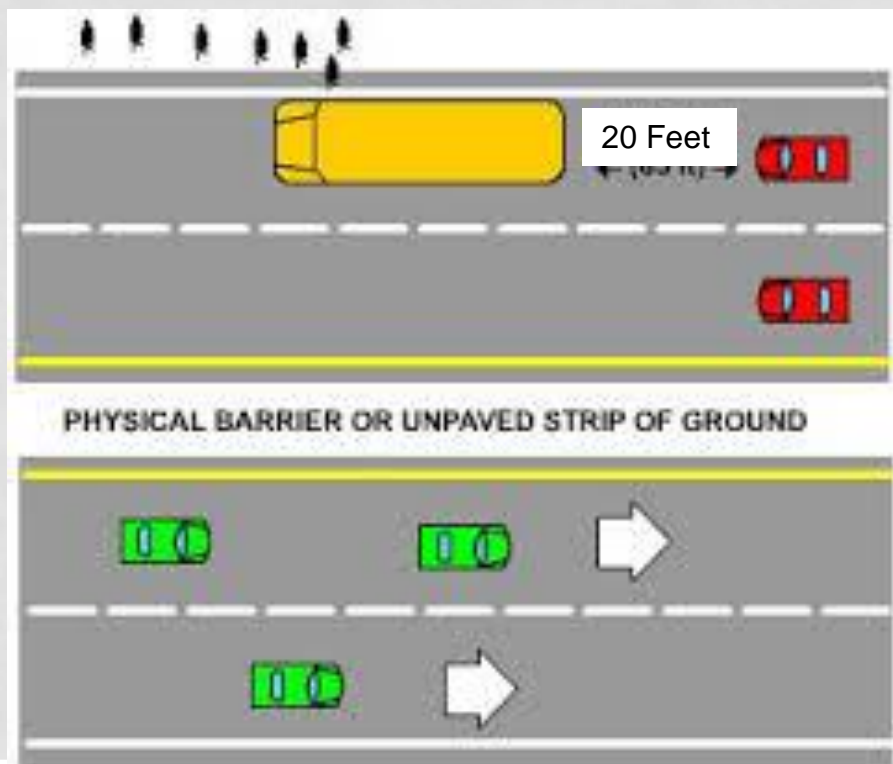
You are **not required to stop** if you are on the opposite side of a separated roadway.



DIVIDED HIGHWAY, WITH PHYSICAL BARRIER

**6. You do not have to stop for a school bus with its red lights flashing if ...**

**6. The school bus is on the opposite side of a separated roadway**





approx. 20 Feet

**STOP**



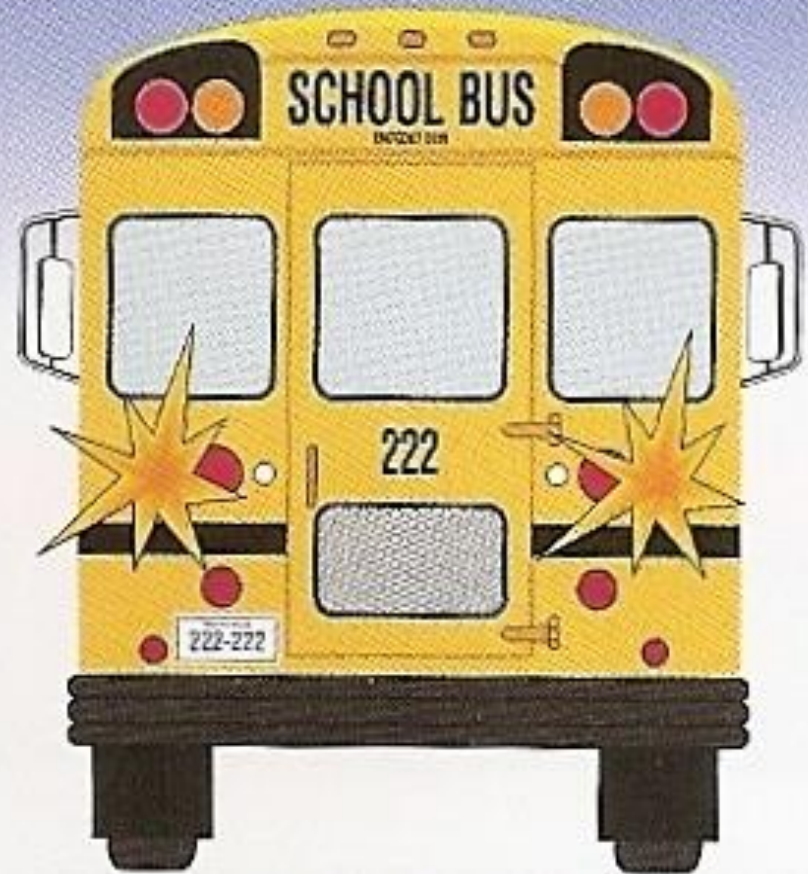
Median



MAY PROCEED  
WATCH FOR  
PEDESTRIANS



# HAZARD WARNING LIGHTS



**You do not have to stop** for a stopped bus with the yellow hazard warning lights flashing. But pass with caution

A law enforcement officer with probable cause to believe a driver has violated this law may arrest the driver within **four hours of the violation.**

**This is an arrestable offense.**

Bus driver writes down license plate # and calls police.





- **Applicant for a driver's license must certify by signature that they understand the school bus law & penalties.**

**Vehicle owner may be penalized**

- **Special rule for owners. Page 40**
- **petty misdemeanor**



**42. TRUE OR FALSE.** By signing the application for a learners permit, your signature means that you understand that you must stop for a school bus and are aware of the penalties for violating this law.

**41. If someone borrows your car and violates the school bus stop arm law, what are you the owner guilty of if you cannot prove that you were not driving the vehicle?**

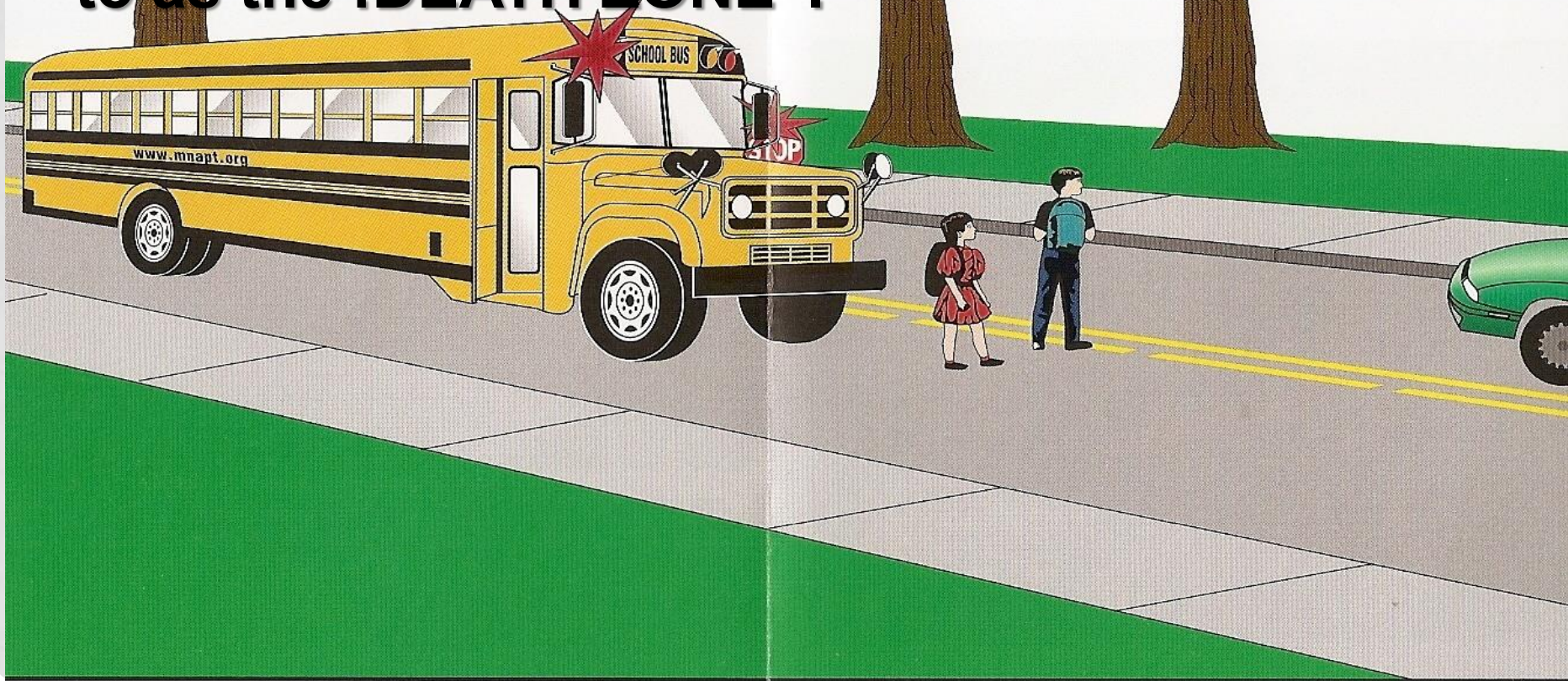
**41. Petty misdemeanor**

**OVERTAKING AND PASSING  
A STOPPED SCHOOL BUS  
AT RURAL ROAD  
UNCONTROLLED INTERSECTION**





**The majority of children injured and killed in pupil transportation are not killed or injured on the bus, but OUTSIDE the bus. Most are struck by motorists who fail to stop for the flashing red lights and extended arm. The area around the stopped bus is often referred to as the "DEATH ZONE".**

