



My Car, Myself Index

By Michael J. Lincoln, Ph.D.

A

“A-ARM” (Part of the steering mechanism)

“ABRUPT/ROUGH” DRIVING STYLE

ACCELERATION PROBLEMS

ACCELERATOR PROBLEMS

ACCIDENT

AIR BAG(S)

AIR CONDITIONER

AIR DAMP (Air flow on the brakes for cooling purposes)

AIR FILTER (Cleans the air coming into the engine’s firing chambers)

ALARM SYSTEM

AXLE, REAR

ALTERNATOR (Uses the rotation of the engine parts to generate electricity)

AMMETER (Electrical system gauge)

AMPLIFIER (For a car audio system)

ANTENNA (Radio)

ANTI-LOCK BRAKE SYSTEM

ARM REST(S)

ASHTRAY(S)

AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION (Adapts the engine speed to the wheel speed so that the engine isn’t overwhelmed by the power it has to deliver at any point)

AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION FLUID LEAK

AXLE, FRONT

ALIGNMENT (Of the front wheels)

B

BACKFIRING

BACK HALF OF THE BODY

BACK SUPPORT

BACK-UP LIGHT(S)

BALL JOINT (Up-down control in the steering mechanism)

BATTERY

BEARINGS (Greased steel balls that allow things to rotate or move)

BEING CUT IN FRONT OF (Repeatedly)
BEING “TAILGATED” (Consistently)
BICYCLE RACK
BILLOWING SMOKE
BLINKER(S)
BLOCK HEATER (Keeps the engine from freezing in extremely cold climates)
“BLOW OUT”
BODY PROBLEMS
“BOOM BOX” (Huge bass-emphasizing radio/player that takes up the trunk area)
BRAKE CALIPER(S) [Comparable to a bicycle wheel hand brake pad]
BRAKE CYLINDER(S) [Containing brake fluid at each wheel that applies the force to brake the wheel]
BRAKE DRUM(S) [Friction plate to which the brakes are applied and that actually slows the wheel]
BRAKE FAILURE
BRAKE LIGHT(S)
BRAKE LINE(S) [Tubes containing brake fluid to apply the pressure to the wheels]
BRAKE LINING(S); BRAKE PAD(S) [Friction plates that do the actual slowing of the wheels]
BRAKE MASTER CYLINDER (Prime brake fluid pressure source)
BRAKE PEDAL
BRAKE ROTOR (Distributes the brake pressure)
BRAKES
BRAKE SHOE(S) [Friction plates that do the actual slowing of the wheels]
BREAK-IN
“BRIGHTS” (High beams)
“BUG-DEFLECTOR”
BUMPER(S); BUMPER GUARD(S); BUMPER SIDE GUARD(S)
“BUMPER SEAT” (In the trunk area in an old “coupe” car)
BUMPER-TRUNK PANEL (The area between the bumper and the trunk lid)
BUNGEE CORD(S) (Stretch-able cords with hooks on the ends for anchoring things)
“BURNING OIL” (Consuming too much oil, perhaps with smoke coming out of the tail pipe. It indicates that there is space between the cylinders and the cylinder walls)

C

CAMPER CONVERSION (Elevated space atop a van)
CAMS; CAM SHAFT (Lifts the valves in the engine)
CAN’T DRIVE; WON’T LEARN TO DRIVE
CAN’T FIND A PARKING PLACE (Consistently)
CAN’T FIND THEIR CAR (In parking lots, on the street, etc.) [Consistently]
CAN’T GET A CAR
CAR ALARM
CAR BAR (In the back seat -- e.g., in the back of a stretch limo)
CARBURETOR (Gas/air combiner for fuel delivery)
CAR COVER
“CAREENING CANNON” (Driving style)
CAR FIRE; FIRE DAMAGE
CARGO RIGGING

