

CAR DASHBOARD

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YOUR WORD LIST

Windscreen
steering wheel
Dashboard
Clutch pedal
Brake pedal
Gas pedal
Gear shift
Speedometer
Windscreen wiper
Tachometer

LOOK AT THE PHOTOS. WHAT DO YOU SEE?

CAN YOU NAME THE ITEMS IN THE PHOTOS?
WHAT ARE THEY FOR?

FIRST TIME BEHIND THE WHEEL

The car **dashboard**, the **pedals** and **gear shift** are the main components of the driver's interface. They allow the driver to control the speed, direction and status of the vehicle. The dashboard displays information such as speed, **fuel** level, engine temperature and **features** a number of warning lights. The gas pedal and brake pedal control the speed while the **clutch** and gear shift are used to change gears and optimise the engine performance.

Anya was a little nervous as she sat behind the **steering wheel** of her father's car. She had just passed her driving test and wanted to impress her dad with her new skills. She turned the key in the ignition and started the car. Then she pressed the clutch pedal and moved the gear shift into the first position. She slowly released the clutch and pressed the gas pedal. As the car started to move forward Anya felt a surge of excitement and confidence. She shifted into second gear and increased the speed. Then she looked at the dashboard and saw that she was going a little too fast, so she cautiously stepped on the brake pedal and slowed down. She looked at her father in the passenger seat and asked: "How am I doing?" Her father nodded and smiled "With a little more practice you are going to be a great driver."

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WHAT DO YOU THINK?

1. Do you remember your first time behind the steering wheel? What was it like?
2. What was your longest road trip? Where did you go?
3. Do you like to drive or be driven? Are you comfortable when someone else is driving?
4. Do you think a driving test is really necessary to get the driving license? Why/Why not?
5. What do you think driving will be like in the future?