Handout 3.11

Sample Essay

Written by Dr. Carol Kfouri, Dean, Faculty of Humanities (April 2008)

Why Seat Belts are a Good Idea

Introduction

The seat belt law which came into effect in Lebanon quite a few years ago now is in general quite well respected. People are quite used to the idea of "buckling up" at the same time as they put their key into the car ignition. More and more young people believe that not only are seat belts the law, but they are a must.

Paragraph One

Seat belts are necessary if we want to give ourselves all the chances to survive if ever we are in a car accident. For example, cautious drivers such as my friend Andy are constantly telling the story about how while driving home calmly on a weekend night, they were hit from behind by a speeding car. If they had not been wearing their seat belt, they would have been ejected from the car. Thanks to the support of the seat belt, Andy escaped with minor injuries only.

Paragraph Two

Seat belts are also a way of saying to everyone around us that we respect the law and we are taking responsibility for ourselves and others. I overheard a conversation the other day as I was passing by the cafeteria. One girl was saying to her friend that she felt that when she was wearing her seat belt she felt more mature. Her friend added that she agreed and said that if ever she had an accident due to not wearing a seat belt she would not be able to work to contribute to her tuition and that would be a catastrophe.

Conclusion

Seat belts are here to stay certainly. There are very few instances in which they have proved harmful to the driver. It is thus a good reason to show a good example and strap yours on every time you get into your car.