

# **Evidence guide**

## **Unit standard 3465 (version 7)**

**Describe driving hazards and crash risk reduction strategies and responses to driving hazards**

**ASSESSOR USE ONLY**



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# Introduction

## Unit standard covered by this assessment

Unit standard	Unit standard title	Version	Level	Credit
3465	Describe driving hazards and crash risk reduction strategies and responses to driving hazards	7	2	3

For this assessment, learners **must**:

- describe driving hazards and crash risk reduction strategies and responses to driving hazards.

## Assessment tasks

There are **three** tasks in this assessment. The learner **must** complete:

- Task 1 – Driving hazards
- Task 2 – Crash risk reduction strategies while driving
- Task 3 - Other road users impact on driving and crash risk.

## Assessment conditions

This is an open book theory assessment. The learner can refer to any documents, manuals or books for help in completing the questions. If the learner quotes or paraphrases any information from any documents for their answers, they should reference the document where they got the information from. Their document reference should provide enough information so that the assessor can find the document and the information they used: e.g. document title, author, publisher or website, page number. They should include the document reference at the bottom of their answer.

If the learner needs more space to write their answers, they can write or type their answers on extra sheets of A4 paper and attach the extra sheets to the back of their assessment booklet.

## Plagiarism

The learner's answers **must** be their own work. If they are found to have copied someone else's answers, they may not achieve credit for the unit standard.

## Reassessment

If the learner receives a Not Yet Achieved (NYA) result, you **must** give them feedback. You should tell them what they need to do so that they can pass the assessment. They might need to give more evidence, or they might need to learn more about the subject.

## Appeals procedure

If the learner does not agree with the result of this assessment, they need to discuss it with you first. If they still disagree, they can talk to MITO's Assessment and Moderation Team by calling 0800 88 21 21. If the issue is not resolved, they can make a formal appeal to MITO. They **must** send the appeal to MITO within 20 working days from when they received the result. The email address is **[assessment.appeals@mito.org.nz](mailto:assessment.appeals@mito.org.nz)**.

## Feedback

If you have feedback on the tasks or questions in this assessment or the way it is structured, email [resourcecomments@mito.org.nz](mailto:resourcecomments@mito.org.nz).

## Unit standard explanatory notes

### 1 Definitions

**A hazard** is any situation which contains an element of actual or potential danger or risk which must be negotiated while driving a vehicle (LSFDI). All hazards arise from the six driving conditions (traffic, driver, vehicle, light, weather, road). Hazards pose a clear and direct threat to a driver who is carrying out one of the seven driving manoeuvres. Examples include other vehicles, pedestrians, children playing on the side of the road, cyclists. Risk reduction strategies are situational awareness, and gap selection methods and management.

### 2 Reference material

Legislation, regulations and/or industry standards relevant to this unit standard include but are not limited to the: Land Transport Act 1998; The Learning System for Driving Instructors (LSFDI) (2015) available from Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency at <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/assets/resources/learningsystems-driving-instructors/docs/learning-systems-for-driving-instructors.pdf>; Information about the road code and rules for other road users can be found at [Roadcode](#) and [Code for cycling](#). Any new, amended or replacement Acts, regulations, standards, codes of practice, guidelines, or authority requirements or conditions affecting this unit standard will take precedence for assessment purposes, pending review of this unit standard.

### 3 Assessment for this unit standard can be carried out by using learning aids, for example photographs, or a simulated exercise.