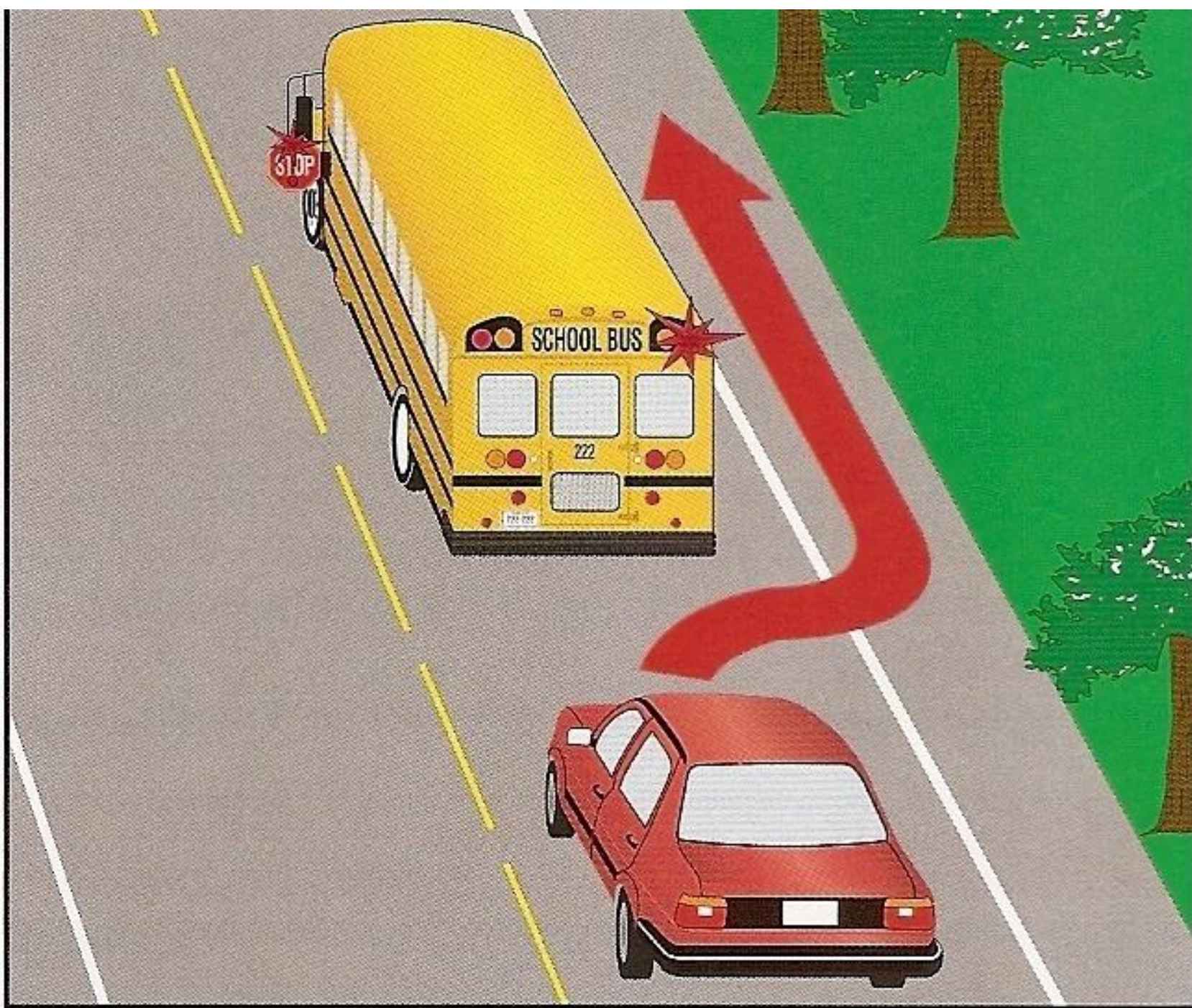




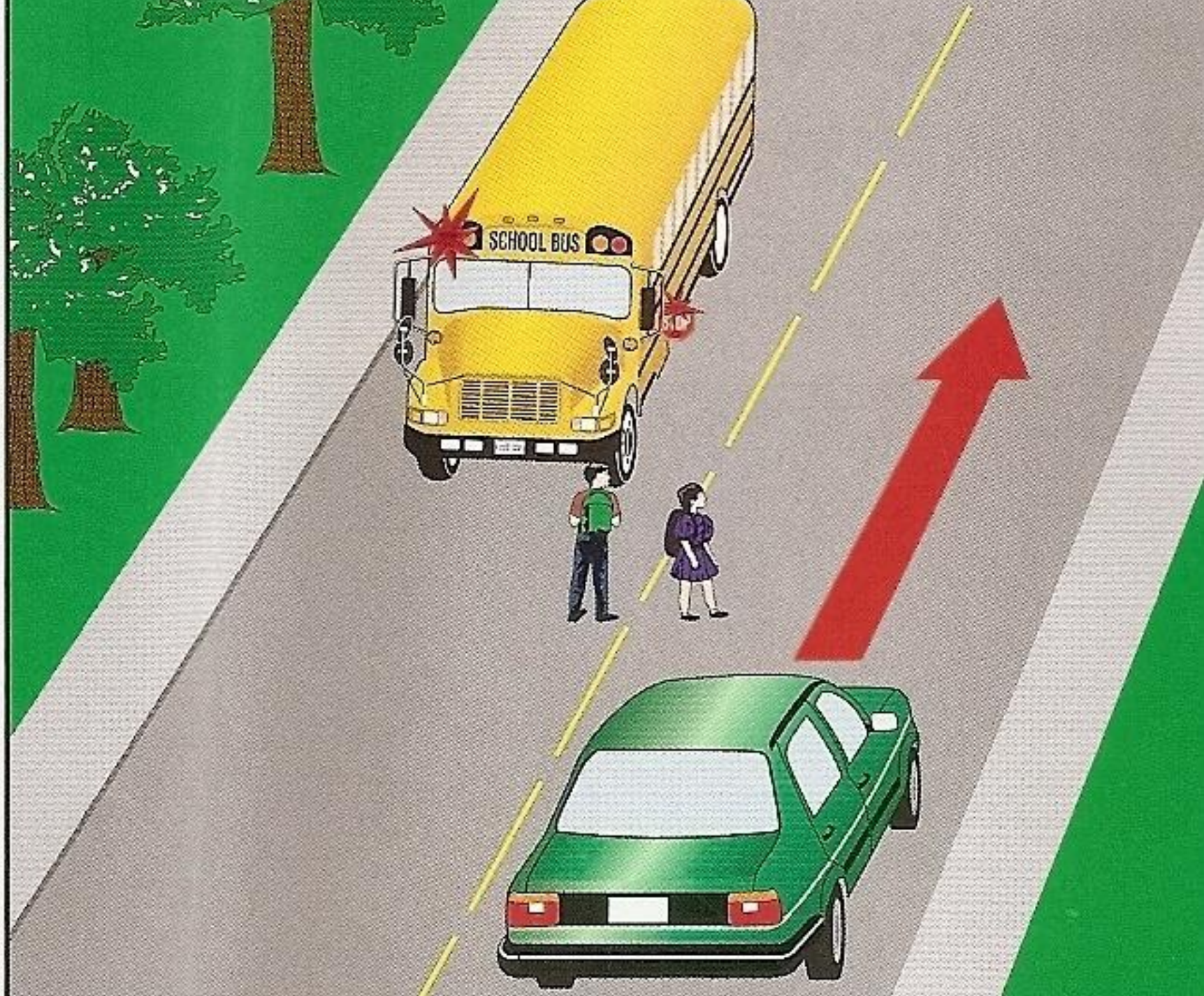
# **MOST COMMON MISTAKES MOTORISTS MAKE AROUND THE SCHOOL BUS**



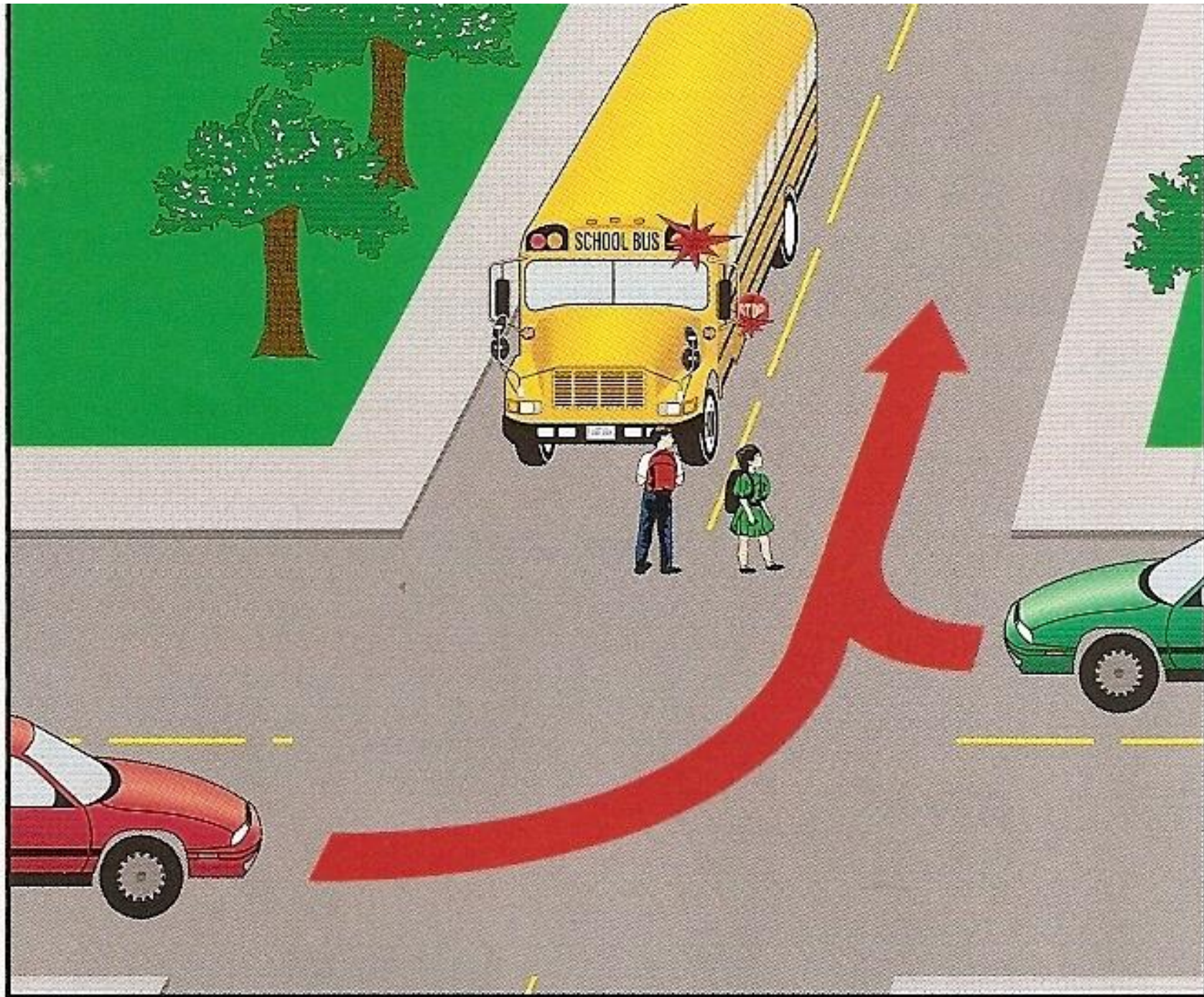




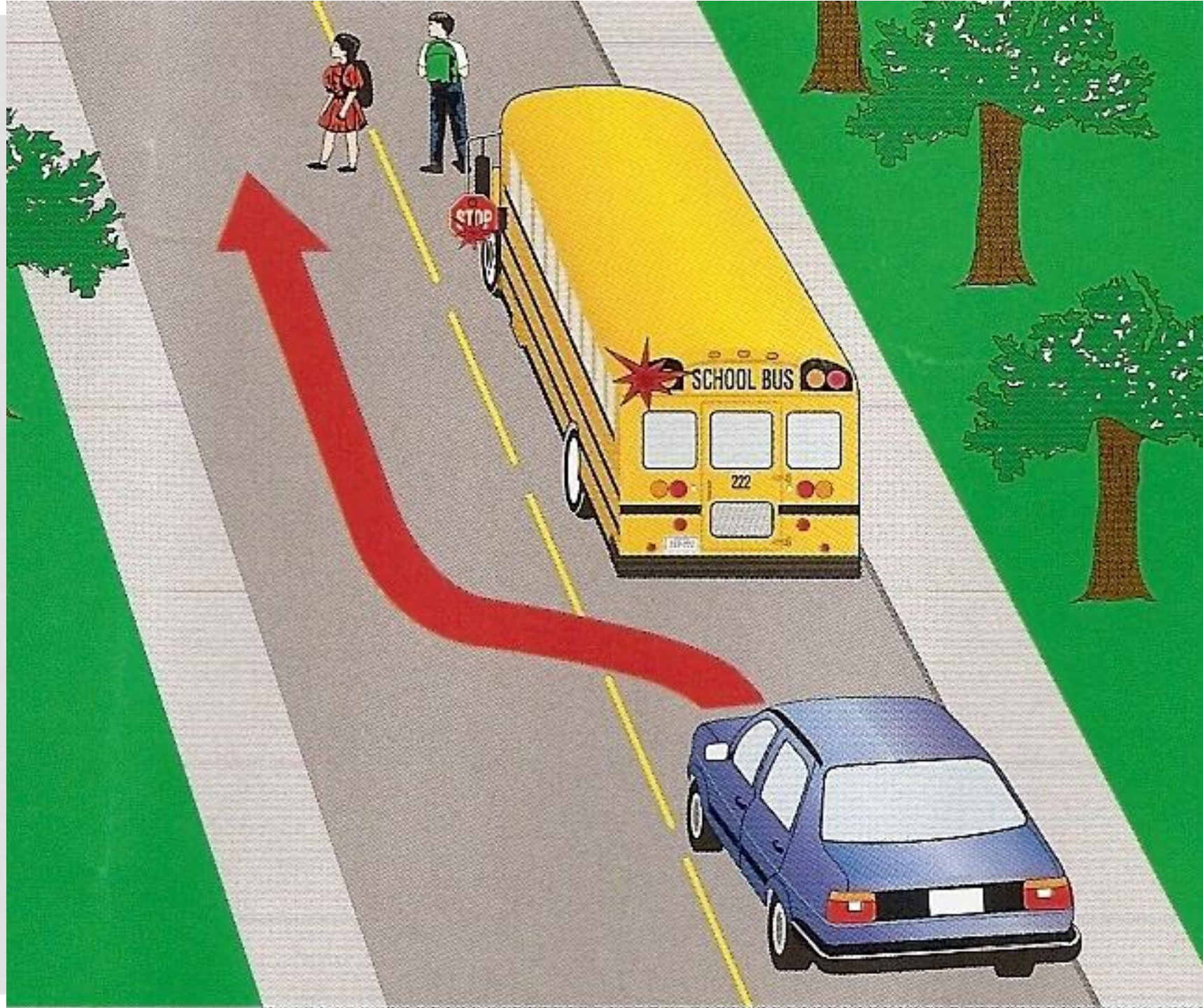
















# School Safety Patrol

- You must come to a complete stop
- It's against the law to drive a vehicle through a **line of children** crossing at an intersection
- 1st time Misdemeanor
- 2nd time in one year Gross Misdemeanor

7. **TRUE** OR FALSE. It is illegal to drive through a gap in a line of school children who are crossing the road even if a **safety** patrol person does not control the crossing.





# RIGHT-OF-WAY AND YIELDING





- Right-of-way and yielding laws help traffic flow smoothly and safely and are based on courtesy and common sense.

\* Violation of these laws is a major cause of traffic crashes.



**8-9. Yielding and right-of-way laws are based on (8) courtesy and (9) common sense.**



# Right- of- Way & Yielding

- Two vehicles at about the same time.  
**Left must Yield to Right.**
- Drivers **making a left** must yield to oncoming cars
- **Green arrow traffic** must yield to traffic legally in the intersection
- **T-intersection.** Cars on top of the T
- Entering **a public road from a private road**

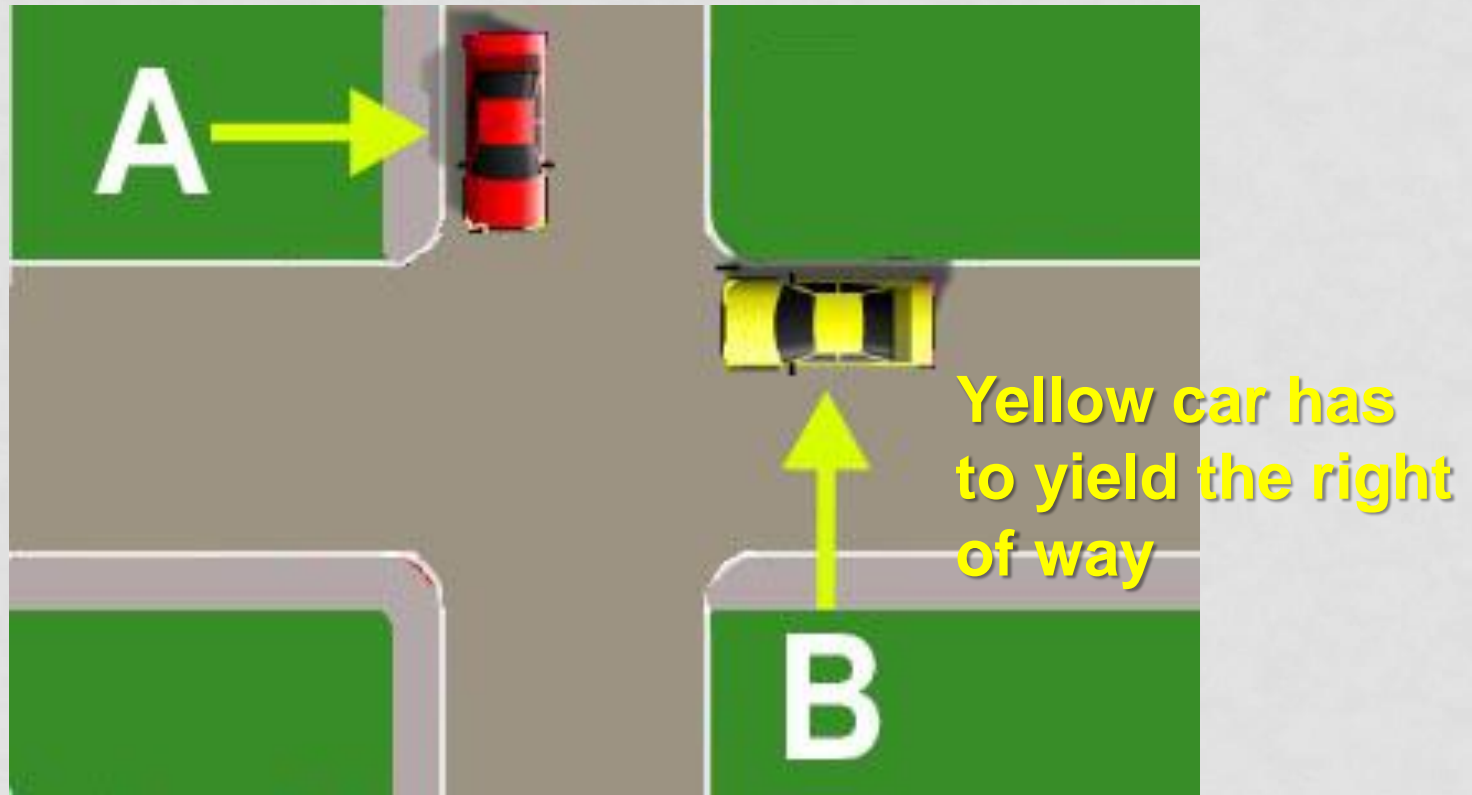
63. **TRUE** OR FALSE. When two vehicles approach an uncontrolled “T” intersection, the driver of the vehicle that is turning must yield to all cross traffic.





