**English Conversation Group – Moving Violation  
  
Tongue Twister Practice:** Greek grapes  
 Toy boat Toy boat  
 Red leather, yellow leather

**What are some words or phrases you can think of associated with driving and the police?**

**Read aloud:**

Oops! What are those flashing lights behind you? Oh, no! Were you careful to watch the speed limit signs along the road? Those flashing lights mean the police officer would like to talk with you.   
The flashing lights on a police car usually mean the police officer has noticed a moving violation. A moving violation is a traffic law broken while you are driving. If a police officer pulls you over, move to the shoulder of the road right away, as safely as you can. Be careful of traffic on the highway! It’s important to be respectful to the police officer, even if you’re not sure why he or she is stopping you.

**Discussion Questions: find a partner and ask each other the following questions**.  
How long have you been driving in the U.S.?  
Were you already driving a car in your home country, or is this your first experience with driving a car?  
Did you think it was difficult or easy to get a driver’s license in this country?  
 **Vocabulary : Take turns reading the vocabulary words aloud  
moving violation**-a motor vehicle law that’s broken while you are driving.  
**pull over**- move the car to the side of the road **Officer**- the respectful title for a policeman or policewoman  
**registration**- a document showing the owner of a car  
**issue**- give out **ticket**- a document showing a road law you’ve broken. It requires payment of a fine.  
**cop**- slang for police officer – stands for **C**onstable **O**n **P**atrol.

**Dialogue: Find a partner and practice the dialogue, then switch partners and do it again.**

Policeman: Good morning. I pulled you over because the speed limit is 50 miles per hour. You were driving much faster than that. You were doing 70.

Alan: I’m sorry, Officer. I didn’t notice the sign, but I thought I was driving slower than that.

Policeman: I need to see your license, registration and proof of insurance.  
Alan: I don’t have my license with me. I left it at home. But, here is my registration and proof of insurance.  
Policeman: You need to have your license with you when you are driving. I am going to issue you a ticket for speeding and another one for not having the proper documents.  
Alan: Can I just pay you now?  
Policeman: Police officers aren’t allowed to take money. You have to call the clerk’s office. You can go there to pay in person, you can mail it in, or pay online.

Alan: This is my first speeding ticket.  
Policeman: Have a nice day.

**Comprehension Questions:**  
What is a moving violation?  
How fast was Alan going?  
What three things did the police officer ask to see?  
 **Are there a few volunteers who would like to use these words in a sentence?**-pull over  
-officer  
-ticket

**Discussion Questions: find a partner and ask each other the following questions**.  
How often do the police in your home country pull over drivers when they doing something wrong when they are driving? Are tickets expensive in your home country?  
What are the cars like in your home country? How are they different than cars in the U.S.?  
How is driving different in the U.S. than in your home country?  
Do you think driving is easier or harder in the U.S.?  
Have you ever driven in a state other than Michigan? Did you notice that some traffic lights and road signs are different in other states?  
Have you ever been pulled over by the police or been given a ticket? Don’t be embarrassed. It’s happened to most of us!  
  
**Idioms:**  **Traffic jam**: when there are many cars stuck on a road without being able to move.  
*He didn’t care about being stuck in the* ***traffic jam****; he was happy to listen to his new CD.*

**Lemon**: a car (or other item) that continues to have problems even after it has been repaired many times. *He was nervous about buying a used car from a stranger. “With my luck”, he said, “I’ll get a* ***lemon****.”*

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| **State of Michigan Speeding Fines** |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | 1-5 mph over limit |  | $90.00 | | 6-10 mph over limit |  | $105.00 | | 11-15 mph over limit |  | $120.00 | | 16-25 mph over limit |  | $140.00 | | 26+ mph over limit |  | $155.00 | |