Accelerator

"To keep a steady speed, use your brake and accelerator smoothly."

Controls the amount of fuel going to the engine. The more fuel, the faster the car will go.

Airbags

"Airbags can be mounted in front of and beside the driver and front seat passenger."

Work by inflating and then deflating to reduce the shock of a collision and chance of injury.

Anti-lock Brakes

"Most new vehicles have anti-lock brakes which allow you to brake and steer at the same time. You can't do this with ordinary brakes."

Keeps the wheels from locking when you press heavily on the brake pedal.

Blind Spots

"Each vehicle has smaller blind spots at the front and at the back, as well as the two large blind spots on the sides."

Large areas that you can't see in your mirrors. The most dangerous areas are to the side.

Brake Pedal

"Your seat should be upright and in a position where you can with your right foot, reach the floor behind the brake pedal and still have a slight bend in your leg."

Located to the left of the accelerator and is used to slow down and stop the vehicle.

Centre of Gravity

"A vehicle with a higher centre of gravity is less stable on uneven road surfaces and is more likely to tip over on a curve taken at higher speeds."

This is the point around which all of an object's weight is balanced.

Clutch

"When you begin moving after a stop, release the clutch slowly and smoothly to avoid stalling the car."

In a standard transmission car, this disconnects the engine from the transmission to shift gears.

Cruise Control

"Never use cruise control in wet or slippery conditions. Your owner's manual will tell you to use it only in ideal driving conditions."

Lets you pre-set a speed that will stay the same.

Cul-de-sac

"Most cul-de-sacs are in residential areas, so watch carefully for children playing, vehicles coming out of driveways and other hazards."

A street that's closed at one end.

Four-way Stop

"The first vehicle to arrive at the four-way stop and come to a complete stop should go first."

When there are stop signs at all corners of an intersection.

Gearshift Lever

"The gearshift lever is mounted on the floor or on the steering column. Standard transmissions are built in three-, four-, five or six-speed models."

Controls the car's transmission - the connection between the engine and the wheels.

Gravity

"Gravity is the reason your vehicle slows down going up a hill and speeds up coming down."

This is the force that pulls everything towards earth.

Hazard Lights

"The hazard light switch activates both turn signals at the same time."

These let people know you have stopped for an emergency.

Hydroplaning

"The higher your speed, the greater your chances of hydroplaning. You can tell if your vehicle is hydroplaning because the steering will suddenly become very light."

When the tires lose contact with the road surface and float on a film of water.

Inertia

"When you brake, inertia tries to keep your vehicle moving. When you go around a curve, inertia tries to keep you going in a straight line."

This is the tendency for moving objects to continue moving forward in a straight line.

Merging

"When merging onto a highway, use the acceleration lane to get up to the speed of the highway traffic, while remaining within the speed limit."

Waiting for a safe gap in traffic and then changing lanes when driving in a lane that ends ahead.

Mirrors

"Check your mirrors, signal and shoulder check whenever you change lanes or direction."

These let you know what is happening behind you. Adjust them to get the best possible view.

Parking Brake

"Make sure you fully apply the parking brake when parking and fully release it before moving."

This keeps the vehicle from moving when it's parked.

Shoulder Check

"Shoulder checking is important because bicycles and riders are narrow and can easily be hidden in your blind spot."

Turning your head to see your blind spot whenever you plan to change your direction.

Signalling

"Signal your intention to turn off the highway, maintaining your speed until you enter the exit lane."

Letting other traffic know what you intend to do like turn left or right, change lanes, or park.

Tailgating

"If you tailgate, the vehicle in front can block your view of hazards ahead. Worse, if the vehicle stops suddenly, you have no time to slow down and stop safely."

Following too closely behind the vehicle in front.

Traction

"Properly inflated tires help keep you safe by increasing your vehicle's traction."

This is the grip your tires have on the road.

Two-way Stop

"If two vehicles are stopped at a two-way stop and one of the drivers wants to turn left, this driver must yield the right-of-way to the other vehicle."

When two streets intersect and only one of the streets has stop signs at an intersection.

Yield

"Yield to any traffic in the traffic circle. If another vehicle arrives at the traffic circle at the same time as you do, yield to the vehicle on your right."

Let pedestrians, cyclists and other road users have the right-of-way.