

Teaching Divided Attention Tasks to Counter Distracted Driving Problems

AMERICAN DRIVER AND TRAFFIC SAFETY
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION



ANNUAL ADTSEA
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Terry L. Kline, Ed. D.
Eastern Kentucky University

Higher Education Division
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BE SENSIBLE: Don't Drive With Distraction What is a Distraction?

A distraction is

- Any activity,
- risk factor, or
- danger that affects...
 - vehicle path of travel or
 - driver's line of sight.



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BE SENSIBLE: Don't Drive With Distraction What is critical to driving?

- The path of travel
 - Crucial to keeping a car within the lane of travel
- The line of sight
 - Allows the driver to see far enough ahead to...
 - Have the time and space needed to make speed and position adjustments



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BE SENSIBLE: Don't Drive With Distraction Consequences of Distracted Driving?

- Lack of Attention
 - One of the leading causes of collisions
 - Forces driver to make sudden decisions
- The NHTSA Numbers Say...
 - Over 1,500,000 collisions per year
 - Means 4,300 collisions per day
 - Means 179 collisions per hour
- You can easily be involved in a collision



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BE SENSIBLE: Don't Drive With Distraction How Do Distractions Happen?

- Driver must process information
 - Visual, kinesthetic, hearing, touch, smell inputs are bombarding brain
 - What is most crucial to place the vehicle in the appropriate path of travel
- Too much information to process...
 - Driver panics
 - Driver shuts down evaluation process
 - Driver reacts abruptly without planning appropriate speed, position, or communication
- What are Some Examples



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BE SENSIBLE: Don't Drive With Distraction What Can a Driver Do?

- Operating a Vehicle is Coordinating Skills
 - Eye-hand and foot coordination
 - Repetitive actions and procedural tasks
- Driving a Vehicle is a Mental Process
 - Driving system needed to manage time and space
 - Search and recognize restrictions to path of travel or line of sight
 - Respond to restrictions or changes with
 - appropriate speed adjustment
 - appropriate position adjustment
 - appropriate communication of intentions



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BE SENSIBLE: Don't Drive With Distraction Dividing Attention to Driving Tasks?

Progression of Learning

- Knowing the Controls
- Keeping Vehicle on Roadway
- Keeping Vehicle in Lane
- Placing Vehicle in Lane Position
- Placing Vehicle in Lane to Avoid Risk

Handling Distractions

- Keeping vehicle in path while checking speed
- Adjusting speed and lane position while checking pedestrian and speed of the vehicle
- Using signal, checking mirror, braking, moving to the left, checking speed, and the pedestrian

Dividing Attention is Crucial to Decision-making

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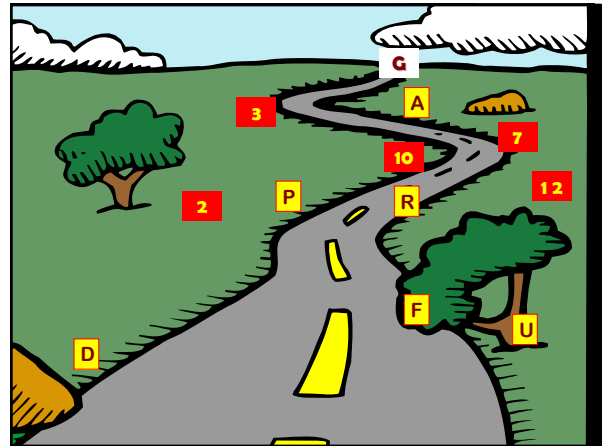
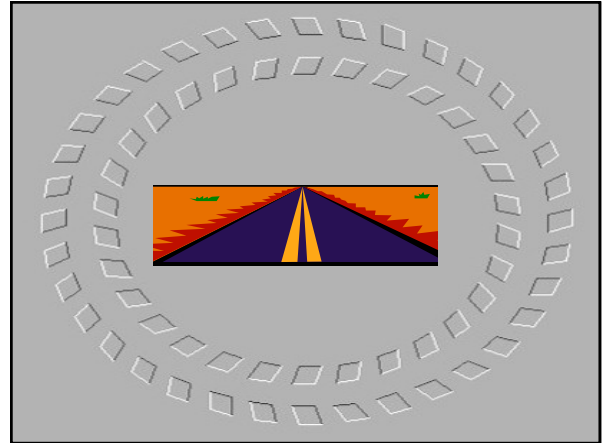
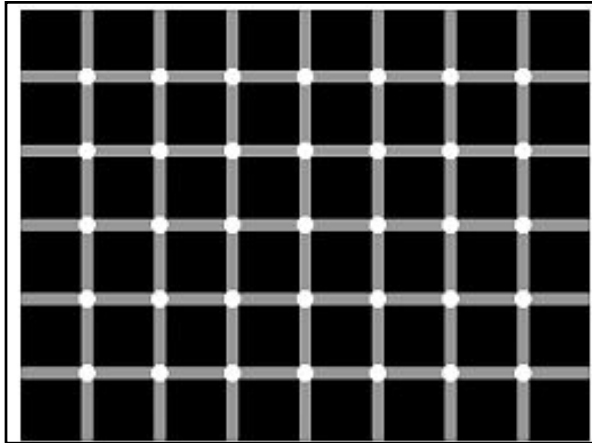


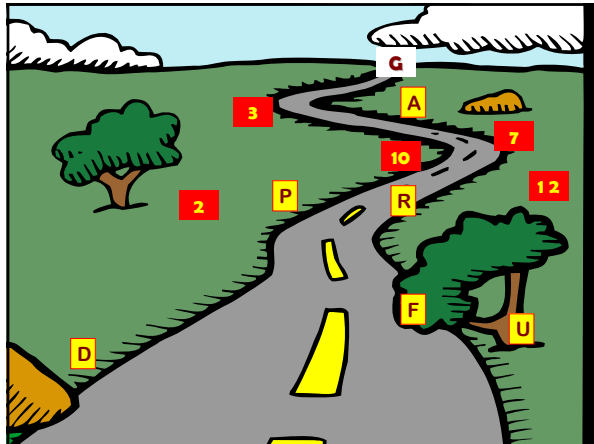
BE SENSIBLE: Don't Drive With Distraction Reducing Consequences?

- Use a Driving System to Manage Space and Time
- Perform Tasks Inside the Vehicle when Stopped
- Look Away from Path of Travel for ½ Second Intervals Only
- Glance at a Distraction Several Times Rather than One Stare Longer than ½ Second
- Learn to Divide Attention to Driving Tasks
- Ask Passengers to Help

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Developing In-Car Learning Strand

- Develop targeting skills for POT
- Divide target to speed visual/mental attention
- Divide target to dashboard control visual/mental attention
- Divide target and sign controls visual/mental attention
- Divide target and intersection controls attention
- Divide target and intersection entry/exit attention
- Divide target and curve entry/apex/exit attention

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Developing In-Car Learning Strand

- Your turn....
- Give examples for learning strands
- Divide target and....

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The future distractions...



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