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## Level 6

### Drivers who took car crash photos in trouble

15th August, 2014

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

British police are prosecuting four motorists for slowing down on a busy highway to take photos of a crash scene. It will be the first time for drivers in Britain to face prosecution for "rubbernecking" – the act of looking back at a grisly scene, usually while driving a car. The four rubberneckers slowed down to snap shots of a crash on the other side of the road. Drivers behind them were forced to brake to avoid hitting the rubberneckers. Police at the scene said the photo-taking motorists had been "acting irresponsibly" in slowing down to use their mobile phones to take photos. They will be charged with driving without due care and attention and without reasonable consideration for other road users.

Police officer Shelley Holloway spoke to journalists about the incident. She said: "Thankfully nobody was injured in the collision. However the actions of several motorists who drove through the scene showed no regard for their own or of other people's safety, as they used their mobile phones to record or video the wreckage as they passed. In doing so, they were not in proper control of their vehicle. They slowed down causing motorists behind them to brake or take evasive action and slow the flow of traffic that was already heavily congested." She added that: "One of the causes of serious injury and fatal collisions is the use of mobile telephones." She urged motorists to lock their phones away when driving.

Sources: <http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/rubber-necking-motorists-prosecuted-taking-mobile-4042382#ixzz3AEoLXnJQ>  
<http://www.gloucestershireecho.co.uk/Gloucestershire-police-prosecute-M5-motorists/story-22301077-detail/story.html#lEv8iLuDKCG3s5Ti.99>  
[http://www.stroudnewsandjournal.co.uk/news/11400855.Snap\\_happy\\_motorists\\_face\\_prosecution/](http://www.stroudnewsandjournal.co.uk/news/11400855.Snap_happy_motorists_face_prosecution/)

# WARM-UPS

**1. RUBBERNECKERS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about rubberneckers. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

*prosecuting / motorists / crash scene / grisly scene / irresponsibly / consideration / journalists / injured / safety / wreckage / in proper control / traffic / serious injury*

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. SAFETY:** How can we get more people to be safer in their cars? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

Issue	In your car	How to make things safer
Mobile phones		
Rubbernecking		
Speeding		
Seat belts		
Road condition		
Technology		

**4. RUBBERNECKING:** Students A **strongly** believe rubbernecking should be made a crime; Students B **strongly** believe it's just natural human curiosity. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. DRIVERS:** Rank these with your partner. Put the worst habits at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- rubbernecking
- eating and driving
- speeding
- tailgating
- hooting / honking
- double parking
- idling
- hogging a lane

**6. HIGHWAY:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "highway". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. British police are taking dozens of motorists to court for taking photos. T / F
- b. This will be the first time British police have prosecuted rubberneckers. T / F
- c. The rubberneckers caused many cars behind them to crash. T / F
- d. The police will charge the rubberneckers for driving too slowly. T / F
- e. No one was hurt in the accident that was photographed. T / F
- f. A police officer said the rubberneckers weren't in control of their car. T / F
- g. Police said it was fortunate there was light traffic at the time. T / F
- h. A police officer suggested drivers lock their phones away while driving. T / F

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. prosecuting   | a. gruesome        |
| 2. drivers       | b. consideration   |
| 3. grisly        | c. episode         |
| 4. irresponsibly | d. movement        |
| 5. reasonable    | e. taking to court |
| 6. incident      | f. deadly          |
| 7. collision     | g. sensible        |
| 8. regard        | h. motorists       |
| 9. flow          | i. accident        |
| 10. fatal        | j. recklessly      |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. slowing down on a                       | a. were forced to brake   |
| 2. a grisly                                | b. of their vehicle       |
| 3. Drivers behind them                     | c. care and attention     |
| 4. motorists had been                      | d. congested              |
| 5. without due                             | e. scene                  |
| 6. nobody was injured                      | f. collisions             |
| 7. record or video                         | g. busy highway           |
| 8. not in proper control                   | h. the wreckage           |
| 9. traffic that was already heavily        | i. in the collision       |
| 10. the causes of serious injury and fatal | j. "acting irresponsibly" |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

British police are prosecuting four (1) \_\_\_\_\_ for slowing down on a busy highway to take photos of a crash scene. It will be the first time for drivers in Britain to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ prosecution for "rubbernecking" – the act of looking back at a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ scene, usually while driving a car. The four rubberneckers slowed down to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ shots of a crash on the other side of the road. Drivers behind them were forced to brake to (5) \_\_\_\_\_ hitting the rubberneckers. Police at the scene said the photo-taking motorists had been "acting (6) \_\_\_\_\_ " in slowing down to use their mobile phones to take photos. They will be charged with driving without (7) \_\_\_\_\_ care and attention and without reasonable consideration for other road (8) \_\_\_\_\_.