**11. When two vehicles approach an uncontrolled intersection at the same time, who should stop and yield?**

**11. The driver on the left should yield to the vehicle on the right**



Drivers in the right lane must yield to  
**transit buses attempting to merge**



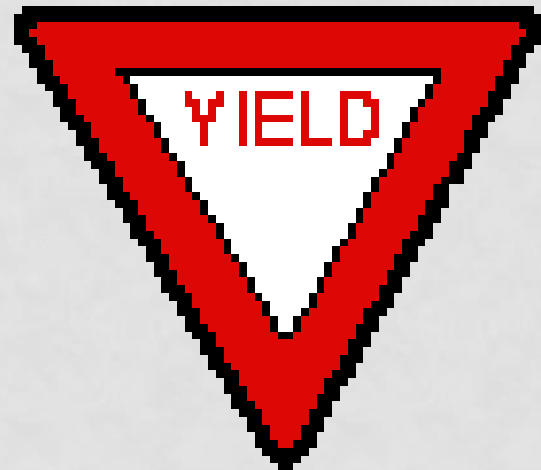
64.**TRUE** OR FALSE. Drivers in the right lane of traffic must yield right of way to transit and metro mobility buses attempting to merge from a bus stop or shoulder.





10. When a driver approaches an intersection with a yield sign, they must slow down and let others have the right-of-way.

10. Yield





Funeral procession, Cars in close formation with headlights on or hazard warning lights



**43. How does a funeral procession identify itself?**

**43. Headlight on or hazard lights**



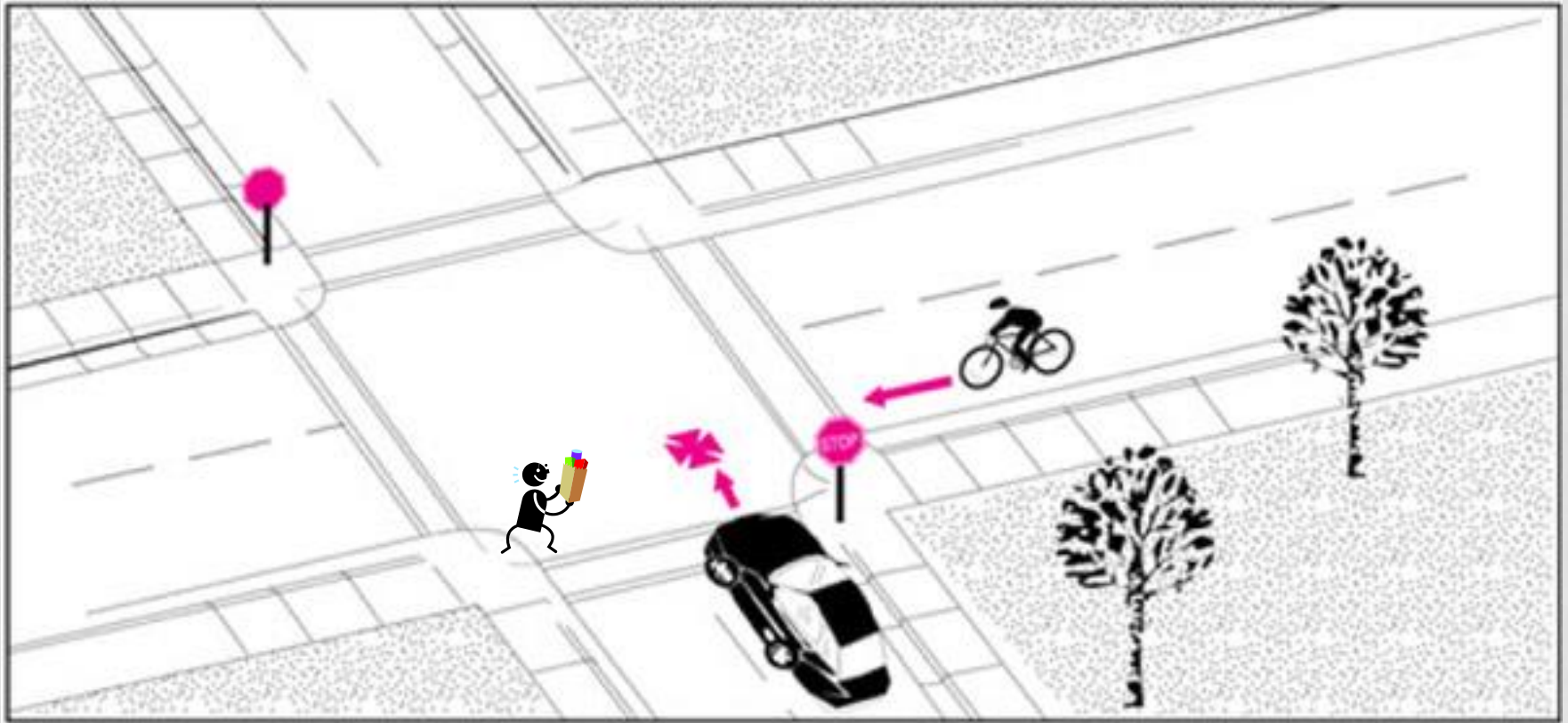


**RIGHT-OF-WAY  
AT STOP  
OR YIELD SIGN**



**STOP  
OR  
YIELD**





Watch for bikes and pedestrians as well as vehicles on the road

# Yield to Emergency Vehicles

When an emergency vehicle approaches with siren sounding and flashing light on you must pull to the **right and stop** (yield)

On a one way road pull to which ever side is **closest**. Be sure to signal.

If you are with in an intersection or round-about pull **through then stop**

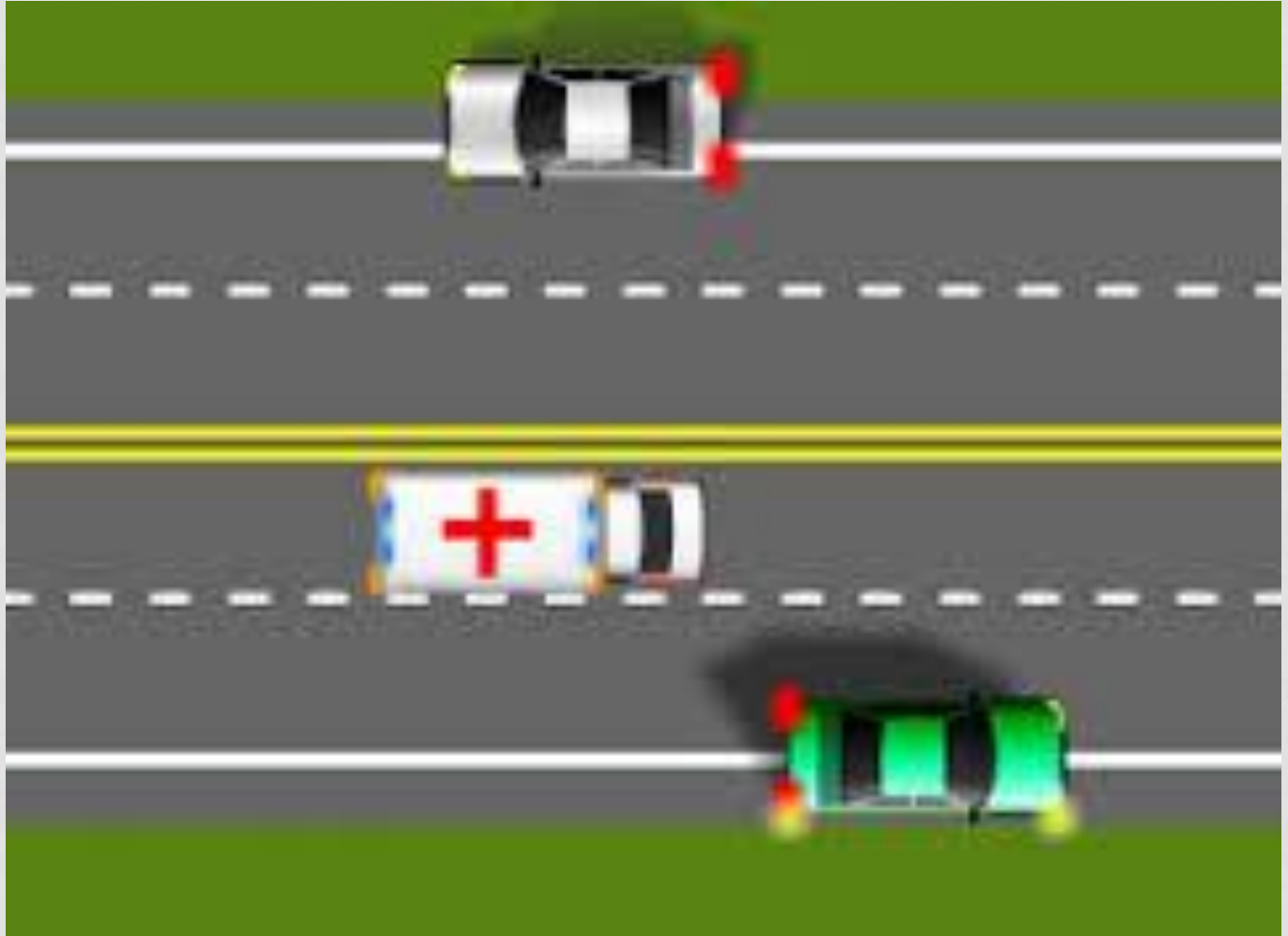
Remain stopped until emergency vehicle has passed



13-14. You must yield the right-of-way to any emergency vehicle that displays a 13 flashing red light and sounding a 14 siren or bell when you see the emergency vehicle approaching from behind.



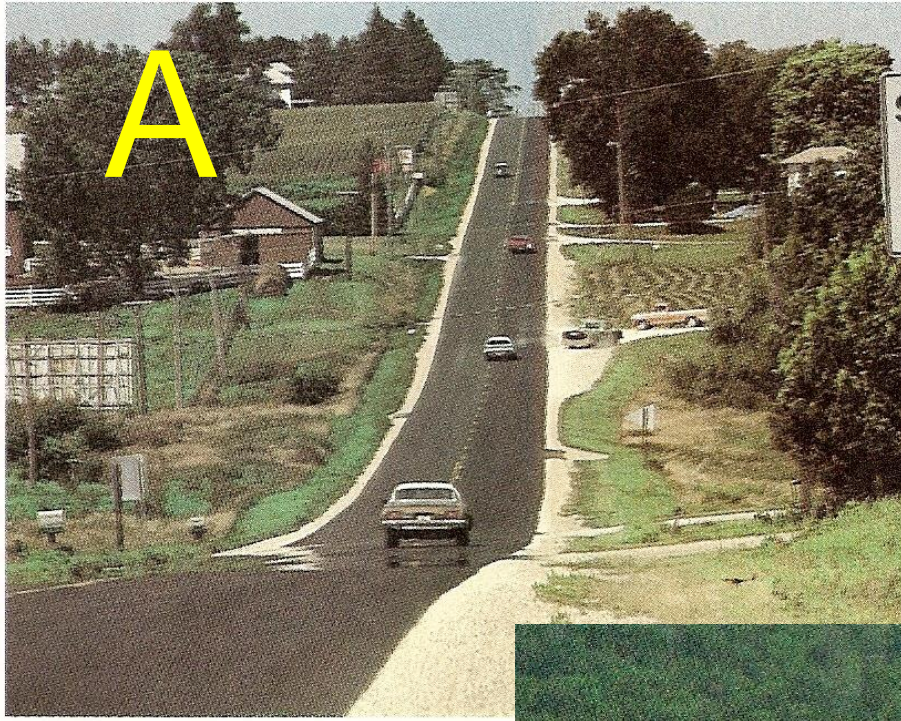
15. **TRUE OR FALSE.** You must remain stopped until the emergency vehicles have passed.



