

# PEDESTRIAN SAFER JOURNEY

Post-video discussion questions for Ages 15 to 18

## Purpose of the discussion:

To reinforce key messages from the video, including safe and unsafe pedestrian and driver behaviors, and to give students the opportunity to relate the information to their own lives.

### 1. What might the driver (Connor) have done differently that might have prevented the crash?

*Answers could include actions such as:*

- Ignore his text message alert.
- Pull over to read the text message.

### Follow up question: What are other ways that drivers get distracted?

*Answers could include actions such as:*

- Changing the radio station
- Talking on the phone
- Talking with car passengers
- Eating

### 2. What might the pedestrian (Anthony) have done differently that might have avoided the crash?

*Answers could include actions such as:*

- Wear bright or retro-reflective clothing
- Stop and look for cars again before crossing the street

### 3. In the video, the two girls try to analyze what might have contributed to the crash, and they discuss features of the walking environment that may have played a role. In general, what are some features that help to create a safe walking environment?

*Answers could include features such as:*

- Sidewalks and other places to walk separated from motor vehicles
- Lighting that makes it easier to see and be seen
- Well-marked pedestrian crossings

### 4. What were some things that Anthony did right?

*Answers could include actions such as:*

- Walked facing traffic
- Didn't use ear buds to listen to music or play games
- Looked both ways when crossing streets

### 5. Have you ever been involved in an unsafe situation as a pedestrian, or as a driver interacting with a pedestrian? What did you do? Why did you make those choices? What could or would you do differently if you had a chance to do it again?

Open discussion

### 6. Every state has a law requiring cars to either yield to or stop for pedestrians in a crosswalk. What is your state's law?

Answer varies by state. Consult the internet or state driver handbook to find the law.

### Follow-up question: Have you ever been in a situation where a driver didn't yield to a pedestrian? What should pedestrians do?

*Answers should include:*

- While drivers are supposed to stop, pedestrians should not assume that they will do so.

### 7. Why do you think speed limits in school zones and neighborhoods are lower than on bigger roads?

*Answers should include:*

- Pedestrians are likely to be present.
- As vehicle speeds increase, so does the chance of a pedestrian being killed if struck by a vehicle. If a pedestrian is hit by a car at 40 mph, there is an 85% chance of death. This percentage drops to 45% at 30 mph and 5% at 20 mph.