

Subject: Meeting Traffic

Recap: Normal driving - passing parked cars. Observations - where? what?

Objective:

- What* Consider meeting traffic safely and the use of the MSM routine.
- How* Discuss the main points of meeting traffic and the MSM routine in various situations followed by on road practice.
- By the end* Be better prepared to deal with meeting situations and understand more about how the MSM routine should be applied.

Main Points:

What is it? Road is narrowed to less than width of two vehicles with oncoming traffic.
eg. parked cars, roadworks, traffic calming chicanes, single track roads.

It is a hazard Because you will both need to use the same space - MSM hazard routine

Plan Ahead Look well ahead to identify obstructions early - give yourself time to apply MSM
Also look for places where you can pull up and give way if necessary.

M To find speed and position of any following vehicles.

S Give yourself time assess the gap & speed/position/size of oncoming vehicle.
Slow down - signal to consider first is brake lights.

P If obstruction on your side of road.

Not too close so that vision is restricted or you need steer at the last minute.
Gradual change of direction - move out to right but don't impede oncoming vehicles.

S Slowing down - prepared to stop or holdback - if possible, adjust speed to pass through without having to stop.

L Assess the situation and decide if it's - safe to proceed - necessary to wait.

Priorities Highway code - When obstruction is on your side - give way to approaching traffic (never assume priority - use MSM and slow down to assess situation).

Clearance Leave adequate space for parked vehicles - room to move off easily (if very narrow slow down further - less space less speed - more reaction time).

Anticipate Car doors opening - children & pedestrians stepping out - cars pulling out.

References: Driving the Essential Skills P. 127-128 Official Driving Test P. 42
BSM Pass Your Driving Test P. 83-85 BSM Practice Sessions P. 80-81

Any Questions?