CAR SEAT (For an infant or toddler)
CAR VACUUM CLEANER
CATALYTIC CONVERTER (Cleans the exhaust gases before expulsion)
“C. B.” RADIO (“Citizen’s Band;” “Ham radio”)
CD PLAYER
CEILING (Overhead interior lining)
CELL PHONE
CHAINS (For snow and ice)
CHANGE BIN
CHASSIS (The frame)
“CHECK ENGINE” INDICATOR ON (Tells when there is trouble in the engine)
CHILD SAFETY LOCK(S) [On the rear doors]
CHOKE (Fuel richness control -- it determines how much air will be mixed in)
“CHOKE DOWN” (Interruption or reduction in engine operation and/or effectiveness)
CHROME PROBLEMS
CIGAR/CIGARETTE LIGHTER
CLOCK
CLOGGED RADIATOR (Needs flushing -- pressured liquid run through it)
CLUTCH (Engages and disengages the engine from the transmission and wheels)
COIL (Step-up transformer in the distributor that creates enough power to fire the spark plugs, which create the explosions that run the engine)
COLLISION DAMAGE
“COLORED SIGNALING LIGHTS” (Police, fire, emergency, ambulance, public service vehicle, etc.)
COMPUTER; CONTROL COMPUTER
COMPUTER VOICE (“Feedback messenger”)
CONNECTING ROD(S) [They connect the pistons to the crank shaft]
CONVERTIBLE TOP
CONVERTIBLE TOP MOTOR
COOLING SYSTEM
CRACKED BLOCK (A fissure has developed in the “body” of the engine -- needless to say, a very serious problem. The block has to be replaced -- a very expensive proposition)
CRACKED WINDSHIELD
CRANKCASE (Housing for the lubricating oil under the pistons and rods at the base of the engine)
CRANKSHAFT (A line of irregularly spaced rotation bars for piston power-receiving in order to turn the up/down motion of the pistons into revolving power for transmission to the wheels)
CROSS PIPE (Connecting the dual exhaust pipes)
CRUISE CONTROL (“Automatic pilot” speed-determiner -- it takes over for the foot on the accelerator, at a pre-set speed)
CUP-HOLDER(S)
“CUT-ACROSS ARTIST” (Improper turns)
CUT IN FRONT OF (“Sudden surprises”) [Consistently]
“CUT-IN ARTIST” (Cutting in front of other cars consistently)
“C.V.” (“Constant Velocity”) [Keeps the gear and drive wheel rotations in synch with each other in a front wheel drive car -- especially when making turns]
CYLINDER(S) [Hollow columns in which the pistons move up and down inside the engine]

D

“DAMN THE TORPEDOES!” (Running red lights; Running stop signs)

“DANGEROUS PULL-OUTS” PROPENSITY

DASHBOARD

DAYTIME RUNNING LIGHTS (“D.R.L.’s”)

DEFROSTER (For the windshield and/or for the rear window)

DENTS

DEODERIZER

DIFFERENTIAL (Distributes the engineering stresses in the transmission leakage)

DIFFICULTY STARTING THE VEHICLE

DIP STICK (Oil level indicator)

“DISAPPEARING” THEIR CAR (Not stolen, but non-findable for a time) [Repeatedly]

DISTRIBUTOR (Connects to the generated electricity to the various spark plugs via a rotational pattern to ignite the fuel/air mixture to create the power explosions for the engine)

DISTRIBUTOR POINTS (Contact tips for electrical connection and flow for engine-firing)

DISTRIBUTOR ROTOR (Rotates around touching the distributor points to fire off the spark plugs in the proper order)

DIVIDER WINDOW (Between the chauffeur or the taxi driver and the passengers)

DOME LIGHT

DOOR(S)

DOOR COMPARTMENT(S)

DOOR HANDLE(S)

DOOR LIGHT(S)

DOOR LOCK(S)

DOOR PANEL(S) [Linings]

DOOR POCKET(S)

DOOR POST (Between the doors)

DOOR REFLECTOR(S) [Warns oncoming cars that the door is open]

DOOR “SCRAWKS” AS IT OPENS AND/OR CLOSES

DOOR SILL (Bottom of the door frame- thresholds of the car)

“DRAG-RACING” (“Laying rubber” at signals)

DRIVESHAFT (Transfers the power from the transmission to the drive wheels -- it is under the “hump” on the floor)

“DRIVING BLIND” (Driving without their headlights on) [Repeatedly]

“DRIVING BY FEEL” (Navigating by “gut” -- often with no clear sense of direction and refusing to use the satellite positioning system or to stop and ask for directions)

“DRIVING HABIT PROBLEMS”

DRIVING OFF WITH THE GAS NOZZLE STILL ATTACHED

“DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE” PROPENSITY

DRIVING WITHOUT THEIR HEADLIGHTS ON (Repeatedly)

“D.R.L.’s” (Daytime Running Lights)

DVD PLAYER

E

“EGO EXTENSION” REACTION TO THEIR CAR

“EGR” LIGHT (“Exhaust Gas Re-circulation” -- an indicator that the exhaust- cleaning system is not functioning properly)

ELECTRICAL SYSTEM

EMERGENCY BRAKE

EMERGENCY FLASHERS

EMISSION SYSTEM

ENGINE FIRE

“ENGINE” LIGHT ON (Tells when there is trouble in the engine)

ENGINE PROBLEMS

ENGINE WON’T STOP (When the ignition is turned off)

ENTRY GRIP (Handle at the top of the doorway towards the front of the car for pulling yourself into a high vehicle like an SUV or a truck)

EXHAUST FUMES IN THE CAR

EXHAUST MANIFOLD (The pipes that funnel fumes from the engine to the muffler and the tail pipe)

EXHAUST PIPE

EXPIRED LICENSE

EXTRA SEAT(S) [In the backseat area in a stretch limo, for instance]

F

FALLING ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL (Fairly frequently)

FALLING OUT OF A MOVING CAR

“FALSE ALARMS” (Mis-firings of indicator lights, warning sounds or computer messages)

FAN (Blows air over the engine or through the radiator for cooling purposes)

“FEEDBACK MESSENGER” (Computer voice)

“FEINT-HEART” (Fearfulness and prolonged hesitation at driving junctions)

FENDER(S)

“FIN(S)”

FILTER(S) (Air for the engine, fuel, oil, etc.)