*irresponsibly*  
*snap*  
*motorists*  
*users*  
*due*  
*face*  
*avoid*  
*grisly*

Police officer Shelley Holloway spoke to journalists about the (9) \_\_\_\_\_. She said: "Thankfully nobody was injured in the (10) \_\_\_\_\_. However the actions of several motorists who drove through the scene showed no (11) \_\_\_\_\_ for their own or of other people's safety, as they used their mobile phones to record or video the (12) \_\_\_\_\_ as they passed. In doing so, they were not in proper control of their vehicle. They slowed down causing motorists behind them to brake or take (13) \_\_\_\_\_ action and slow the flow of traffic that was already heavily (14) \_\_\_\_\_." She added that: "One of the causes of serious injury and (15) \_\_\_\_\_ collisions is the use of mobile telephones." She (16) \_\_\_\_\_ motorists to lock their phones away when driving.

*wreckage*  
*fatal*  
*regard*  
*congested*  
*incident*  
*urged*  
*collision*  
*evasive*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

- 1) It will be the first time for drivers in Britain to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. faced prosecution
  - b. faces prosecution
  - c. face prosecution
  - d. facing prosecution
- 2) "rubbernecking" – the act of looking back at \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a grisly scene
  - b. a grossly scene
  - c. a greasy scene
  - d. a grizzly scene
- 3) Drivers behind them were forced to brake to \_\_\_\_\_ rubbernecks
  - a. evade hitting the
  - b. avoid hitting the
  - c. avid hitting the
  - d. aphid hitting the
- 4) Police at the scene said the photo-taking motorists had been " \_\_\_\_\_ "
  - a. acting responsibly
  - b. acting irresponsibility
  - c. acting irresponsible ably
  - d. acting irresponsibly
- 5) They will be charged with driving without due \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. care and attention
  - b. cares and attentions
  - c. care and attentions
  - d. cares and attention
- 6) Police officer Shelley Holloway spoke to journalists \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. about the accident
  - b. about the incident
  - c. about the incidence
  - d. about the incidents
- 7) Thankfully nobody was injured \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. in the collusion
  - b. in the collision
  - c. in the collisions
  - d. in the colliding
- 8) they used their mobile phones to record or \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. video the wreckage
  - b. video the wrecked age
  - c. video the wreck cage
  - d. video the rack age
- 9) brake or take evasive action and slow the flow of traffic that was already \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. heavy congested
  - b. heavily congestion
  - c. heave all congested
  - d. heavily congested
- 10) One of the causes of serious injury \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. and fatally collisions
  - b. and fatalistic collisions
  - c. and fatally collisions
  - d. and fatal collisions

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

British police are prosecuting four motorists for (1) \_\_\_\_\_ busy highway to take photos of a crash scene. It will be the first time for drivers in Britain to face prosecution for "rubbernecking" – the act of looking back (2) \_\_\_\_\_, usually while driving a car. The four rubberneckers slowed down (3) \_\_\_\_\_ crash on the other side of the road. Drivers behind them were forced to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the rubberneckers. Police at the scene said the photo-taking motorists had been "(5) \_\_\_\_\_" in slowing down to use their mobile phones to take photos. They will be charged with driving without (6) \_\_\_\_\_ and without reasonable consideration for other road users.

Police officer Shelley Holloway spoke to journalists about the incident. She said: "Thankfully nobody was (7) \_\_\_\_\_. However the actions of several motorists who (8) \_\_\_\_\_ showed no regard for their own or of other people's safety, as they used their mobile phones to record or video (9) \_\_\_\_\_ passed. In doing so, they were not (10) \_\_\_\_\_ their vehicle. They slowed down causing motorists behind them to brake or take evasive action and slow the flow of traffic that was already (11) \_\_\_\_\_." She added that: "One of the causes of serious injury and fatal collisions is the use of mobile telephones." She (12) \_\_\_\_\_ their phones away when driving.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

