

## What kind of role model are you?

Read the following scenarios. What would you do in each of the given situations? Think honestly about your habits. Do you see yourself in these scenarios?

**1. You are on your way to an important appointment and time is tight. The car ahead of you is driving at the speed limit; too slow for the rush you're in right now. You're going to be late! It's impossible to pass. What do you do?**

- a) Convince the driver ahead to drive faster by pulling up right behind his car, leaving only about 10 feet between your car and the one that's in your way.
- b) Lean on your horn, make a rude hand gesture to the driver in front and mutter rude comments about older drivers.
- c) Maintain a safe following distance. Remind yourself that next time you need to allow more time to get to your appointments.
- d) Say to yourself, "Oh well...there's nothing I can do...might as well take advantage of this extra time by making a couple of cell phone calls...."

**2. You are driving downtown and a car passes you and cuts in quickly, in front of your vehicle. You have to hit the brakes to avoid rear-ending the car. What happens next?**

- a) At the next light, you screech to a halt right behind the car that cut you off. You lean on the horn and swear at the driver, "You \_\_\_\_\_ idiot!"
- b) At the next light, you come to a stop behind the car that cut you off, making sure you leave enough distance between your car and the one in front as you wait for the light to turn green.
- c) At the next light, you screech to a halt, throw the shifter into "Park", unbuckle your seat belt, climb out of your car, run to the car in front and shake your fist threateningly at the driver who cut you off, pounding on his car window.
- d) At the next light, you pull up behind the car that cut you off and let your bumper nudge his bumper to "teach him a lesson in good driving."

**3. Life's just so busy. There's always so much to do. Between driving to and from work and hauling kids from place to place, you never seem to get everything done. So, while you're driving:**

- a) You want to make sure you make the most of the time on your hands. You pick up your cell phone, check your messages and call your wife/husband to discuss your plans for the evening ahead.
- b) You grab a pen and a piece of paper so that you can start writing your grocery list.
- c) You open your briefcase and look for your Blackberry to see if there are any new e-mail messages.
- d) You sit back, relax and decide that the best way to spend your time is to focus on your driving.

**4. You're out and about. There are lots of errands today. Right now, you are on your way to the store. It's just up ahead on the right.**

- a) Your turn signal is already on; you forgot to "cancel" it after your last turn. So...no point in cancelling it now.
- b) You pull in quickly, forgetting to put your turn signal on to warn following drivers. And you narrowly miss a cyclist as you turn in because you forgot to do a shoulder check.
- c) You're not quite sure where the store is. You know which block it's in. So you put your turn signal on a couple of blocks ahead, just to be on the safe side.
- d) You put your turn signal on about one half block before the store. You begin to slow down. You check your mirrors and do a shoulder check to the right before pulling over to the side of the road.

**5. You're approaching an intersection with a light. The pedestrian light in your direction has already turned to red.**

- a) You pick up speed so that you can make it through the light.
- b) As you approach the intersection, the light turns to amber so you press heavily on the accelerator.
- c) The light turns to amber and just before you enter the intersection, it turns to red. You decide to go for it anyway.
- d) As you approach the intersection, you know that the light is about to turn to amber. It turns to amber as you are still approaching. You slow down and come to a stop before the stop line.

**6. It's time to head home. It's been a busy day. Soon you'll be able to get on with the other things that need to be done.**

- a) You pick up speed. "What's 20 km/h over the limit in a 60 km/h zone?" That way you'll save a few minutes and then you can get on with other things.
- b) You're glad to be leaving the office. Now you can hit the open road and forget about today's troubles. You press the accelerator down to the floor. It's time for a little excitement!
- c) You know that you're about to repeat a drive you do regularly. It's time to focus on your driving and make sure you adjust your speed to the changing speed limits and driving conditions.
- d) You start to think about the time ahead. There's so much to do. It's easier to think about those other things when you are driving really slowly.