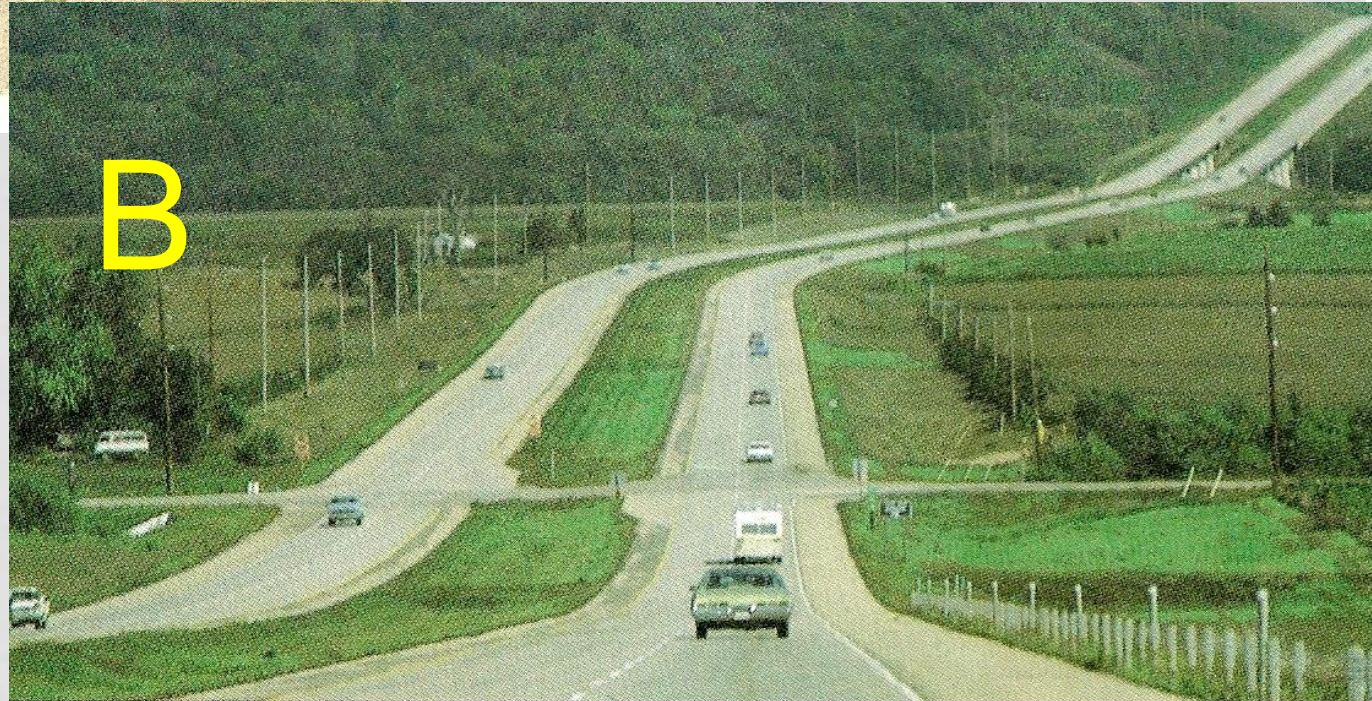
A law enforcement officer with probable cause to believe a driver has violated this law **may arrest the driver within four hours of the violation.**

You are not required to stop if the emergency vehicle approaching you is separated from your lane of traffic by a **physical barrier such as a fence, wall, or median strip**





Which road are you not  
require to stop for an  
emergency vehicle /school  
bus that is approaching you  
from the opposite direction



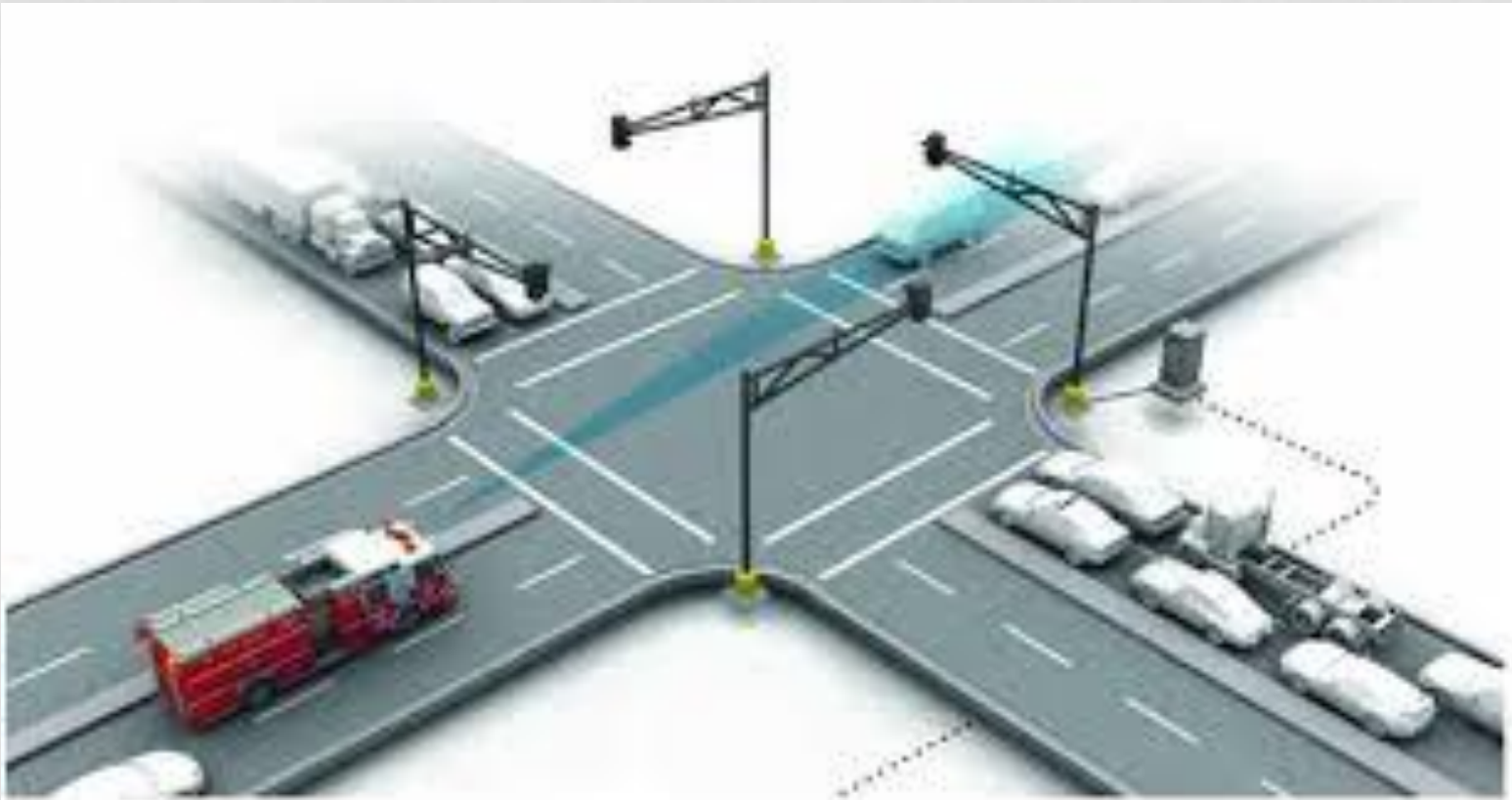


# YIELD TO EMERGENCY VEHICLES

If an emergency  
vehicle is  
approaching  
continue through  
the intersection and  
pull to the right  
and stop

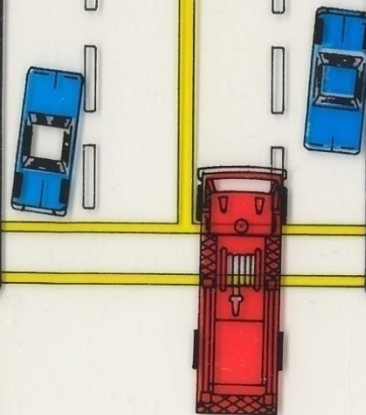


- **16. TRUE OR FALSE.** If you are in an intersection when an emergency vehicle approaches, pull into the oncoming lane of traffic and come to a complete stop.

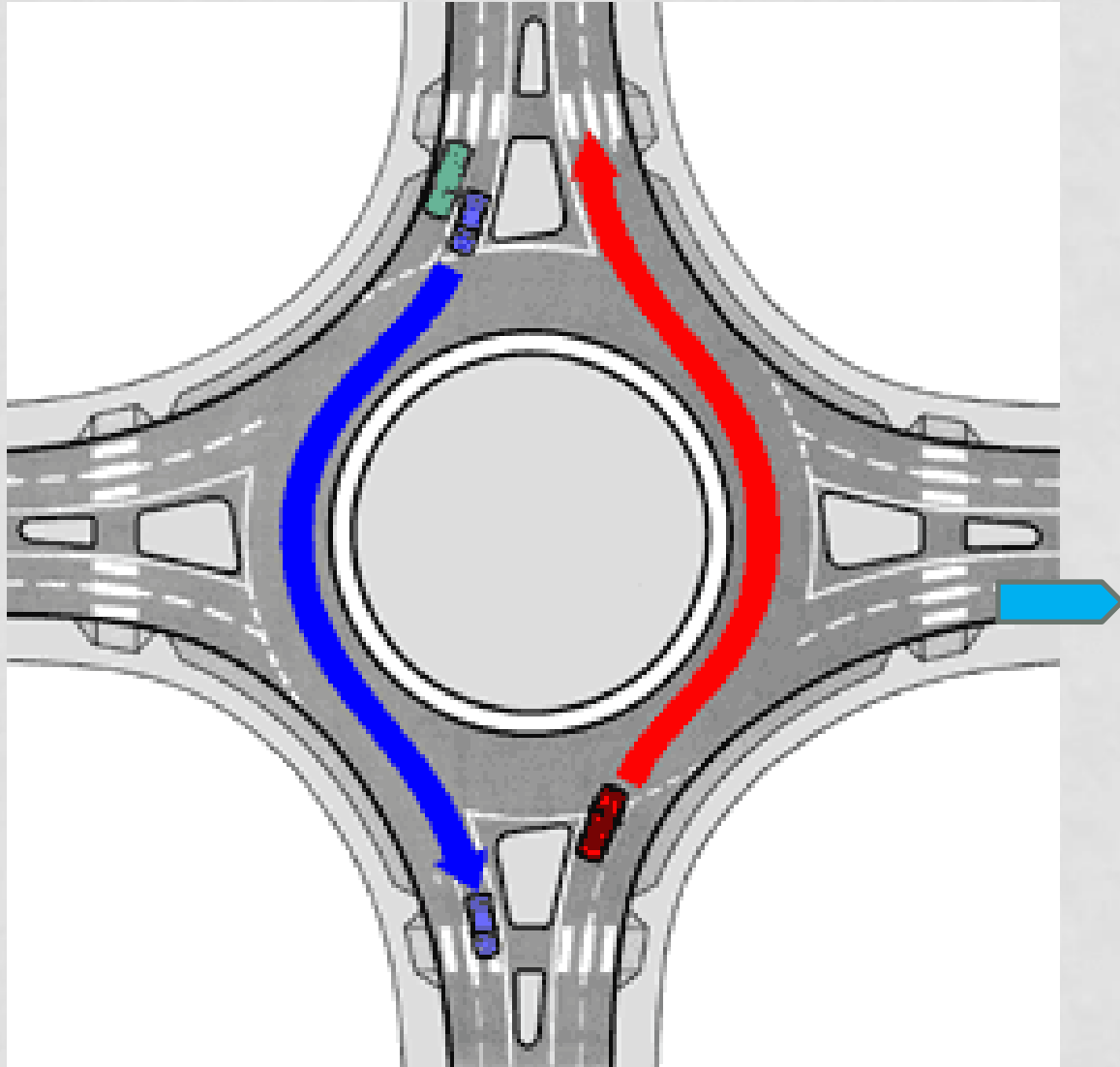




**YIELD TO  
EMERGENCY  
VEHICLES**









# ***PASSING PARKED EMERGENCY VEHICLES***

**Emergency vehicle that is parked on the side of a two lane highway.**

**The approaching vehicle must move to the left lane away from the emergency vehicle. If a lane change is not possible you must slow down and pass with caution.**



**44. T OR F- IF A POLICE OFFICER HAS PULLED OVER A CAR ON A MULTIPLE LANE HIGHWAY, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO MOVE TO THE LEFT LANE IF IT IS SAFE TO DO SO.**

Minnesota

MOVE OVER LAW

MOVE OVER



FOR STOPPED  
EMERGENCY VEHICLES.

Slow Down. **Move Over with Care.**



[www.MoveOverLaw.com](http://www.MoveOverLaw.com)

# ***EMERGENCY VEHICLES INCLUDE:***

- **Tow trucks**
- **Ambulance**
- **Fire trucks**
- **Police cars**





- 62. TRUE OR **FALSE**. The Move-Over Law apply only to police cars that are stopped on the side of the road.



# Fire Fighting Equipment

**17. You must remain 500 ft. behind any emergency vehicle.**

- Do not run over **unprotected hose**
- Unless directed by a law enforcement or fire department official



## Following Other Vehicles

- The law requires that you maintain a safe distance from the vehicle in front.

