

**Submission
No 3**

DRIVER EDUCATION, TRAINING AND ROAD SAFETY

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Learning to drive in the past century

The first automobile driving school was started in the UK in 1910. The world has modernized enormously since then in all aspects of life, technology, medicine and teaching. Though the bulk of driving instruction has scarcely advanced from its early beginnings (source). General education has advanced and of course so have the capacities of the automobile industry in manufacturing of vehicle safety and fuel economy being the focus of engineering. But driving instruction, with rare exceptions in the Western world has not.

Question why? the primary goal is to get the driver's licence, of course. But this has led to a rather narrow rudimentary approach = one which is very general and mechanical. It produces a kind of robot driver, because too much is ignored as to fundamentals of human senses in driving. These and other innate human capabilities are not touched upon, which produces much less developed skills in the pursuit of the licence and which the focus is passing the driving test.

Hello, My name is Henry. I have been a driving instructor for many years, many would say a contrarian. When I took my Driver's instructor course I felt instinctively that it was lacking. So from day one I started to study and observe. The results over these many years is a modernized SKILL DEVELOPMENT and style of driving instruction. I call the "Missing Link"

Let me ask you a question. Do you regard driving as a sport or an activity? Or just a privilege that is owed you for passing the driving test. ? My approach treats driving as a sport – with the goal of honing skills and senses to make you a confident better decision maker on the road which results in safer driving habits — and have more accuracy, fun and freedom.

Along the way I delved into new findings in neurology and applied psychology, studied texts and applied this thinking to my instruction. I performed my own experiments, measured findings and continued to correlate new data and experience. Recently a student, a psychotherapist said to me after their first lesson, "Wow, Henry you really know how to bring out the senses in a person."

Why is this important in today's society? I believe profoundly that in today's evermore crowded city streets safe driving is an imperative. So too do the police forces around the world with speed cameras, lowered speed limits, and a great increase in fines. These penalties play a part in curbing excess, though it is arguable if they attack the problem at its heart. And of course the greatest importance is that improved driving saves lives.

Correct Skills and technique instruction builds habits, as in sport, it also builds an attitude, a way of thinking. This is what I try to do. I hope I am not alone in this, but to date I've failed to find other driving instruction which avoids many of the pitfalls of traditional instruction.

I have taught all ages and many different types of people. I have received an above average number of drivers with driving problems – anxiety, accident prone, poor driving records.

A yoga instructor of all people had repeated minor accidents due to mindlessness. But across an interesting landscape of people, many of them highly educated professionals.

But virtually all of them have said something like the University Professor wrote me “Henry teaches you the skill of driving, which means you can pass the test because that is what it tests, but are also then able to drive with confidence”. and passed the test with an extraordinarily high pass, even those who came with high stress levels from past experiences.

What are the Key Focal Points of my system?

*** A major focus on vision, and its full potential. This may seem obvious, but the vast majority underutilize this Vital sense – or use it wrongly. I know excellent vision training create excellent driving decisions and reactions.**

***As mentioned above, we — the student and I – collaborate to view this as a sport. This engenders an entirely different perspective, as a base for all that follows from there after as the foundations of decision making and reaction times.**

*** Applied psychology – how to be less stressful, and understanding the effects of stress some of which is inevitable in any driving situation. And the mind’s different behaviors when in” flight mode” as opposed to the more desirable “response mode”.**

***Creating a more “sense alert” driver. If you consider the art of motorbike riding, the rider is normally at one with his vehicle – he or she is much closer to reality (and potential injury or death). I succeed in implanting high sensory awareness.**

*** A number of small but important, — and quite logical – techniques which arise from above principles. Some of these have to do with legal variations of the standard practice, such as holding the steering wheel differently at appropriate times, safe alternatives to brake technique, and other areas of judgement which slightly vary from the “standard blueprint of instruction”, whilst being safer, more logical: For example, when at an intersection how to choose a safe gap and have quicker reaction time and feel confident in the decision.**

IF IT FEELS RIGHT YOUR DOING RIGHT

I have a passion for my profession and also a major responsibility in teaching the general public as what you teach is who one becomes after.

In my 7 years of research and development I have achieved or should I say "mastered" best skills practice for driver development and continued learning self-performance review of oneself driving habits.

This synopsis was my introduction to a book I want to write.

I would be very happy to communicate and negotiate the 7 years of research to driver safety which i know will embark on a global driver training change, yet would be nice to have this implemented here first.



Thank you
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