



Check your mirrors, not your phone.

DRIVER'S LICENCE

May 25, 2014

Alex Bodnar: Uh, sometimes when I uh drive over to your place uh I see all these uh, uh driving school cars with students driving around. **It got me to thinking** uh what did it, what did it take for, for you to get your driver's licence?

José Cruz: Ah, automatically I- I think about those kids that you see those those those Japanese kids getting their licences for the first time and I think about my experience and I just always shake my head at the amount of money that's spent here to get a driver's licence.

Alex: Yeah, why do you shake your head?

José: Well because they spend money here to get a drivers licence. Now, it's not free in Canada I think to get your learner's permit which is your first paper test was if I remember it cost me like \$20.

Alex: I think it was about the same for me too.

José: Okay (Yeah) and then to take the final test again (mm-hmm) I think was about 20 dollars, maybe 40.

Alex: Yeah, I I think it's gone up since then but uh, well we could do a quick check and find out.

José: We could but what do you think it's up to now? About twice that?

Alex: Uh, I thi- it's probably around 50 or 60 dollars now.

José: Okay. (Yeah) So, you know 20 plus 60, 80 dollars, which translates into about - okay at these exchange rates let's say seventy-seven hundred, 7,700 yen (mm-hmm yeah) and these kids depending on the city that they live in can spend anything from 200,000 Yen or about two thou- let's say roughly 2000 Canadian dollars to 250,000 Yen \$2500.

Alex: The Japanese uh students.

Jose: Yeah yeah.

Alex: Yeah, tha- tha- that's enormous.

José: I- that's huge and that's and I am just talking about price, you know. But um this is a different country, so you can't complain about it too much, right?

Alex: Yeah, everyplace is different right? It doesn't mean it's wrong uh or good uh, maybe it's just uh right.

Word count	Time	Words/Min.
336	2:07	158.74

Pointers

As of September 2014, the total fees for a driver's licence in Ontario, Canada come to \$146. This includes \$15.25 for the knowledge test; \$50.75 for the road test; and \$80 for a five year licence.

It got me to thinking: 'It got me to' means 'it made me start thinking'. (0:09)

Discussion:

Is it worth getting a driver's licence? Why? Why not?

Do you think Japanese people spend too much to get a driver's licence?

Is getting a driver's licence easy or difficult? Explain.

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