# Assessment schedule

Task 1 – Driving hazards	
Evidence – Questions	Judgement statements
<p><b>Question 1</b></p> <p><b>OC1 PC1.1</b></p> <p>Discuss how each of the following six driving conditions can result a vehicle crash:</p> <p><b>Example answer</b></p> <p><b>Traffic:</b> <i>More cars on the road increase the likelihood of a crash. In heavy traffic, a sudden stop by one vehicle can lead to a chain reaction of braking, potentially causing rear-end collisions.</i></p> <p><b>Driver:</b> <i>Being distracted, like using a phone while driving, raises crash risks. A distracted driver may not notice a red light or a pedestrian crossing the road, leading to a potential accident</i></p> <p><b>Vehicle:</b> <i>If your car has faulty brakes, stopping quickly becomes difficult. Bald tyres might lead to reduced traction on wet roads, increasing the likelihood of skidding and crashes.</i></p> <p><b>Light:</b> <i>Poor visibility at night means you might not see obstacles. Low sun can cause glare, making it hard to see the road ahead, pedestrians, or other vehicles. Night driving also poses risks due to reduced visibility.</i></p> <p><b>Weather:</b> <i>Rain or snow makes roads slippery. Foggy conditions reduce visibility,</i></p> <p><b>Road:</b> <i>Potholes can damage your car or cause accidents. Roads with complex designs, sharp bends, or poor signage can be confusing and dangerous, especially for unfamiliar drivers,</i></p>	<p>Question <b>must</b> be completed in full.</p> <p>While the wording the learner uses is not critical, the intention of the answer <b>must</b> clearly match the example answers. A few examples are given for context.</p>
<p><b>Question 2</b></p> <p><b>OC1 PC1.1</b></p> <p>What clues might lead you to anticipate the actions of the following drivers?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) A driver behind you in a queue of traffic wants to overtake.</li> <li>b) A driver approaching a stop sign is not going to stop.</li> </ul>	<p>Question <b>must</b> be completed in full.</p> <p>Answer must be similar in intent to example answers.</p>



Task 1 – Driving hazards	
Evidence – Questions	Judgement statements
<p>c) A driver who is lost.</p> <p><b>Example answer</b></p> <p><i>Following too closely, consistently pulling out to see ahead, inconsistent speed.</i></p> <p>a) <i>Approach speed, driver not scanning ahead and to sides.</i></p> <p>b) <i>Vehicle speed, road position, wandering in lane, inconsistent speed, driver and/or passenger looking down.</i></p>	

## Task 2 – Crash risk reduction strategies while driving.

Evidence – Questions	Judgement statements
<p><b>Question 3</b></p> <p><b>OC2 PC2.1</b></p> <p>Provide examples of traffic regulations, hazard action plan, observation techniques and a system of vehicle control and explain how they contribute to safer driving.</p> <p><b>Example answer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>Traffic regulations</b> help you drive safer by..., <i>promoting overall road safety. Making you obey speed limits. An example of this is stopping at red lights prevents intersection collisions,</i></li> <li>b) <b>Hazard action plans</b> help you drive safer by... <i>making you plan ahead or think about what could go wrong like if a vehicle suddenly swerves into your lane.</i></li> <li>c) <b>Observation techniques</b> help you drive safer by... <i>regularly checking mirrors and scanning the road ahead to develop awareness. An example of this is checking blind spots before changing</i></li> <li>d) A <b>system of vehicle control</b> helps you drive safer by... <i>maintaining proper positioning, speed, and communication while driving. You could do this by signalling before turning or changing lanes.</i></li> </ul>	<p>Question must be completed in full.</p> <p>Shows a good grasp of traffic regulations, hazard action plan, observation techniques and a system of vehicle control offering relevant examples.</p> <p>Clearly describes how following these techniques contributes to reducing crash risks and contribute to safer driving.</p>
<p><b>Question 4</b></p> <p><b>OC2 PC2.1</b></p> <p>You are about to make a left turn at an intersection on a green light. Using the system of vehicle control, explain your actions to complete this manoeuvre.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Course</li> <li>b) Mirrors</li> <li>c) Signals</li> <li>d) Brake</li> </ul>	<p>Question <b>must</b> be completed in full.</p> <p>Answer must be similar in intent to example answer.</p> <p>Study guide <b>Risk reduction strategies</b> pages covers this information.</p>