FIRE; FIRE DAMAGE; CAR FIRE

FIREWALL (Between the engine and the passenger compartment)

FLAT TIRE

FLOOR BOARD(S)

FLOOR MAT(S)

FLYWHEEL (Keeps the momentum of the motor going)

FOG LIGHT(S)

FOLDING SEAT(S) [In the back seat area -- e.g., in a stretch limo]

FOUR WHEEL DRIVE SHIFT

FRAME

FRONT END COVER (Rubber, plastic, or leather covering strapped on to the hood and grill)

FRONT HALF OF THE BODY

FRONT SEAT CENTER STORAGE

“FROZEN” ENGINE BLOCK; “FUSED” ENGINE BLOCK (“Melt-welded” inner engine parts, due to over-heating from lack of coolant or both)

FUEL FILTER

FUEL INJECTOR (Fuel/air combiner for fuel delivery and ignition)

FUEL LINE (The tube that brings the fuel from the gas tank to the engine)

FUEL PUMP (Pulls the fuel from the gas tank to the engine)

FUEL SYSTEM

FUEL TANK SENSOR (Floats in the gas tank and tells how full the tank is)

FUSE; FUSE BOX (Prevents electrical overload)

“FUSED” ENGINE BLOCK (“Melt-welded” inner parts of the engine due to over- heating from lack of coolant or oil or both)

G

GARAGE- OR GATE-OPENER

GARBAGE CONTAINER

GAS/FUEL CAP

GAS/FUEL CAP COVER REMOTE RELEASE (Inside the passenger compartment)

GAS/FUEL FILTER

GAS/FUEL FUMES IN THE CAR

GAS/FUEL GAUGE

GAS/FUEL LEAK

GAS/FUEL LEVEL (Floats in the gas tank and tells how full the tank is)

GAS/FUEL TANK

GASKET BLOWN (“Cushion” and “sealer” between the engine block and the top or “head” of the engine. It is also a sealer and cushion for other parts of the car)

GAS PEDAL; ACCELERATOR PEDAL

GEAR SHIFT (Adapts the engine speed to the wheel speed so that the engine isn’t overwhelmed in the power that it has to deliver at any point)

GENERATOR (Uses the rotation of the engine parts to create or generate electricity)

GETTING AHEAD OF OTHERS IN TRAFFIC (Compulsively)

GETTING LOST (Consistently)

GETTING OUT OF A MOVING CAR PROPENSITY

GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (G.P.S)

GLOVE COMPARTMENT

“GOAL-BLINDED” (Passing on the right) [Or on the left in England]

GOING OVER CURBS (Repeatedly)

“GPS” NAVIGATOR (Global Positioning System)

GRILL (The decorative structure on the front of a car that ventilates the engine)

GRILL GUARD

GUN RACK

H

HARD STARTING OF THEIR CAR

HATCHBACK

HEAD (The top of the engine)

HEADLIGHT(S)

HEADLIGHT POSITIONER(S) [Moves them up and out of the fender. When down, they are flush with the fender]

HEADLINER (Ceiling material)
HEAD REST(S)
HEATER
HIGH BEAMS
“HIGH CENTERED” (Hung up at the under-carriage on an elevation under the car)
HITTING A LARGE ANIMAL
HITTING A PEDESTRIAN
HITTING A SMALL ANIMAL
“HOLD HANDLES;” “STRAPS”
“HOLD-UP ARTIST” (Making a point of preventing forward movement by others behind them -- a dawdling and obstructive driving style)
HOMICIDAL ATTACK BY ANOTHER PERSON (Road-rage, drive-by shooting, wrong side of the freeway, etc.)
HOOD
HOOD RELEASE
HORN
HOSE, RADIATOR
HOSE, VACCUUM (Part of the system that controls the flow of fuel and air to the engine)
HUB CAP(S)
HYDRAULIC VALVE-LIFTER(S) (They allow fuel into and exhaust out of the cylinders)

