

ED JENNINGS – STUDENT COMMUNICATION TRANSCRIPT

[00:00]

(Peppy music plays while introductory slides show the Institute for Transportation and Iowa Department of Transportation logos and then the video title of “Student Communication”)

[00:06] [Speaker – Ed Jennings, Safer Driver Solutions]:

(Music quiets)

A lot of times students are reluctant to ask questions because they don’t want you to think they don’t know something. And so, that’s where asking the student questions is very important.

[00:20]

(Brief b-roll zooms in on a still image of a classroom with most students raising their hands as they face the teacher standing at the front of the class)

So, I usually ask students how much they drive, what type of driving they do, who they drive with...

[00:28]

(Brief b-roll video shows a young driver with a passenger pointing to the left before the driver looks over their shoulder to get in the right lane as orange cones in the left lane come into view)

...what maybe makes them nervous, or, you know, maybe situations that are a little intimidating to them, you know, just to get a little background information as far as where they’re at coming in, right?

[00:40]

(Video briefly dips to black)

So, if we’re sitting at a stoplight and we’re going to turn left, we say, okay, when the light turns green...

[00:44]

(Brief b-roll zooms up on a still image of a queue of stopped cars in the left lane to show a stop light with a yellow light for the left lane and green lights for those traveling straight)

... what are we going to do? Versus just letting the student drive and then when they do it wrong, say, “No, don’t do that.”

[00:54]

(Brief b-roll video shows a young driver indicating their planned actions to a passenger as their vehicle is encountering cars ahead that are likewise entering a highway)

That's a great skill to have the student develop is to verbalize as they're driving what they're seeing and what they're thinking. So that becomes a little bit more natural.

[01:05]

(Brief b-roll video shows a close-up view of hands flipping through the Iowa Department of Transportation's Iowa Driver's License Manual, particularly pages with signage)

Trying to keep terminology vocabulary as consistent as possible is important. But on the flip side of that, they're going to hear maybe other terms from their parents or from other family members they drive with.

[01:16]

(Brief b-roll zooms in on a still image of an older driver and a younger passenger, both are buckled and the driver has both their hands on the steering wheel, before fading to black and then another still image of different pair of older driver and younger passenger, likewise buckled and both of the driver's hands on the steering wheel)

So, I think it's also important to talk about maybe some of the different terminology that means the same thing.

[01:27]

(Brief b-roll video shows a close-up of a person using their pointer finger to turn on their right-turn signal)

You know, so if you're talking about using your turn signal, it can also be called an indicator. It can also be called a directional. It could be called a blinker, right?

[01:38]

(Brief b-roll video shows a different close-up view of a driver with both hands on the wheel turning on their left-turn signal with a view of the dashboard before transitioning to a hyperlapse video of a vehicle at a stoplight awaiting the light change to turn left)

But it's all the same thing, right? I try to always review what we did on the previous drive at the very beginning of the next drive, just to see what the students retained.

[01:50]

(A series of brief b-roll videos show a young driver adjusting dials on their dashboard, adjusting their rearview mirror, and then looking back before reversing)

Again, that recall helps reinforce their memory and their learning. And, then again, it's important to reestablish what those expectations are before we move on to something new. Getting expectations understood between us and the student and the parent, so everybody can be on the same page and everybody can reinforce each other is crucial.

[02:10]

(Brief b-roll video shows four people, some with nametags, engaging an instructor)

Getting the parent involved is probably one of the most important things as far as you know, again, getting the most out of the teaching and learning for the student.

[02:21]

(Video of Ed Jennings fades to black as louder peppy music resumes, while outro slides provide a disclaimer that reads, "This video was developed by the Institute for Transportation (InTrans) at Iowa State University for the Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT) with the purpose to provide the material for driver education instructors in Iowa. InTrans is responsible for the facts and the accuracy of the information presented herein as of May 1, 2025. Driver education instructors may use the material in its entirety or may use any of the material individually. The material is for educational purposes only. It is strictly prohibited to sell any part of this video. If any of the material is reused, please credit the Iowa DOT. For more information or questions, please contact Vania Boyd, Driver Education and Motorcycle Rider Education Manager, Iowa DOT, Vania.boyd@iowadot.us." and show the Institute for Transportation and Iowa Department of Transportation logos)