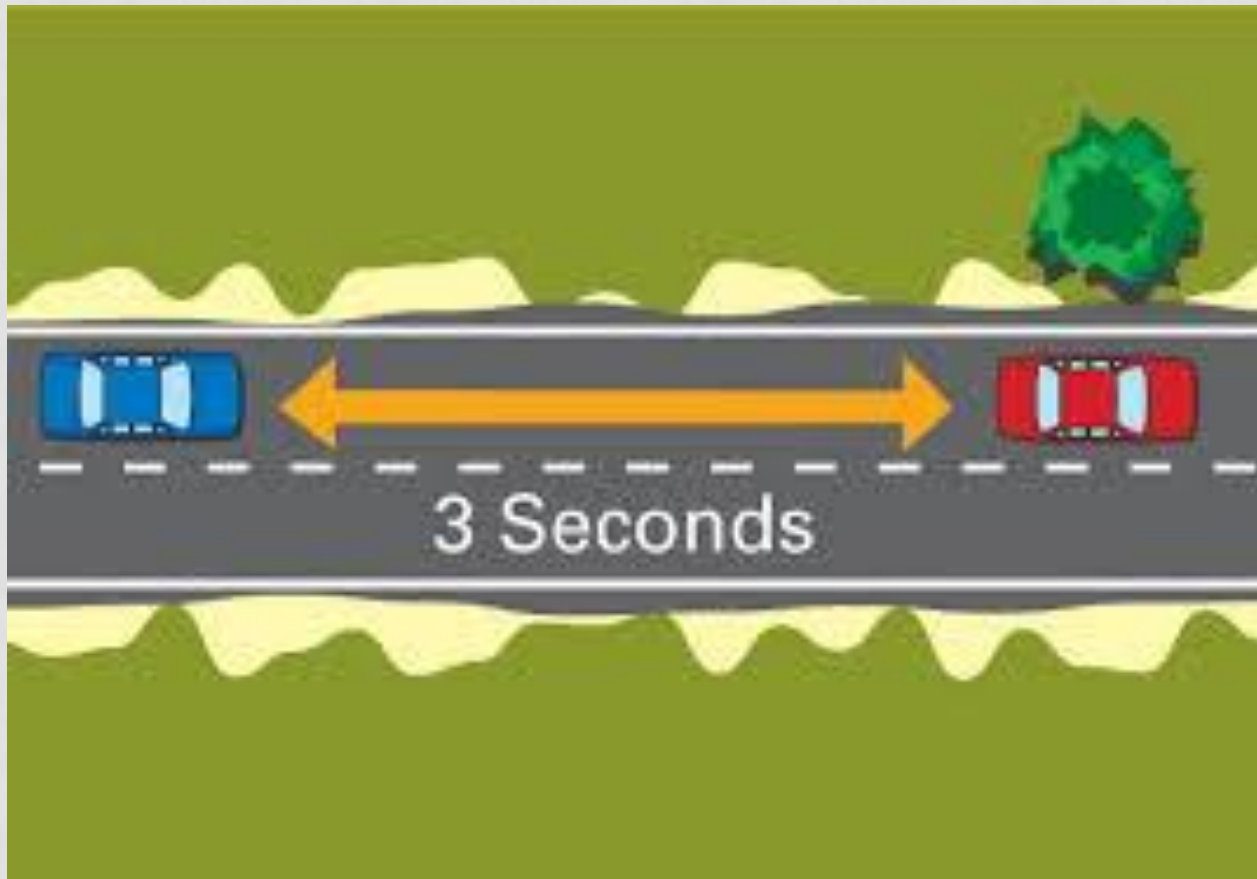
**45-47 What three things must you consider in determining a safe following distance.**

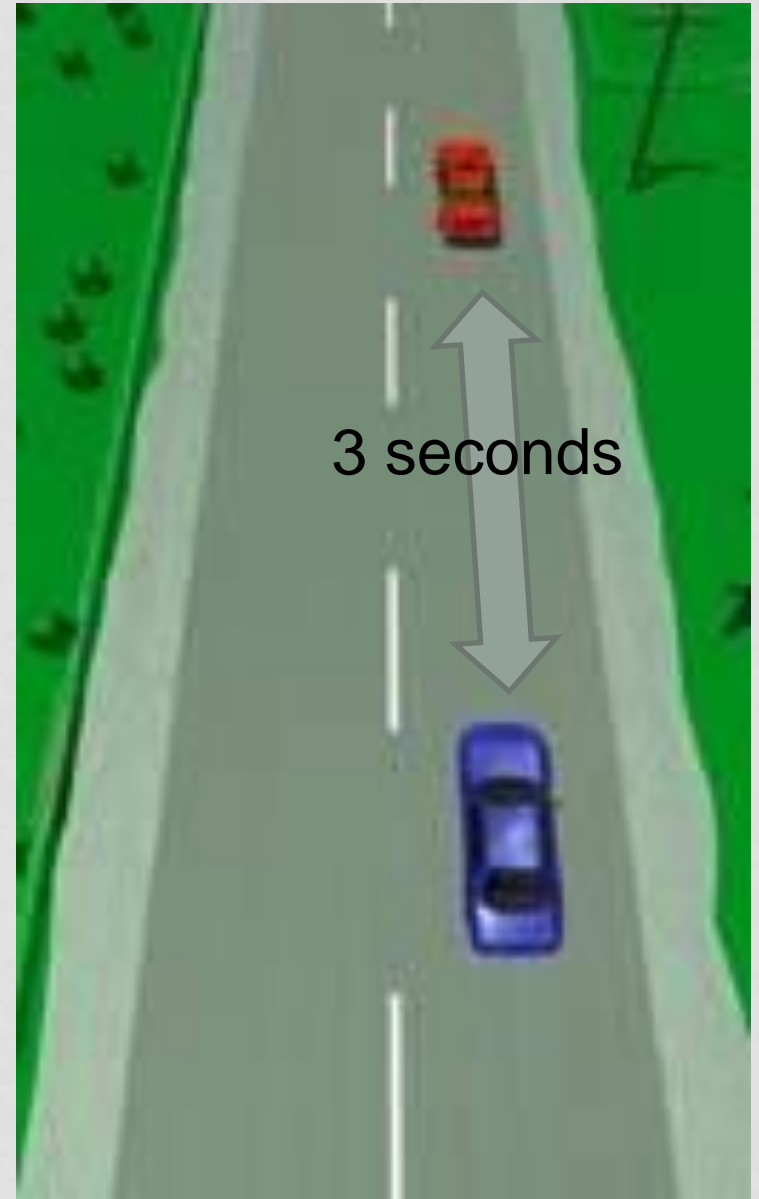
**45. Weather,**  
**46. road,**  
**47.traffic conditions**





- ***3 second rule will help you maintain a safe following distance***
- Stay out of other drivers **blind spots**





# ***Watch for Pedestrians***

- Stop & Yield to pedestrians in **crosswalks**
- If a pedestrian is in a marked or unmarked crosswalk , ***stop and wait until the pedestrian has passed your lane. Page 42***







***19. It is illegal to pass another vehicle stopped at a crosswalk to allow a pedestrian to cross.***

**19. T.**

- Don't stand on the roadway to hitch hike
- Illegal to hitchhike on a freeway

# **WATCH FOR BLIND PEDESTRIANS**

- They may be carrying a white or metallic cane or be using a guide dog.
- If the blind pedestrian is waiting at the crosswalk , do not use your horn or rev your engine as this might distract the pedestrian or guide dog





# Pedestrians



- Hundreds of pedestrians are killed each year.
- Driver's must be more alert and observant for pedestrians

# Watch for pedestrians in these areas

- On roads where cars are parked
- After dark or during conditions of poor visibility
- At crosswalks and other places where people normally cross
- Areas frequented by older persons



- 
- In the morning and afternoon and when children are present.

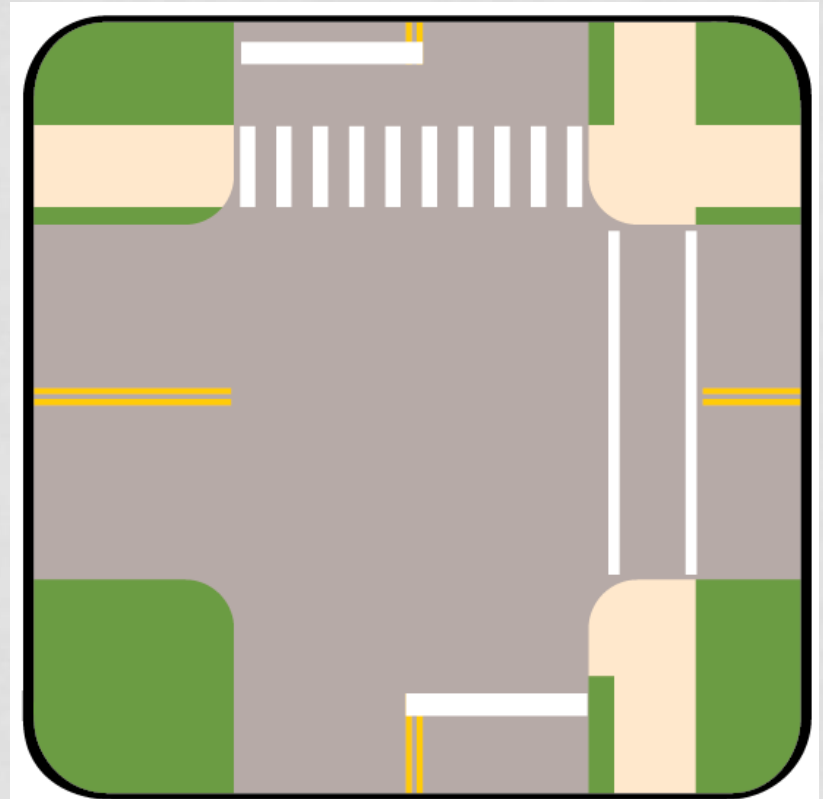
- *20. The most dangerous & unpredictable pedestrians are children*

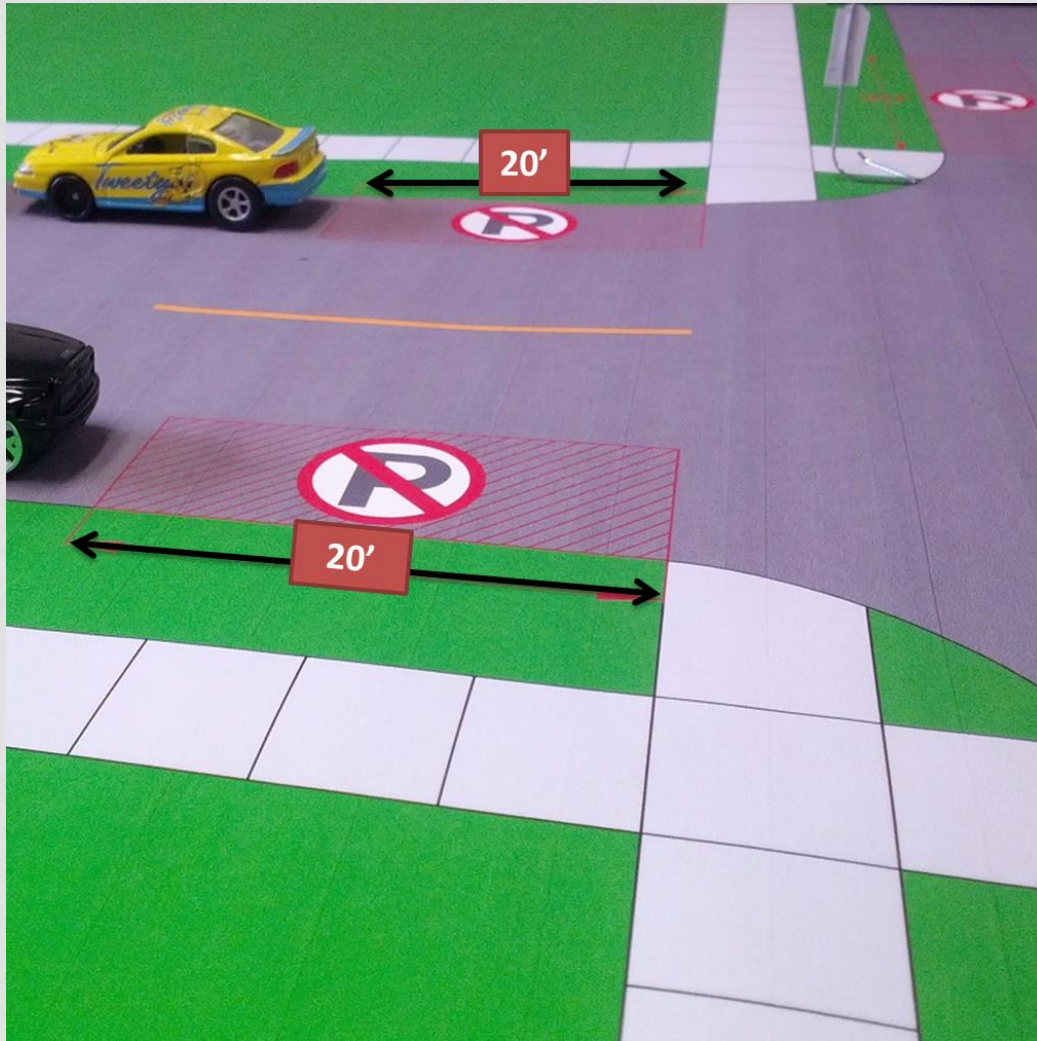
*20. children*



# CROSSWALKS

- Crosswalks are usually marked with white paint.





- **18. Unmarked crosswalks are areas where a road intersects a sidewalk and there are no solid white lines painted on the road.**

- When stopping at a marked or unmarked crosswalk, **do not block the crosswalk with your vehicle.**





# **PEDESTRIANS SHOULD OBEY TRAFFIC LAWS DESIGNED TO KEEP THEM SAFE.**

- **Obey control signals. Stay a few feet back when waiting for a walk signal**
- **Yield right of way to vehicles in the intersection when the walk signal is activated**
- **Use sidewalks**
- **When crossing at intersections with no crosswalk yield to all vehicles on the road**

- Stay out of traffic lanes if possible and make way for traffic on the road. **If you must walk on the road stay on the left side and face oncoming traffic**



# When Walking at Night



- Wear **light colored or reflective clothing**
- **Do not assume** traffic will wait for you to cross the road
- **Do not step out in front of a car.** Get eye contact with them first.
- Be prepared to **avoid drivers** who do not see you.





# SHARING THE ROAD WITH BICYCLES

- Bicycles are legal vehicles on Minnesota roads and share the same rights and responsibilities.
- Bike lanes are designed to separate bike traffic from normal vehicle traffic.
- (share the road) same road ,same rules, same rights (video)



- It is illegal to drive in these lanes, **except to enter and leave the road or to prepare for a turn**
- Before crossing a bike lane be sure it is safe to do so

***48. You may enter a bike lane to prepare make a right turn I.***





- 66. **TRUE** OR FALSE. Bicycle lanes are designed to separate bicycle traffic from normal vehicle traffic.



