

## Safety Belt Myths and Facts

Safety belts have been proven to be effective in reducing death and injuries to vehicle occupants. However, many people still think they have good reasons not to use safety belts. Read the facts about safety belts in the box below. After reading the facts, read the reasons six people gave for not using safety belts. Use one of the facts in the box to respond to each statement. Place the letter of the appropriate fact in the space in front of the statement.

### Safety Belt Facts

- A. Eighty percent of all collisions occur at speeds under 40 mph.
- B. People riding in front seats account for more than 90 percent of passenger car deaths.
- C. When properly adjusted, lap and shoulder belts cut the chances of being killed or seriously injured in a collision by 55 percent.
- D. Three out of four collisions occur within 25 miles of home.
- E. Your chances of being killed are 24 times greater if you are thrown from a vehicle.
- F. Less than one-half of one percent of all injury-producing collisions involve fire or submersion.

### Your Response

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### Statement

1. I don't wear a safety belt because I'm driving at low speeds most of the time.
2. I don't wear a safety belt because I might be saved if I'm thrown clear of the car in a collision.
3. I don't wear a safety belt because I might be trapped in a burning or submerged car.
4. I don't wear a safety belt because I only drive on short trips to stores, to school, and to the library.
5. I don't wear a safety belt because I always ride in the front seat and can brace myself against the instrument panel.
6. I don't wear a safety belt because I don't think safety belts reduce my chances of being injured in a collision.