1. On what kind of road did the rubberneckers take the photos?

---

2. How many times before have British police prosecuted rubberneckers?

---

3. Where was the crash scene in relation to the rubberneckers?

---

4. How did the police say the rubberneckers were acting?

---

5. Who did the police say the rubberneckers did not consider?

---

6. How many people were hurt in the accident?

---

7. What did the rubberneckers use to take photos of the crash scene?

---

8. What did drivers behind the rubberneckers have to do?

---

9. How was the traffic when the rubberneckers took their photos?

---

10. What did a police officer say drivers should do with their phones?

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# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

1. On what kind of road did the rubbernecks take the photos?
  - a) a country lane
  - b) a busy highway
  - c) a city street
  - d) Britain's longest bridge
2. How many times before have British police prosecuted rubbernecks?
  - a) five
  - b) one
  - c) none
  - d) three
3. Where was the crash scene in relation to the rubbernecks?
  - a) on a road below them
  - b) behind them
  - c) just in front of them
  - d) the other side of the road
4. How did the police say the rubbernecks were acting?
  - a) immorally
  - b) irresponsibly
  - c) violently
  - d) crazily
5. Who did the police say the rubbernecks did not consider?
  - a) other road users
  - b) the crash victims
  - c) the police
  - d) their family
6. How many people were hurt in the accident?
  - a) 0
  - b) 1
  - c) 5
  - d) 22
7. What did the rubbernecks use to take photos of the crash scene?
  - a) video cameras
  - b) iPads
  - c) digital cameras
  - d) mobile phones
8. What did drivers behind the rubbernecks have to do?
  - a) change lane
  - b) stop
  - c) brake
  - d) swerve
9. How was the traffic when the rubbernecks took their photos?
  - a) light
  - b) moving
  - c) moderate
  - d) heavy
10. What did a police officer say drivers should do with their phones?
  - a) put them in sleep mode
  - b) lock them away
  - c) leave them at home
  - d) turn them off

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

## **Role A – Rubbernecking**

You think rubbernecking is the worst thing drivers do. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so bad. Also, tell the others which is the least harmful of these of these (and why): speeding, idling or tailgating.

## **Role B – Speeding**

You think speeding is the worst thing drivers do. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so bad. Also, tell the others which is the least harmful of these of these (and why): rubbernecking, idling or tailgating.

## **Role C – Idling**

You think idling is the worst thing drivers do. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so bad. Also, tell the others which is the least harmful of these of these (and why): speeding, rubbernecking or tailgating.

## **Role D – Tailgating**

You think tailgating is the worst thing drivers do. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so bad. Also, tell the others which is the least harmful of these of these (and why): speeding, idling or rubbernecking.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'car' and 'crash'.

<b>car</b>	<b>crash</b>
------------	--------------

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• busy</li><li>• face</li><li>• back</li><li>• brake</li><li>• acting</li><li>• care</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• journalists</li><li>• regard</li><li>• video</li><li>• vehicle</li><li>• flow</li><li>• lock</li></ul>
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# RUBBERNECKERS SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneakers.html>

Write five GOOD questions about rubberneakers 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.

# RUBBERNECKERS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'rubbernecker'?
- c) What do you think of rubberneckerers?
- d) How bad is rubbernecking in your country?
- e) Why do people want to take photos of crash scenes?
- f) What punishment should the rubberneckerers get?
- g) Why do motorists create danger for others by rubbernecking?
- h) What things do you take photos of in public?
- i) What do you think of the word "rubbernecker"?
- j) Should mobile phones be banned in cars?

*Drivers who took car crash photos in trouble – 15th August, 2014*  
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# RUBBERNECKERS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) How dangerous are the roads in your country?
- c) Do motorists need to take refresher courses on driving safely?
- d) How can police stop rubberneckerers slowing down?
- e) Should cars be fitted with devices to block phone signals?
- f) How have mobile phones changed the world?
- g) What is the most dangerous thing people do while driving?
- h) Do you think we are all rubberneckerers?
- i) Do you think people should lock their phones away in cars?
- j) What questions would you like to ask a driving safety expert?

## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

British police are (1) \_\_\_\_\_ four motorists for slowing down on a busy highway to take photos of a crash scene. It will be the first time for drivers in Britain to (2) \_\_\_\_\_ prosecution for "rubbernecking" – the act of looking back at a (3) \_\_\_\_\_ scene, usually while driving a car. The four rubberneckers slowed down to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ shots of a crash on the other side of the road. Drivers behind them were forced to brake to avoid hitting the rubberneckers. Police at the scene said the photo-taking motorists had been "(5) \_\_\_\_\_ irresponsibly" in slowing down to use their mobile phones to take photos. They will be charged with driving without (6) \_\_\_\_\_ care and attention and without reasonable consideration for other road users.