# Yield the right away to approaching bicycles.

***Remember bicyclist frequently make sudden or abrupt movements to avoid objects. Give them room to maneuver.***





**22. MULTIPLE CHOICE. The following is true about bicycles:**

- a. they have separate laws from other HTS users.**
- b. are allowed to travel on sidewalks.**
- c. frequently make sudden or abrupt movements to avoid objects.**
- d. are treated no differently than another car.**

**22. c.**

# Bicycles

- \* Be careful when you pass - **give them at least 3 ft.**
- Watch for bike traffic at night





**58. When pass, the law requires at least 3 feet between the side of your car and the bicyclist.**



- It is **legal for a bicycle to ride at night** but they are required to have lights and reflectors



- Bike riders **cannot impede the normal flow of traffic.**



# **Bicycle Laws**

**Bike riders are required to obey all traffic laws**

**Ride the same direction as normal vehicle traffic.**

**Use same hand and arm signals as other drivers.  
Except the can hold out their right hand for a right turn**

**Bicyclist should ride just to the right of faster moving traffic. They may move to the center of the lane to avoid debris etc., to pass vehicles and to turn left.**

**Bicyclist are allowed to ride side by side. But on a laned road, they must ride with in a single lane**

49. **TRUE** OR FALSE. Bicycle riders are required to obey all traffic laws.





**21. TRUE OR FALSE.** For safety reasons bicycles travel in the opposite direction as motor vehicles.



**Bicyclist are not allowed to  
impede the normal flow of traffic**

**Bicyclist are encouraged to wear  
helmets**

**When riding on side walks or  
passing pedestrians in a cross  
walk **give an audible signal before  
passing****

**You may not ride a bike on a side walk within a business district, unless permitted by local authorities**

**Local authorities can also ban bikes on all sidewalks and crosswalks**

**Bicycles can be difficult to spot in traffic. Watch for them in intersection, sidewalks, driveways and alleys**



# Motorized Bikes

- Not allowed on bike paths or sidewalks
- Not allowed on freeways.
- Are only able to travel at speeds of 30 mph or less.



*Click for more photos*

**50. TRUE OR FALSE.** You may drive your motorized bike in a bike lane.



# Motorcycles (Motorcycle video)

- Car /motorcycle crashes; most often caused by driver **inattention** or **distraction** and **failure to yield the right of way**
- Motorcycles are **not easy to spot in traffic**
- Motorcycles are about **2 feet wide cars are 5 to 6 feet wide**
- MC can be **completely hidden** in the blind spot.



# Motorcycles

- Because motorcycles are smaller than cars, it can be difficult to judge their **speed and distance** when they are approaching.



**24. To help them be noticed, motorcycles keep their headlights *on at all times*.**

***Skilled riders constantly change position in a traffic lane. Give them room to maneuver***



23. **TRUE** OR FALSE. Based on conditions a motorcyclist may choose several different lane positions.





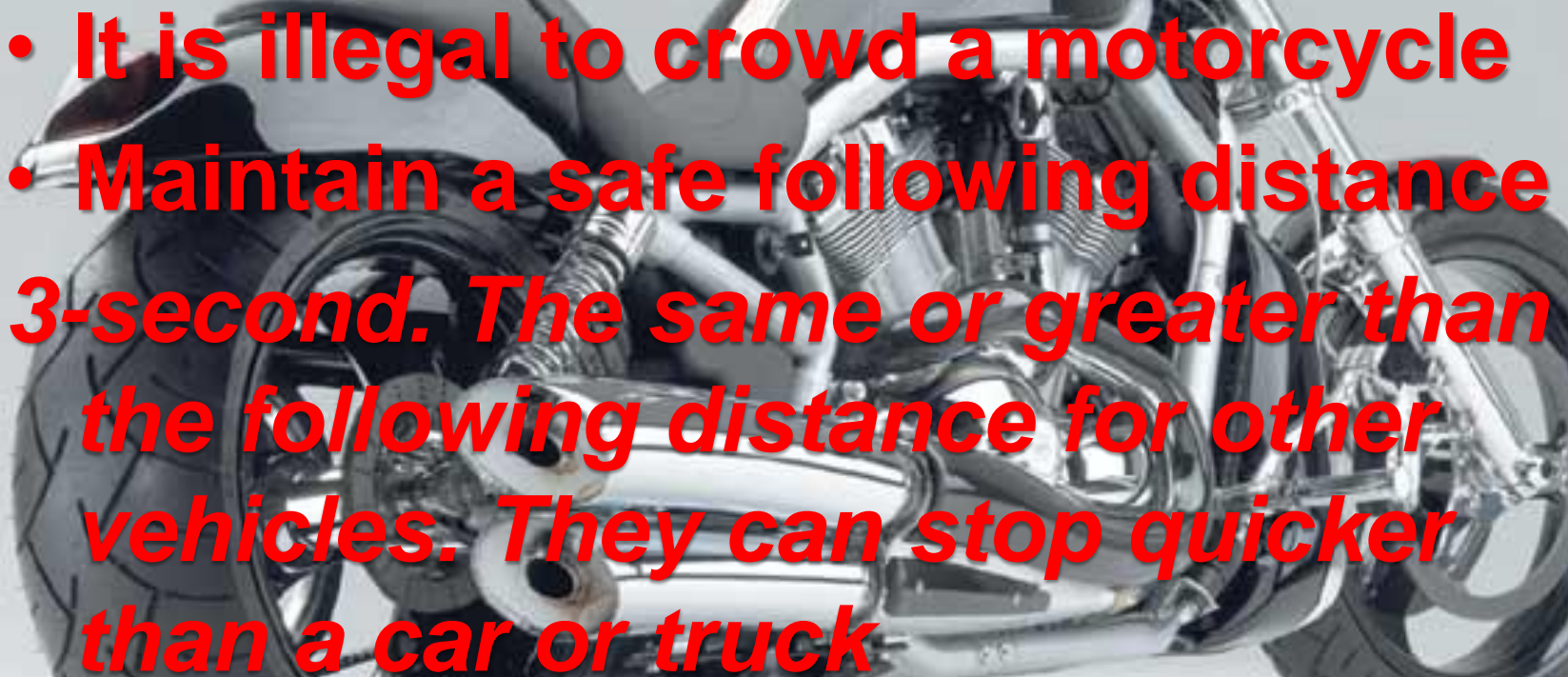
# ***Be alert for motorcycles in certain situations.***

- Turning at intersections. **Crashes in urban intersections are the most common motorcycle-car collision**



- Changing lanes and passing in traffic
- Give the motorcycle the full width of the lane when passing.



- 
- It is illegal to crowd a motorcycle
  - Maintain a safe following distance 3-second. *The same or greater than the following distance for other vehicles. They can stop quicker than a car or truck*



**53. Which vehicle stops faster, COMMERCIAL  
VEHICLE, MINI VAN, or **MOTORCYCLE**.**



**67. In 2010, the Minnesota legislature amended a law to address instances when vehicles are not detected by control systems at traffic lights, and a signal change does not occur. Which two vehicles could go through a red light in certain situations?**

**1. Motorcycles**



**2. Bicycles**







# NEIGHBORHOOD ELECTRIC VEHICLES (NEV)

- **An NEV is an electric-power vehicle that has four wheels and can reach a speed of at least 20, but not more than 25 MPH.**
- **They must be titled and registered with DVS.**
- **Anyone with a class D license can drive an NEV, but only on streets with speed limits of 35 MPH or less**
- **NEVs may not be used during the road skills test.**





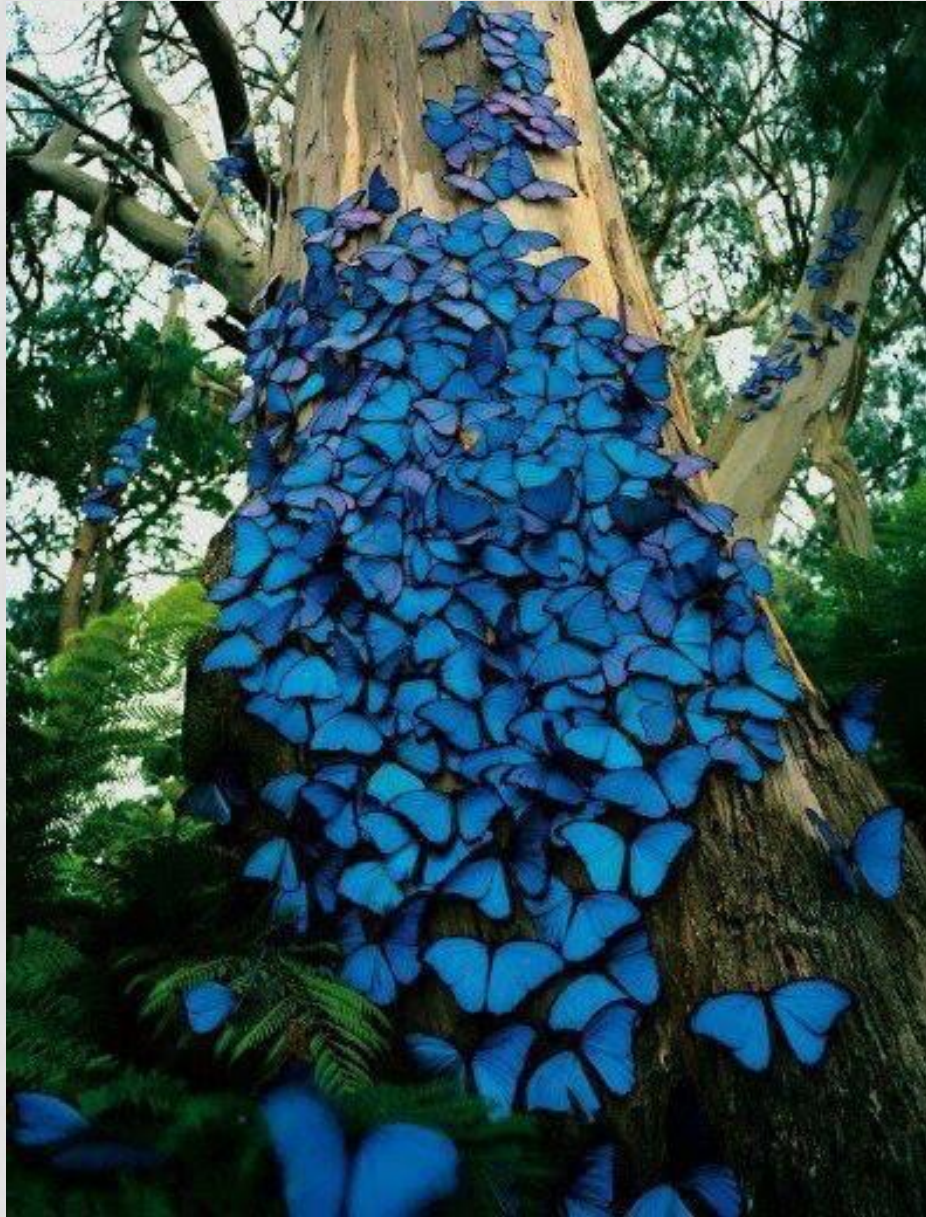




- 61. Anyone with a class D driver's license may drive an NEV, but only on streets with speed limits of 35 mph or less. NEVs may not be used during a Road Skill Test.







# Commercial Vehicles

A commercial vehicle is a motor vehicle or combination of motor vehicles that **weight more than 26,000 pounds** and is used to **transport passengers and property.** **Buses including school buses** of all sizes and smaller vehicles that carry **hazardous materials.**

(Sharing the road video)

# ***Passing a truck***

- Make sure it can be done safely
- **Flash your lights** as you go through the blind spot

It take **3 to 5 second longer** to pass a truck

- Return to your side of the road before you get within **100 feet of oncoming traffic**
- **Do not pass** a commercial vehicle if you **plan to exit** or turn off the roadway soon



**51. How much longer does it take to pass a commercial vehicle than a car?**

**51. 3 to 5 seconds longer**



# Passing

- Remember when trucks are going down hill **they pick up speed**
- When they are going up hill they **slow**
- Keep this in mind when you plan on passing a truck
- *It will be easier to pass on an upgrade than a downgrade.*

52. Is it easier to pass a commercial vehicle on an **UPGRADE** or a DOWN GRADE.

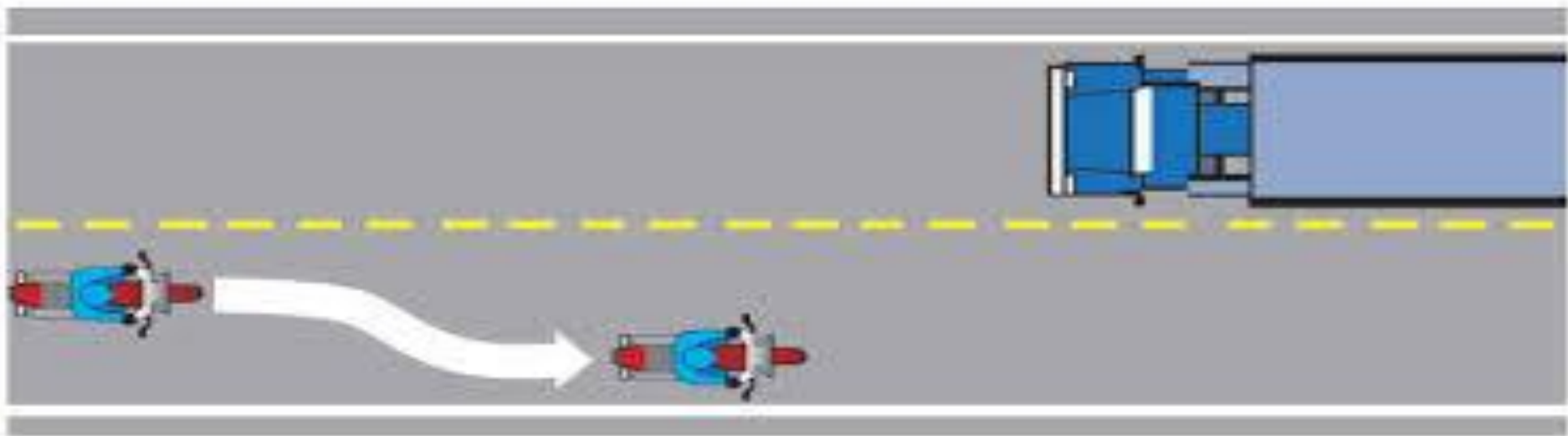




# ***Following a Truck***

- **Don't tailgate**
- **Stay out of their blind spot.** Move through the blind spot as quickly as possible.
- When you can see the **entire front** of the truck you can **move back to your lane.**
- When meeting a truck move to the right part of your lane to **avoid the trucks turbulence**