Task 2 – Crash risk reduction strategies while driving.	
Evidence – Questions	Judgement statements
<p>e) Gear</p> <p>f) Accelerate</p> <p><b>Example answer</b></p> <p>a) <i>Get in the correct lane for the turn early.</i></p> <p>b) <i>Check behind to identify following vehicles.</i></p> <p>c) <i>Indicate left at least three seconds before the turn.</i></p> <p>d) <i>Decelerate and brake to set speed for turn.</i></p> <p>e) <i>Change into gear needed for the turn.</i></p> <p>f) <i>Complete the turn and accelerate smoothly away from the intersection.</i></p>	
<p><b>Question 5</b></p> <p><b>OC2 PC2.2</b></p> <p>How does using technology while driving affect your ability to drive safely and increase the risk of crashes? Include strategies to minimise this distraction.</p> <p><b>Example answer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Texting or emailing takes eyes off the road, increasing the risk of collisions.</i></li> <li>• <i>Talking on the phone diverts attention from driving tasks, leading to impaired reaction times.</i></li> <li>• <i>Strategies to minimise this distraction could be the use hands-free devices, pre-set GPS, and avoid using the phone while driving.</i></li> </ul>	<p>Provides relevant examples and outlines strategies to minimise technology-related distractions while driving.</p>
<p><b>Question 6</b></p> <p><b>OC2 PC2.2</b></p> <p>How does fatigue influence driving performance and contribute to crash risk? Include strategies to reduce the impact of fatigue on safe driving.</p>	<p>Clearly explains the effects of fatigue on driving and crash risk and outlines relevant strategies to reduce fatigue.</p>

Task 2 – Crash risk reduction strategies while driving.	
Evidence – Questions	Judgement statements
<p><b>Example answer</b></p> <p><i>Fatigue impairs reaction time, decision-making, and attentiveness, increasing the risk of accidents.</i></p> <p><b><i>Strategies to reduce fatigue include taking breaks, getting adequate rest before driving, and sharing driving responsibilities on long journeys.</i></b></p>	
<p><b>Question 7</b></p> <p><b>OC2 PC2.2</b></p> <p>Discuss ways in which drivers can manage or minimise the impact of this specific external distractions. Select <b>one external distraction</b> while driving (e.g. roadside events, other vehicles) and describe its potential effects on driving and crash risk.</p> <p><b>Example answer</b></p> <p><b><i>External Distraction:</i></b> <i>Roadside events (e.g. accidents or construction)</i></p> <p><b><i>Potential effects:</i></b> <i>Draws attention away from the road, leading to delayed reactions and increased crash risk.</i></p> <p><b><i>Management strategies (how you would avoid this happening):</i></b> <i>Stay focused on driving, avoid unnecessary distractions, and maintain a safe following distance.</i></p>	<p>Describes the potential effects of the chosen external distraction and outlines relevant strategies to manage or minimise its impact.</p>
<p><b>Question 8</b></p> <p><b>OC2 PC2.2</b></p> <p>Consider distractions related to adjusting vehicle controls, eating or drinking, and smoking and provide examples of how engaging in these activities while driving can pose risks. Include in your answer the crash risk reduction strategies related to these specific distractions.</p> <p>a) Adjusting vehicle controls (e.g. radio or air conditioning)</p>	<p>Provides relevant examples of how engaging in the specified distractions poses risks and outlines crash risk reduction strategies related to each distraction.</p> <p>See example answers for more clarity.</p>

## Task 2 – Crash risk reduction strategies while driving.

Evidence – Questions	Judgement statements
<p>b) Eating or drinking while driving</p> <p>c) Smoking</p> <p><b>Example answer</b></p> <p>a) <i>Can divert attention, leading to potential hazards. Set vehicle controls before driving.</i></p> <p>b) <i>Can cause manual and visual distractions, increasing the risk of accidents, avoid eating and drinking while driving.</i></p> <p>c) <i>Distracts from driving tasks and may involve taking hands off the wheel, posing crash risks. Stop and find a safe place to smoke if necessary.</i></p>	
<p><b>Question 9</b></p> <p><b>OC2 PC2.3</b></p> <p>Describe how <b>judging the speed</b> of other traffic reduces the level of crash risk while driving and provide an example of this.</p> <p><b>Example answer</b></p> <p><i>Maintaining a safe and appropriate speed to allow for quick reactions and avoid collisions. An example of this could be when making a turn off a long straight road into a side street, proper judgement of speed allows you to ensure you make the turn safely. This reduces the risk of a car hitting the side of your vehicle or having to make unsafe avoidance manoeuvres.</i></p>	<p>Describes how time and space management reduces crash risks, including relevant information on judging speed of other traffic.</p> <p>See example answer for more clarity.</p>
<p><b>Question 10</b></p> <p><b>OC2 PC2.3</b></p> <p>Explain how accurately <b>judging distance</b> contributes to reducing crash risk. Provide an example of a situation where proper distance judgment is crucial.</p>	<p>Describes how judging distance contributes to reducing crash risk. Response must offer an example illustrating the importance of accurate distance judgment.</p>