Police officer Shelley Holloway spoke to journalists about the (7) \_\_\_\_\_. She said: "Thankfully nobody was injured in the collision. However the actions of several motorists who drove through the scene showed (8) \_\_\_\_\_ regard for their own or of other people's safety, as they used their mobile phones to record or video the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ as they passed. In doing (10) \_\_\_\_\_, they were not in proper control of their vehicle. They slowed down causing motorists behind them to brake or take evasive action and slow the flow of traffic that was already (11) \_\_\_\_\_ congested." She added that: "One of the causes of serious injury and (12) \_\_\_\_\_ collisions is the use of mobile telephones." She urged motorists to lock their phones away when driving.

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |                 |                 |                 |                     |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| 1.  | (a) prosecuting | (b) persecuting | (c) percolating | (d) procrastinating |
| 2.  | (a) fact        | (b) phase       | (c) face        | (d) place           |
| 3.  | (a) grizzly     | (b) gristly     | (c) grisly      | (d) greasy          |
| 4.  | (a) shoe        | (b) press       | (c) dial        | (d) snap            |
| 5.  | (a) doing       | (b) being       | (c) acting      | (d) processing      |
| 6.  | (a) pre         | (b) due         | (c) oft         | (d) sub             |
| 7.  | (a) coincidence | (b) incident    | (c) incidence   | (d) inference       |
| 8.  | (a) not         | (b) no          | (c) non         | (d) now             |
| 9.  | (a) passage     | (b) adage       | (c) wreckage    | (d) gauge           |
| 10. | (a) of          | (b) these       | (c) but         | (d) so              |
| 11. | (a) slowly      | (b) ideally     | (c) fairly      | (d) heavily         |
| 12. | (a) lotion      | (b) potion      | (c) natal       | (d) fatal           |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. police are prosecuting four iotrmstso
2. looking back at a rlgyis scene
3. acting sbiylrirnspeo
4. Police at the neecs
5. without due care and ttontnaei
6. caioeiosrdnn for other road users

## Paragraph 2

7. spoke to journalists about the ednniict
8. injured in the Inclooiis
9. record or video the racegwke
10. brake or take evsivea action
11. heavily egctsendo
12. lataf collisions



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) back at a grisly scene, usually while driving a car. The four rubberneckers slowed
- ( ) "acting irresponsibly" in slowing down to use their mobile phones to take photos. They will be charged with driving without due
- ( ) Police officer Shelley Holloway spoke to journalists about the incident. She said: "Thankfully nobody was injured
- ( ) down to snap shots of a crash on the other side of the road. Drivers behind them were forced to brake to avoid
- ( ) hitting the rubberneckers. Police at the scene said the photo-taking motorists had been
- ( ) behind them to brake or take evasive action and slow the flow of traffic that was already
- ( ) scene. It will be the first time for drivers in Britain to face prosecution for "rubbernecking" – the act of looking
- ( ) in the collision. However the actions of several motorists who drove through the scene showed no
- ( ) heavily congested." She added that: "One of the causes of serious injury and fatal collisions is the use
- ( ) regard for their own or of other people's safety, as they used their mobile phones to record or video the
- ( **1** ) British police are prosecuting four motorists for slowing down on a busy highway to take photos of a crash
- ( ) wreckage as they passed. In doing so, they were not in proper control of their vehicle. They slowed down causing motorists
- ( ) of mobile telephones." She urged motorists to lock their phones away when driving.
- ( ) care and attention and without reasonable consideration for other road users.

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

1. take Slowing a to on highway photos down busy.

---

2. of the a Snap the other crash shots road side on of.

---

3. motorists . taking been "irresponsibly" - had acting Photo

---

4. with and driving attention without due Charged care.

---

5. consideration reasonable Without users road other for.

---

6. nobody Thankfully collision the in injured was.

---

7. in of not control vehicle were proper their They.

---

8. take or Brake traffic of flow the slow and action evasive.

---

9. of serious injury and fatal collisions One of the causes.

---

10. away to lock She their urged phones motorists.