25. When you meet a truck you should move to the far **RIGHT** as possible to avoid the trucks turbulence.



# ***Following a Truck***

- ( **If you can't see the driver** in the side view mirror the truck driver **can't see you**)
- When following at night keep your lights on **low beam**. They have a big side mirror.
- Stopped behind a truck on a hill. **Stay back!**

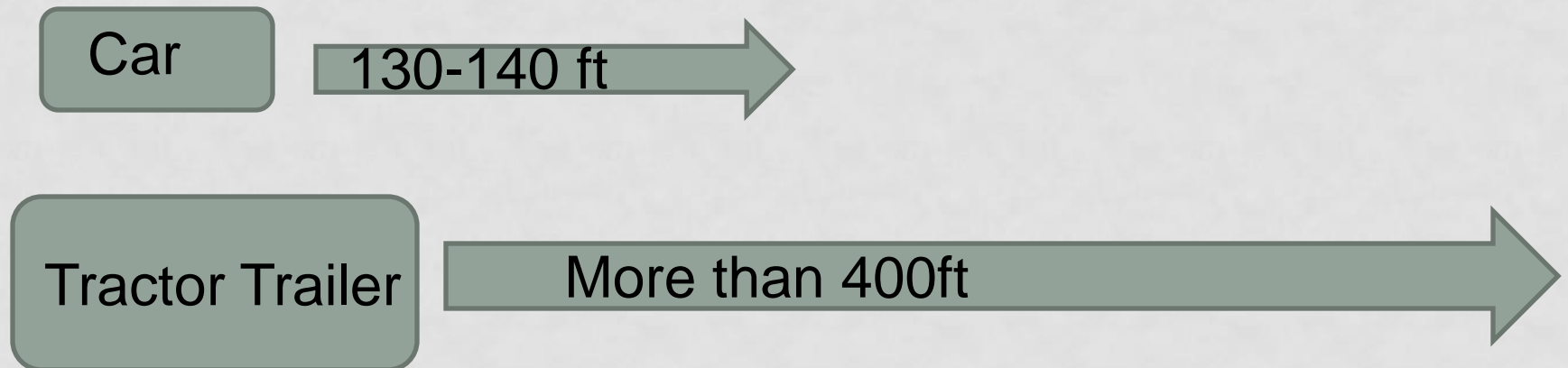






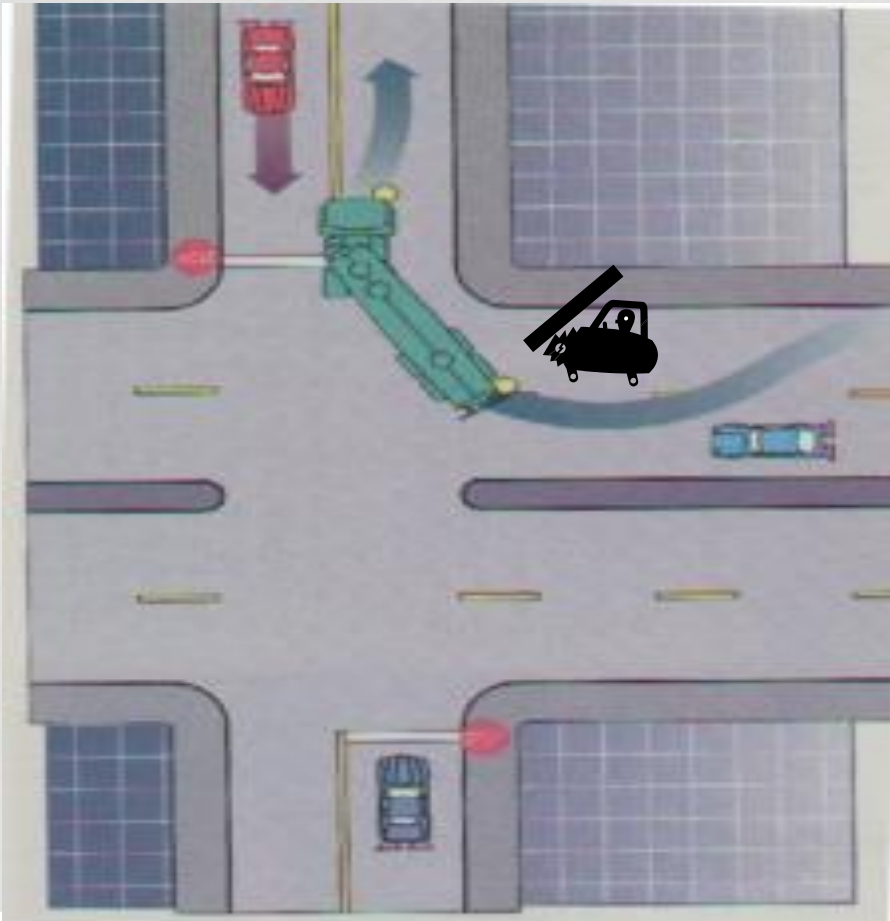
**Because of their large size, commercial vehicle may appear to be traveling at slower speeds than they actually are.**

**Many intersection collisions between cars and commercial trucks occur because of this.**



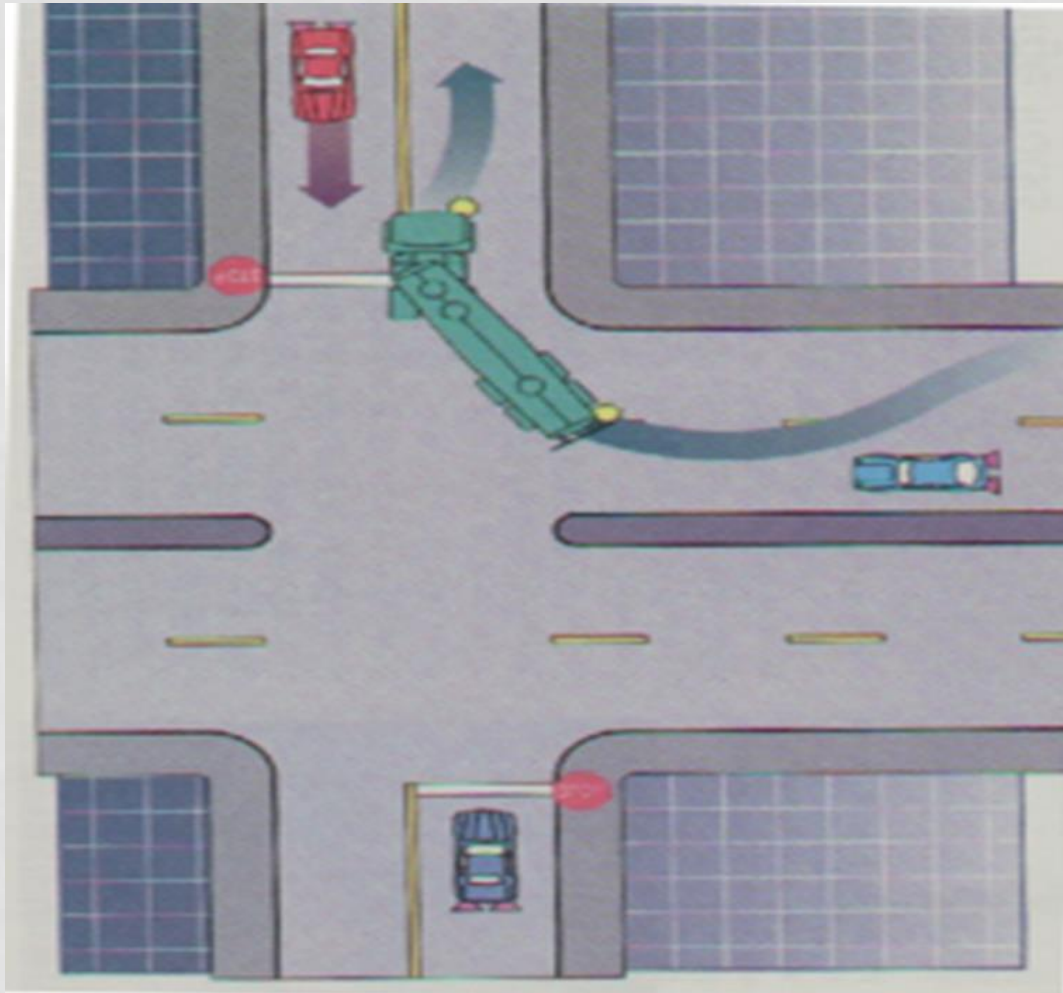
# Right Turns

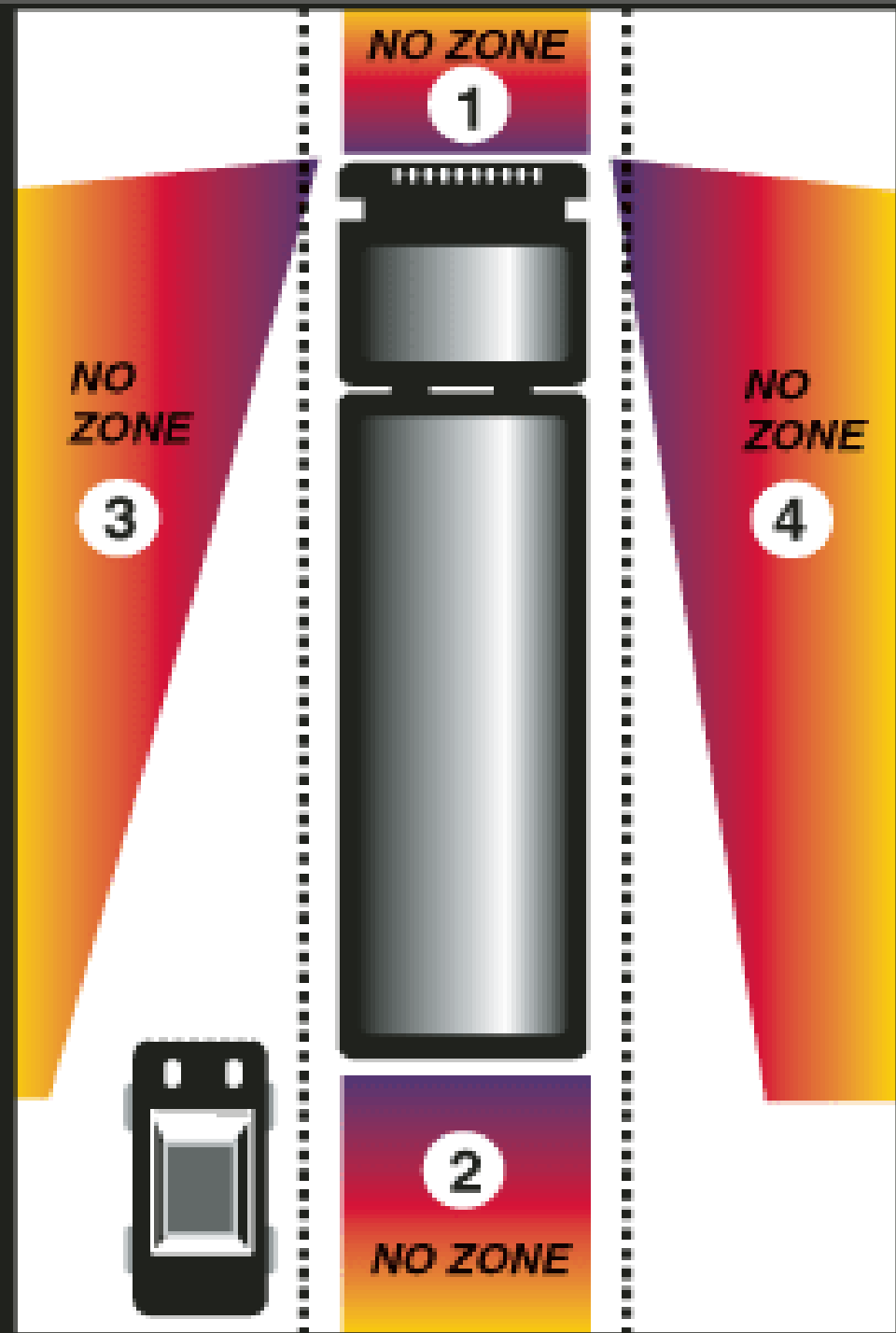
- *Trucks make wide right turns to avoid running over the curb.*
- Don't pull up next to a truck on the right.