## Task 2 – Crash risk reduction strategies while driving.

Evidence – Questions	Judgement statements
<p><b>Example answer</b></p> <p><i>Accurately judging distance is crucial for maintaining a safe following distance. An example of this could be when following another vehicle, proper distance judgment allows for adequate braking time to avoid a collision. This reduces the risk of rear-end accidents.</i></p>	<p>See example answer for more clarity.</p>
<p><b>Question 11</b></p> <p><b>OC2 PC2.3</b></p> <p><b>Anticipating the behaviour</b> of other traffic is a key aspect of time and space management. How does this skill reduce the level of crash risk? Provide an example of a situation where anticipating other traffic is critical.</p> <p><b>Example answer</b></p> <p><i>Anticipating the behaviour of other traffic reduces crash risk by allowing drivers to predict and respond to Potential hazards. An example of this could be when anticipating that a car may change lanes ahead which helps the driver adjust their speed or position to avoid a collision.</i></p>	<p>Describes how anticipating the behaviour of other traffic reduces crash risk, including relevant information. Response must offer an example illustrating the importance of this skill.</p> <p>See example answer for more clarity.</p>

### Task 3 – Other road users impact on driving and crash risks

Evidence – Questions	Judgement statements
<p><b>Question 12</b></p> <p><b>OC2 PC2.4</b></p> <p>When passing a cyclist on a busy street there are many things that could go wrong and actions you would need to take to reduce the risk of a crash.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Explain what you need to do before/during passing.</li> <li>b) Explain things to consider when following a cyclist.</li> </ul> <p><b>Example answer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <i>Check your mirrors and blind spots for other vehicles that might affect your ability to pass safely. Signal your intention to move into another lane or around the cyclist well in advance. Pass only when safe to do so and when there is enough space that you can leave 1.5m between your vehicle and the cyclist.</i></li> <li>b) <i>Stay at least three seconds behind the cyclist, which allows enough time to react and stop if the cyclist slows down or encounters a hazard.. Pay attention to the cyclist's hand signals and prepare to slow down or stop when they indicate a turn or stopping. Keep an eye on the road ahead for potential hazards that might cause the cyclist to change speed or direction abruptly, such as potholes, debris, or parked cars.</i></li> </ul>	<p>Question <b>must</b> be answered in full.</p> <p>Answer must be similar in intent to example answer.</p>
<p><b>Question 13</b></p> <p><b>OC2 PC2.4</b></p> <p>Bicycles, like other vehicles, do not come to a stop instantly. Describe <b>how</b> you can reduce crash risk when you are opening the driver's door after you have parked your vehicle.</p> <p><b>Example answer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Check carefully for cyclists before opening the door.</i></li> </ul>	<p>Question <b>must</b> be answered in full.</p> <p>Answer must be similar in intent and to example answer.</p>