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

British police are *prosecuting* / *persecuting* four motorists for slowing down on a busy highway to take photos of a crash *scenery* / *scene*. It will be the first time for *drivers* / *driving* in Britain to face prosecution for "rubbernecking" – the *pact* / *act* of looking back at a *grisly* / *grossly* scene, usually while driving a car. The four rubberneckers slowed down to *slap* / *snap* shots of a crash on the *another* / *other* side of the road. Drivers behind them were forced to *brake* / *break* to avoid hitting the rubberneckers. Police at the scene said the photo-taking motorists had been "acting irresponsibly" in slowing down to use their mobile phones to take photos. They will be *charged* / *charging* with driving without due care and attention and without *reasonable* / *reasoned* consideration for other road users.

Police officer Shelley Holloway spoke to *journalists* / *journos* about the incident. She said: "Thankfully nobody was injured in the *collusion* / *collision*. However the actions of several motorists who *driven* / *drove* through the scene showed no *regards* / *regard* for their own or of other people's *safety* / *safely*, as they used their mobile phones to record or video the *wrecked* / *wreckage* as they passed. In doing so, they were not in *proper* / *prosper* control of their vehicle. They slowed down causing motorists behind them to brake or take *invasive* / *evasive* action and slow the flow of traffic that was already heavily *congested* / *ingested*." She added that: "One of the causes of serious injury and fatal collisions is the use of mobile telephones." She *urged* / *purged* motorists to lock their phones away when driving.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

Br\_t\_sh p\_l\_c\_ \_r\_ pr\_s\_c\_t\_ng f\_\_r m\_t\_r\_sts f\_r  
sl\_w\_ng d\_wn \_n \_ b\_sy h\_ghw\_y t\_t\_k\_ph\_t\_s \_f\_  
cr\_sh sc\_n\_. \_t\_w\_ll b\_th\_ f\_rst t\_m\_ f\_r dr\_v\_rs \_n  
Br\_t\_\_n t\_f\_c\_ pr\_s\_c\_t\_\_n f\_r "r\_bb\_rn\_ck\_ng" - th\_  
\_ct\_f\_l\_\_k\_ng b\_ck \_t \_ gr\_sly sc\_n\_, \_s\_\_lly wh\_l\_  
dr\_v\_ng \_c\_r. Th\_f\_\_r r\_bb\_rn\_ck\_rs sl\_w\_d d\_wn t\_  
sn\_p sh\_ts \_f \_ cr\_sh \_n th\_ \_th\_r s\_d \_f th\_r\_\_d.  
Dr\_v\_rs b\_h\_nd th\_m w\_r\_ f\_rc\_d t\_br\_k\_ t\_\_v\_\_d  
h\_tt\_ng th\_r\_bb\_rn\_ck\_rs. P\_l\_c\_ \_t th\_sc\_n\_ s\_d  
th\_ ph\_t\_-t\_k\_ng m\_t\_r\_sts h\_d b\_\_n "\_ct\_ng  
\_rr\_sp\_ns\_bly" \_n sl\_w\_ng d\_wn t\_\_s\_ th\_\_r m\_b\_l\_  
ph\_n\_s t\_t\_k\_ph\_t\_s. Th\_y w\_ll b\_ch\_rg\_d w\_th  
dr\_v\_ng w\_th\_\_t d\_\_c\_r\_\_nd tt\_nt\_\_n \_nd w\_th\_\_t  
r\_\_s\_n\_b\_l\_c\_ns\_d\_r\_t\_\_n f\_r th\_r\_r\_\_d\_s\_rs.