27. Commercial vehicles may make wide  
27. right turns to avoid running over the curb.

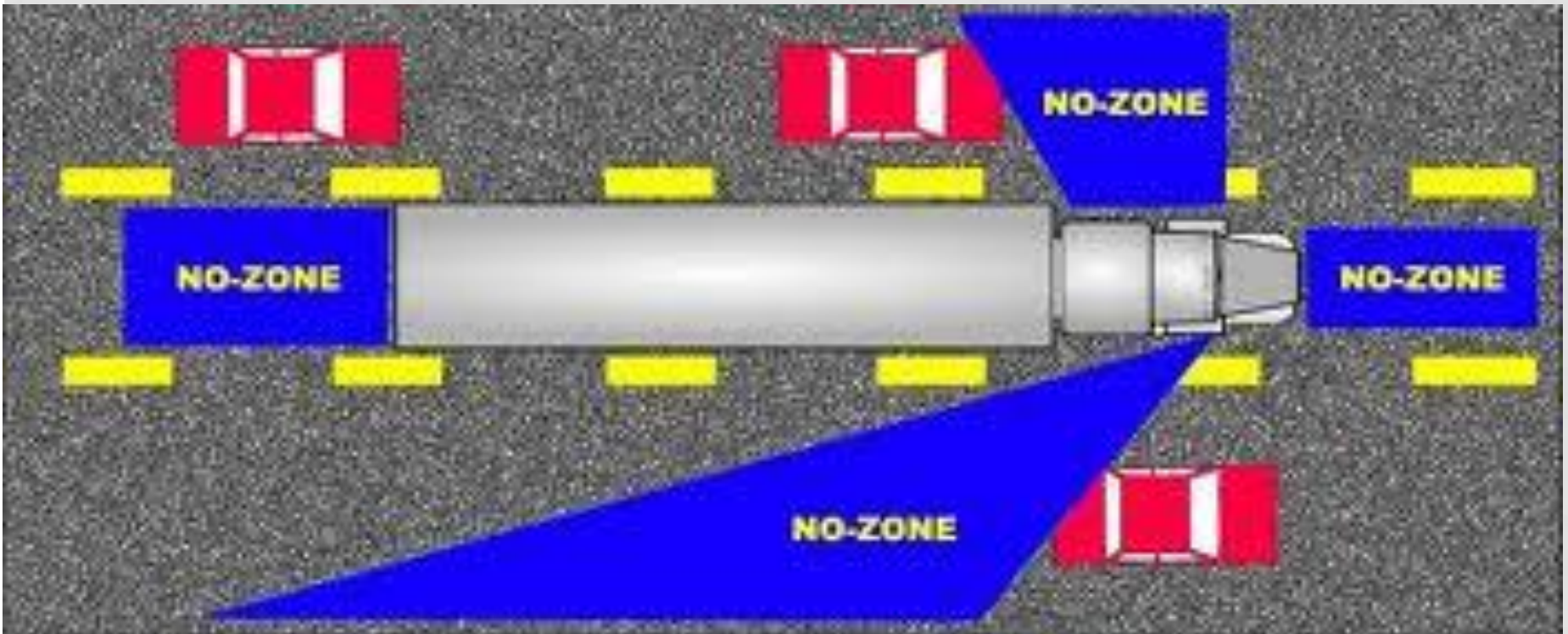




*The no-zone is the blind spots of a commercial vehicle. Avoid driving in the no-zone.*

## 26. What is the No Zone?

### *26. Blind spots around trucks*







© Jeremy Holmes Photography.com



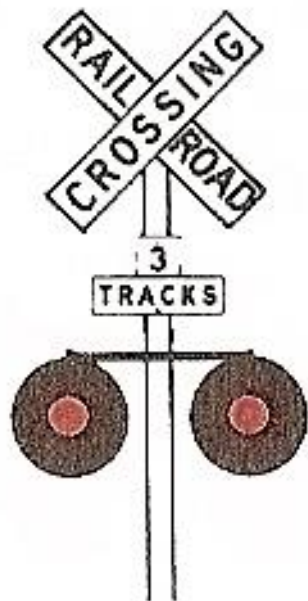
# **RAILROAD CROSSINGS**

- **Railroad crossings can be especially dangerous places for collisions to occur. Most vehicle –train collisions are deadly for the motor vehicle driver.**
- **Pay attention when approaching and crossing railroad tracks.**

**(Look and live) Operation lifesaver**

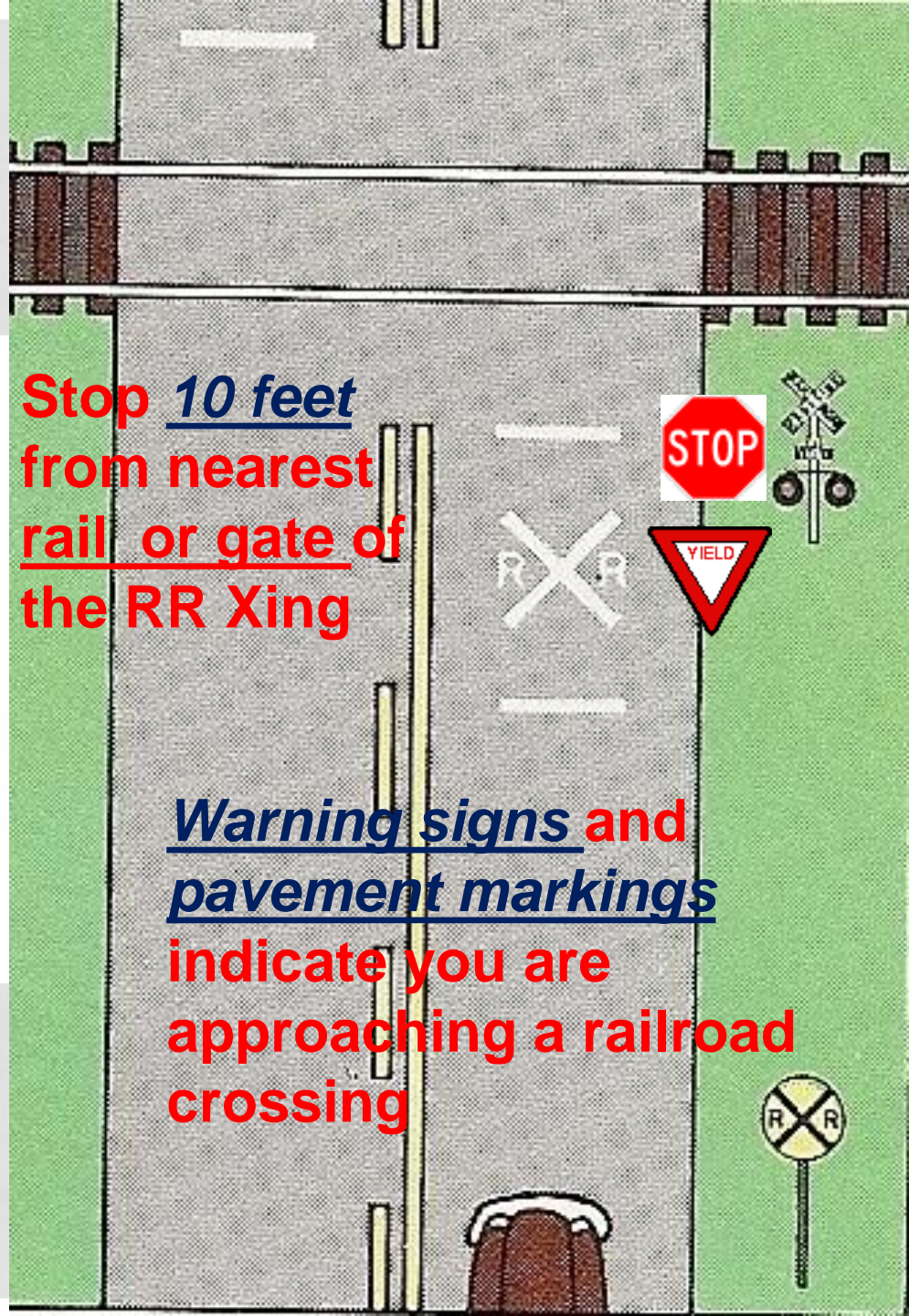


- **RRXing Warning Devices**



**Stop 10 feet  
from nearest  
rail or gate of  
the RR Xing**

**Warning signs and  
pavement markings  
indicate you are  
approaching a railroad  
crossing**



29. Stop your vehicle at least 10 feet from the nearest rail or gate at a railroad crossing.

54. WARNING SIGNS and 55. PAVEMENT MARKING indicate that you are approaching a railroad crossing.

60. It is safe to cross when traffic ahead has moved and you can proceed without stopping within 10 feet past the rails.

# Special vehicles at railroad crossings.

- Some Trucks, Passenger vans, and School Buses **must stop at RR-Xings**
- Do not pass these vehicles
- Its illegal to pass any vehicle **within 100 ft**
- Its illegal to **drive around gates**
- You must stop as soon **as the lights begin to flash.**
- It is safe to cross when traffic ahead has moved and you can proceed **without stopping within 10 feet past the rails.**



56. It is illegal to pass any vehicle within **100** feet of a railroad crossing.

28. TRUE OR **FALSE**. If no train is in sight you may drive around the stop arms.



# RAILROAD CROSSING SAFETY

- More than one train may approach at the same time. Do not proceed until you are sure a **second train** is not approaching from on another track
- Look both ways at the crossing whether or not there are warning devices.







- When there is heavy traffic on both sides of the crossing, do not proceed until you **are sure you will not be forced to stop on the tracks.**

- Never race the train** to get to the other side.  
The train cannot stop quickly.

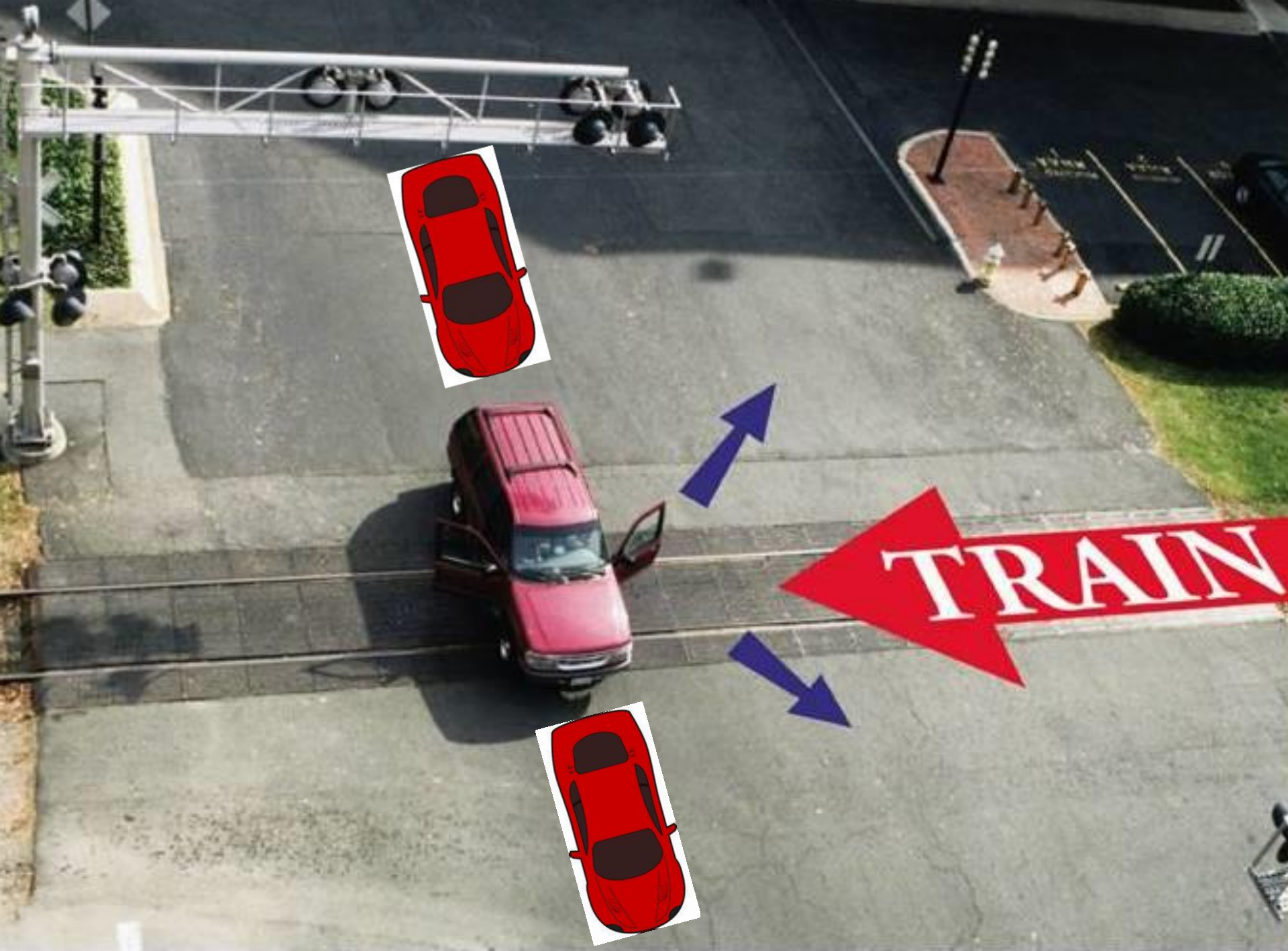
- Do not shift gears on the tracks.**  
(Manual transmission) shift down as you approach the crossing



57. Never race a train to get to the other side of the crossing. Trains cannot stop as quickly as motor vehicles.









- Motorcycles should approach with caution.
- Do not swerve to get a better angle**



- Although trains are equipped with bright lights and loud horns their distance and speed is difficult to judge particularly at night.**

If you feel hesitation about crossing the railroad tracks when a train is in sight, **STOP** and wait for the train to pass.









# Highway Work Zones

- *Paying attention and driving cautiously and courteously* are the most important steps to preventing accidents at work zones.
- Watch for **orange** - it means road work
- Obey speed limits in work zones, you will have to pay a **\$300 fine**
- **Orange IQ video**

**30. What must you do when you enter a highway work zone?**

**30. Slow and proceed with care**

59. MULTIPLE CHOICE. The new driving procedure to follow is when you see the “lane closed ahead” sign and traffic is backing up, stay in your current lane up to the point of merge. This is called:

- a. the move-over law
- b. the zipper merge**
- c. the construction right-of-way law.
- d. the smart merge





# Work Zone Driving Tips

- **Reduce** your speed
- Adjust your lane **position away** from workers
- Prepare for the **unexpected & expect delays.**





# **Mobile Work Zone**

- **Utility Maintenance**
- **Pavement Repair**
- **Land Surveying**
- **Paint Striping**
- **Snow Removal**
- **Snow plow accidents are common. Do not drive into a snow cloud.**





# Night Work Zones

- To relieve traffic congestion more construction is being done after dark.
- The hazards of driving through these sites are greater.
- **Use extreme caution when driving through night work zones**





THE END.