Task 3 – Other road users impact on driving and crash risks	
Evidence – Questions	Judgement statements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Use your left hand to open your car door – this will turn your shoulders so you have more chance of seeing a cyclist</i></li> </ul>	
<p><b>Question 14</b></p> <p><b>OC2 PC2.4</b></p> <p>When driving you share the road with many other people and vehicles. Consider the impact of farm equipment, over-dimension vehicles, motorcycles, horses on driving safety.</p> <p>Choose <b>two</b> from those listed and give examples related to passing, following distances.</p> <p>a) Passing</p> <p>b) Following distances</p> <p><b>Example answer</b></p> <p><b>Farm equipment:</b></p> <p>a) <i>Passing</i></p> <p><i>Pass farm equipment carefully, as they often move slower and can make sudden turns into fields or driveways.</i></p> <p><i>Have a clear view of the road ahead before overtaking, as these vehicles are large and can block your line of sight.</i></p> <p>b) <i>Following Distances</i></p> <p><i>Maintain a greater following distance, tractors and farm equipment might have unpredictable stops or slow down unexpectedly for turning or adjusting equipment.</i></p> <p><b>Over-dimension vehicles</b></p> <p>a) <i>Passing</i></p> <p><i>Keep enough clear space ahead before attempting to pass, as these vehicles are longer and require more time to overtake.</i></p> <p><i>Be aware of the air turbulence created by large vehicles, which can affect the stability of your car while passing.</i></p>	<p>Describes how following the road code by tractors, farm equipment, and over-dimension vehicles impacts driving safety and crash risk.</p> <p>Example provided relate to passing and following distances of <b>two</b> of the listed items.</p>



### Task 3 – Other road users impact on driving and crash risks

Evidence – Questions	Judgement statements
<p><i>Check for any signs indicating wide loads or extra-long vehicles and adjust your passing manoeuvre accordingly.</i></p> <p><i>b) Following Distances</i></p> <p><i>Due to their size, these vehicles can obstruct your view of the road ahead, keep a greater following distance to compensate for the reduced visibility and reaction time.</i></p> <p><i>Be careful of the wider turning arcs and slower speeds of large vehicles, especially on curves and when they are maneuvering.</i></p> <p><b>Motorcycles</b></p> <p><i>a) Passing</i></p> <p><i>When passing motorcycles, drivers must be careful due to the motorcycle's smaller size and less stability compared to cars.</i></p> <p><i>Check mirrors and blind spots, as motorcycles can be obscured by other vehicles or road fixtures.</i></p> <p><i>Give motorcycles more space than cars when passing. Since they are less stable, a sudden gust of wind from a passing vehicle can cause them to wobble.</i></p> <p><i>Avoid passing too closely or too quickly, as this can startle the motorcyclist and lead to accidents.</i></p> <p><i>b) Following Distances</i></p> <p><i>Following distances for motorcycles should be greater than for cars. This is because:</i></p> <p><i>Motorcycles can stop more quickly than cars, increasing the risk of rear-end collisions if the following distance is too short.</i></p> <p><i>Motorcyclists might need to perform sudden manoeuvres to avoid road hazards like potholes, which cars can more easily handle. A safe distance gives you more time to react.</i></p> <p><b>Horses</b></p> <p><i>a) Passing</i></p> <p><i>Slow down and pass horses wide and slow, as they can be easily spooked by fast-moving vehicles.</i></p>	

### Task 3 – Other road users impact on driving and crash risks

Evidence – Questions	Judgement statements
<p><i>Watch for signals from riders and drive carefully to avoid startling the horse.</i></p> <p><i>b) Following Distances</i></p> <p><i>Keep a generous distance behind horses to avoid frightening them and to give yourself time to stop if the horse acts unpredictably.</i></p>	
<p><b>Question 15</b></p> <p><b>OC2 PC2.4</b></p> <p>Describe <b>two</b> ways you can reduce the crash risk when sharing the road with tractors.</p> <p><b>Example answer</b></p> <p><i>Example answers include any three of:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Slow down and watch out for any warning beacons.</i></li> <li><i>• Be patient.</i></li> <li><i>• Pass only when safe – follow the road rules at all times.</i></li> <li><i>• Allow extra room for passing large or long tractors.</i></li> <li><i>• Reduce speed.</i></li> <li><i>• Be aware the tractor may be about to turn and may not have seen your vehicle.</i></li> </ul>	<p>Question <b>must</b> be answered in full.</p> <p>Answer must be similar in intent and complexity to example answer.</p>
<p><b>Question 16</b></p> <p><b>OC2 PC2.4</b></p> <p>Describe <b>two</b> ways you can reduce the crash risk when sharing the road with pedestrians.</p> <p><b>Example answer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Be ready to stop when you are driving near schools, pedestrian crossings or bus stops.</i></li> </ul>	<p>Question <b>must</b> be answered in full.</p> <p>Answer must be similar in intent and complexity to example answer.</p>