P\_l\_c\_ \_ff\_c\_r Sh\_ll\_y H\_ll\_w\_y sp\_k\_ t\_j\_\_rn\_l\_sts  
\_b\_\_t th\_ \_nc\_d\_nt. Sh\_s\_\_d: "Th\_nkf\_lly n\_b\_dy w\_s  
\_nj\_r\_d \_n th\_c\_ll\_s\_\_n. H\_w\_v\_r th\_ \_ct\_\_ns \_f  
s\_v\_r\_l m\_t\_r\_sts wh\_dr\_v\_thr\_\_gh th\_sc\_n\_ sh\_w\_d  
n\_r\_g\_r\_d f\_r th\_\_r \_wn\_r\_f\_th\_r p\_\_pl\_'s s\_f\_ty, \_s  
th\_y \_s\_d th\_\_r m\_b\_l\_ph\_n\_s t\_r\_c\_r\_d\_r\_v\_d\_\_th\_  
wr\_ck\_g\_\_s th\_y p\_ss\_d. \_n d\_\_ng\_s\_, th\_y w\_r\_n\_t  
\_n pr\_p\_r\_c\_ntr\_l\_f th\_\_r v\_h\_cl\_. Th\_y sl\_w\_d d\_wn  
c\_\_s\_ng m\_t\_r\_sts b\_h\_nd th\_m t\_br\_k\_\_r t\_k\_  
\_v\_s\_v\_ \_ct\_\_n \_nd sl\_w th\_fl\_w \_f tr\_ff\_c th\_t w\_s  
\_lr\_\_dy h\_\_v\_ly c\_ng\_st\_d." Sh\_\_dd\_d th\_t: "\_n\_\_f  
th\_c\_\_s\_s\_f\_s\_r\_\_s \_nj\_ry \_nd f\_t\_l\_c\_ll\_s\_\_ns \_s  
th\_\_s\_\_f m\_b\_l\_t\_l\_ph\_n\_s." Sh\_\_rg\_d m\_t\_r\_sts t\_  
l\_ck th\_\_r ph\_n\_s \_w\_y wh\_n dr\_v\_ng.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

british police are prosecuting four motorists for slowing down on a busy highway to take photos of a crash scene it will be the first time for drivers in britain to face prosecution for "rubbernecking" – the act of looking back at a grisly scene usually while driving a car the four rubberneckers slowed down to snap shots of a crash on the other side of the road drivers behind them were forced to brake to avoid hitting the rubberneckers police at the scene said the photo-taking motorists had been "acting irresponsibly" in slowing down to use their mobile phones to take photos they will be charged with driving without due care and attention and without reasonable consideration for other road users

police officer shelley holloway spoke to journalists about the incident she said "thankfully nobody was injured in the collision however the actions of several motorists who drove through the scene showed no regard for their own or of other people's safety as they used their mobile phones to record or video the wreckage as they passed in doing so they were not in proper control of their vehicle they slowed down causing motorists behind them to brake or take evasive action and slow the flow of traffic that was already heavily congested" she added that "one of the causes of serious injury and fatal collisions is the use of mobile telephones" she urged motorists to lock their phones away when driving

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

British police are prosecuting four motorists for slowing down on a busy highway to take photos of a crash scene. It will be the first time for a driver in Britain to face prosecution for "rubbernecking" – the act of looking back at a grisly scene, usually while driving a car. The four rubberneckers slowed down to snap photos of a crash on the other side of the road. Drivers behind them were forced to brake to avoid hitting the rubberneckers. Police at the scene said the photo-taking motorists had been "acting irresponsibly" in slowing down to use their mobile phones to take photos. They will be charged with driving without due care and attention and without reasonable consideration for other road users. Police officer Shelley Holloway spoke to journalists about the incident. She said: "Thankfully nobody was injured in the collision. However the actions of several motorists who drove through the scene showed no regard for their own or other people's safety, as they used their mobile phones to record or video the wreckage as they passed. In doing so, they were not in proper control of their vehicle. They slowed down causing motorists behind them to brake or take evasive action and slow the flow of traffic that was already heavily congested." She added that: "One of the causes of serious injury and fatal collisions is the use of mobile telephones." She urged motorists to lock their phones away when driving.



# ACADEMIC WRITING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1408/140815-rubberneckers.html>

Drivers should be banned from using mobile phones in cars. Discuss.

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# HOMEWORK

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about rubberneckerers. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. RUBBERNECKERS:** Make a poster about rubberneckerers and driving safety. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. MOBILE PHONES:** Write a magazine article about mobile phones in the car. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against banning them in cars.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to a road safety expert. Ask him/her three questions about rubberneckerers. Give him/her three ideas on how to make roads safer. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F    b T    c F    d F    e T    f T    g F    h T

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. prosecuting   | a. taking to court |
| 2. drivers       | b. motorists       |
| 3. grisly        | c. gruesome        |
| 4. irresponsibly | d. recklessly      |
| 5. reasonable    | e. sensible        |
| 6. incident      | f. episode         |
| 7. collision     | g. accident        |
| 8. regard        | h. consideration   |
| 9. flow          | i. movement        |
| 10. fatal        | j. deadly          |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. A busy highway
2. None
3. The other side of the road
4. Irresponsibly
5. Other road users
6. None
7. Mobile phones
8. Brake
9. Heavy
10. Lock them away

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. b    2. c    3. d    4. b    5. a    6. a    7. d    8. c    9. d    10. b

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)