



05 - VOCABULARY: DRIVING



When you get into a car, you fasten your **seat belt** and start the engine by **turning on the ignition**.

Most cars in the US are **automatic**, whereas in Britain most people still drive **manual** cars where you have to **change_gear** using the **gear lever**.

You start driving in **first gear** and stay in a **low gear** until you start to drive faster. Then you move to a **higher gear**.

Before changing gear, you **press the clutch**. It is important to **let the clutch out gently**, otherwise you can **stall** the engine.

To go faster, you press the **accelerator**. This causes the car to **speed up**. In order to **_slow down** you need to press the **brake**.

Brake is also a verb, and is commonly used in the phrases **brake gently** or **brake sharply** (very suddenly). When you stop completely, you need to **put on the handbrake**.

Wide roads such as **motorways** usually have two or more **lanes**. The **inside lane** or **slow lane** is where you drive until you need to **overtake** another vehicle.

Then you **pull out**, moving into the **middle lane** or the **outside/fast lane**, first looking in the **rear view mirror**. When you have passed the other vehicle, you **pull in** again.

When you want to turn left or right, you **indicate** using the **indicator**.

When you drive backwards, you **reverse**. For example, you might **reverse into a parking space**.

If your car **breaks down**, it stops working, and if you run out of petrol you will need to **fill up** your **petrol tank** at a **petrol station**.