



# The right formula

Taking driving into the classroom

## Vehicle Dynamics – Theme 6: Crashes

### Activity 6b

### Crash causes

The causes of crashes can be grouped into three categories:

- mechanical (i.e. brakes or engine failure)
- environmental (i.e. black ice on the road, potholes)
- human error (i.e. risk taking, miscalculating distances, being distracted).

Read carefully **Worksheet 6b: Case studies** and decide for each one which was the primary cause of the crash and which the secondary (if applicable).

To help you decide who was responsible or acting illegally, check with the Highway Code – available as a booklet or on the internet at **[www.highwaycode.gov.uk](http://www.highwaycode.gov.uk)**

Discuss in class your answers – especially those that differ among groups. What (if anything) could have been done to avoid each crash? What actions would you recommend to avoid similar crashes in the future?

### Class organisation

Groups of 5-6

Whole class  
discussion

### Resources

Worksheet 6b:  
Case studies

An up-to-date copy  
of the Highway Code  
(available from most  
bookshops and  
some newsagents)