



Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

GRADES 9-12 | LESSON 7

STUDENT JOURNAL

THE INVISIBLE ROAD USER: SEMI-TRUCKS, BLIND SPOTS & SHARING THE ROAD SAFELY

ABOUT THIS JOURNAL: In the Street Smart video, Lila didn't know she was invisible to the semi-truck driver. She was frustrated with a slow semi-truck, moved up close — and almost paid for it. Most drivers are like Lila: they've driven in No-Zones dozens of times without knowing it. This journal asks you to think honestly about what you didn't know, and what changes now that you do.

REFLECTION PROMPTS

PROMPT 1

In the video, Andie tells Lila she was driving in the semi-truck's blind spot — and the semi-truck driver “wasn't moving over because they couldn't see you.” Before today's lesson, did you know that large commercial vehicles have no rear-view mirror and rely entirely on side mirrors? Have you ever ridden in a vehicle where the driver was close behind — or driving alongside — a semi-truck? Now that you know the No-Zone rules and the mirror rule, what specifically will you look for and do differently? Be specific about a route or driving situation where this knowledge will change your behavior.

PROMPT 2

Imagine you are a cyclist riding in a bike lane on a busy road. A car turns right directly in front of you without checking the lane. Describe that experience from the cyclist's perspective: what do you see, feel and need from the drivers around you? What would have to change in how drivers think about cyclists to make that scenario less common? Does knowing the three-foot clearance rule change how you think about passing a cyclist as a driver?

PROMPT 3

Think about a time you — or a driver you were riding with — drove in difficult conditions: night, rain, fog or heavy traffic. What did you do differently? Looking back, was that actually the right response? Based on what you learned today about overdriving headlights, wet pavement stopping distances and following distance, what would you do differently now?

MY COMMITMENT

MY SHARED ROAD COMMITMENT: