Are alcohol limits too high for drivers?
In 2012, 1200 people were seriously injured when drivers were over the legal alcohol limit. As a result, 280 people were killed in drink driving accidents.
These figures are too high but accidents involving drink driving have decreased hugely over the last 35 years. Deaths and serious injuries related to drink driving have fallen by more than three-quarters since 1979.

What's the law on drink driving?
In England and Wales, the alcohol limit for drivers is 80 milligrammes of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood, 35 microgrammes per 100 millilitres of breath or 107milligrammes per 100 millilitres of urine. In most other European countries, the limit is less, usually 50 milligrammes per 100 millilitres of blood.

How much can I drink and stay under the limit?
There is no fool-proof way of drinking and staying under the limit. The amount of alcohol you would need to drink to be considered over the driving limit varies from person to person. It depends on:
- your weight
- your gender (men tend to process alcohol faster than women)
- your metabolism
- the type and amount you're drinking
- your current stress levels
- whether you've eaten recently
- age (younger people tend to process alcohol more slowly)
Even small amounts of alcohol can affect your ability to drive so the only safe advice is to avoid any alcohol if you are driving.

Task
Write a speech to a group of apprentices or students. Persuade them not to drink and drive. You should include:
- Accident statistics for 2012
- Current legal alcohol limits
- Nomination of a named driver who remains sober
- Any other persuasive details
One of the L2 writing exam papers asked students to write a speech. I found a speech online and showed them how to use repeated words, emphasis, subheadings and to think about their audience.

I then used the Drink Aware website to create this resource to enable students to practise speech writing. This could also be used to practise writing letters or emails to colleagues to encourage them to think about drink driving and to practise other aspects of writing styles for Level 2 exams.

**Teacher’s notes**

**Suggested links:**
- Drinkaware [https://www.drinkaware.co.uk/](https://www.drinkaware.co.uk/)
- BBC Bitesize GCSE revision – presenting [http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/guides/zdwq6sg/revision/1](http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/guides/zdwq6sg/revision/1)
- Backwell School: Writing formats for GCSE Paper 2 (Writing) – No 5 Speeches [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ZN58tZtAdY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ZN58tZtAdY)
- [http://www.theenglishzone.org.uk/page_2415645.html](http://www.theenglishzone.org.uk/page_2415645.html)