### Task 3 – Other road users impact on driving and crash risks

Evidence – Questions	Judgement statements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>When driving past parked vehicles, be extra watchful for pedestrians – they may walk out in front of you.</i></li> <li>• <i>The speed for passing a school bus that has stopped to let children on or off is 20km/h, no matter which side of the road you are on.</i></li> <li>• <i>Watch out for, and be courteous to, elderly people or people with disabilities.</i></li> <li>• <i>Driving past roadside stalls and parked vendors needs extra attention for distracted pedestrians.</i></li> <li>• <i>People walking on or near the road may not understand how long it takes for your vehicle to stop. Make sure you are scanning for hazards and ready to react to any risks.</i></li> </ul>	
<p><b>Question 17</b></p> <p><b>OC 2 PC 2.4</b></p> <p>Discuss how other road users may not understand the limitations of your vehicle. This could be cyclists, pedestrians, motorcyclists etc. Provide <b>two</b> specific examples. An example of this could be Tractor drivers not realising that you cannot see past them to the road ahead and pulling to the left doesn't give you enough room to pass safely.</p> <p><b>Example answer</b></p> <p><i>Cyclists - Cyclists may not be aware of the blind spots in different vehicle. They may turn or change lanes thinking it's clear. Cyclists might also underestimate the time it takes for different vehicle types to stop due to size and weight, especially in wet conditions.</i></p> <p><i>Pedestrians – Pedestrians can't always judge the speed and stopping distance of oncoming vehicles, especially larger or faster-moving ones. They might assume that a vehicle can stop instantly or go around them and may step onto the road without giving the driver enough time to react.</i></p> <p><i>Motorcyclists –. Motorcyclist move in and around traffic and change lanes, thinking that the drivers of other</i></p>	<p>Question <b>must</b> be answered in full.</p> <p>Answer must be similar in intent and complexity to example answers provided. Only <b>two</b> examples are needed.</p>

Task 3 – Other road users impact on driving and crash risks	
Evidence – Questions	Judgement statements
<i>vehicles can easily adjust their speed or direction.</i> <i>Motorcyclists might also not realise that in certain lighting conditions, they might be in a driver's blind spot.</i>	

## Assessment summary

Unit standard ID/outcome or element number	Title and outcomes/elements	Assessment method
		Questions
US 3465 (version 7)	Describe driving hazards and crash risk reduction strategies and responses to driving hazards	
1	Describe driving hazards.	Task 1, Q1-Q2
2	Describe the use of crash risk reduction strategies while driving.	Task 2, Q3-11 Task 3, Q12-17

## Assessment matrix

Unit standard 3465 (version 7): Describe driving hazards and crash risk reduction strategies and responses to driving hazards		
Outcome/Performance criteria		Evidence
1	Describe driving Hazards	
1.1	Driving hazards are described in terms of crash risks that arise from the six driving conditions.	Task 1, Q 1-2
2	Describe the use of crash risk reduction strategies while driving.	
2.1	Techniques for dealing with driving hazards are described in terms of reducing crash risk.	Task 2, Q 3,4

<b>Unit standard 3465 (version 7): Describe driving hazards and crash risk reduction strategies and responses to driving hazards</b>		
<b>Outcome/Performance criteria</b>		<b>Evidence</b>
	Range observance of traffic regulations, hazard action plan, observation techniques, system of vehicle control.	
2.2	Driver distractions are described in terms of their effects on driving and crash risk. Range three distractions while driving, which may include – fatigue, technology use, external distractions, adjusting vehicle controls, eating or drinking, smoking, talking.	Task 2, Q 5-8
2.3	Time and space management are described in terms of how they reduce the level of crash risk. Range judging speed, judging distance, anticipating the behaviour of other traffic.	Task 2, Q 9-11
2.4	The road codes and rules other road users are being observed and are described in terms of how they impact on driving and crash risk. Range other road users must include cyclists and may include – pedestrians, tractors or other farm equipment, over dimension vehicles, motorcyclists, horses; must include but is not limited to – passing, following distances, other road users' understanding of your vehicle and its limitations.	Task 3, Q 12-17