I

“ICE ALERT” SIGNAL
ICE-MELTING FLUID
ICE SCRAPER
IDLING PROBLEMS
“IDIOT LIGHT” (Warning lights for system malfunctions)
IDLER ARM (Connects the steering mechanism to the wheels)
IGNITION (Sends electricity through the system to get things started)
IMPALED OR WRECKED BY ROAD DEBRIS (Falling off the vehicle in front of them, spring strip on the road, etc., comes right through the windshield into their face or causes a calamitous accident)
“IMPROPER TURNS” PROPENSITY
INSIDE GAS CAP RELEASE
INSIDE TRUNK LID RELEASE
INSIGNIA(S)
INSTRUMENT PANEL (The control devices for the various functions in the car)
INTAKE MANIFOLD (The pipes that funnel the fuel mixture to the engine)
INTERIOR LIGHT

J

JACK
“JUMPER CABLES” (Connects the battery to that of another vehicle for electric energy transfer)

K

“K.C.” LIGHTS (Along the front of the roof of a truck)

KEY(S)

KILLED IN ACCIDENT

“KNOCKING” IN THE ENGINE (“Thunks,” “klunkas” and other “thud” sounds as the engine runs)

L

LADDER (On a van)

“LANE-JOCKEY” (Constantly changing lanes)

LEAKAGE INTO THE CAR (Water)

LEAVING THE LIGHTS ON; LEAVING THE RADIO ON

LEFT HALF OF THE BODY

LICENCE PLATE(S)

LIGHTER (Cigars, cigarettes also an electric outlet)

LOCKING THEMSELVES OUT OF THEIR CAR (As a pattern)

LOSING PARKING PLACES (Taken from “under their nose,” consistently)

LOSING THEIR CAR REGISTRATION (Repeatedly)

LOSING THEIR DRIVER’S LICENSE (Repeatedly)

LOSING THEIR PROOF OF INSURANCE PAPERS (Repeatedly)

LOSING THEIR ROAD MAP (Repeatedly)

LOSING THE TITLE TO THEIR VEHICLE (Repeatedly)

LOUD MUFFLER

LOW BEAMS

LOWER HALF OF THE BODY

LOW HYDRAULIC FLUID (Transmits the pressure to the brakes)

LOW TIRE PRESSURE (Consistently)

LUBRICATION SYSTEM

LUG WRENCH (X-shaped four pronged wheel nut-unscrewer whose ends fit over four different size bolt heads on the wheel)

M

“MAD COMPETITOR” PATTERN (“Laying rubber” at signals, speeding up suicidally when being passed, etc.)

“MADD” (Driving under the influence of whatever)

“MAD DRIVERS” (In their path a lot)

MAIN BEARING (Lubrication control for the engine)

MANIFOLD (Air intake and exhaust exit for the engine)

MAP

MASTER CYLINDER (Prime brake fluid pressure distributor)

McPHERSON STRUTS (Integrated springs and shock-absorbers)

“MELTDOWN” (“Melt-welded” inner parts of the engine, due to overheating from lack of coolant or of lubricant or of both)

MESSINESS

MILEAGE INDICATOR (Odometer)

“MISSING” (Non-firing of spark plugs and/or interruptions of fuel flow make the engine stutter)

MISSING EXITS (On the freeway) [Frequently]

MISSING SIGNALS (Consistently -- notably more than statistically expectable)

MOLD IN THEIR VEHICLE

“MOTOR MELTDOWN” (“Melt-welded” inner parts due to overheating from lack of coolant or of lubricant or of both)

MOTOR MOUNTS (Bolts that hold the motor to the frame of the car)

MOTOR PROBLEMS

MUD FLAPS (Behind the wheels)

MUFFLER (Absorbs the loud sound of the internal combustion engine explosions that provide the power)

N

NEAR ACCIDENT

“NEVER SATISFIED” (Constantly changing lanes)

“NICKS” (On the car’s finish)

“NIGHT BLINDNESS;” “NIGHT MYOPIA”

“NO ROOM AT THE INN” (Parking ticket garnered)

O

ODOMETER (Mileage indicator)

“OH NO YOU DON’T!” (Won’t let others into the traffic flow or the other lane)

OIL CAP (Covers the entrance to the oil supply)

OIL, DIRTY

OIL FILTER

OIL LEAK

OIL OVER-FILL (Repeatedly)

OIL PAN (Storage area for the engine-lubricating oil at the base of the engine)

OIL PRESSURE GAUGE (Tells how well the oil pump is doing at lubricating the engine)

OIL PRESSURE RELEASE VALVE

OIL PUMP (Makes sure the oil lubricates the engine interior)

OIL SEALS (They keep the oil in the engine)

OIL, UNCHANGED

“OIL” WARNING LIGHT ON

“OUTTA MY WAY!” (Violation pedestrians’ right of way while driving)

OVERHAUL-NEEDING

OVERHEATING

“OXYGEN” LIGHT ON (Indicating insufficient air/oxygen in the fuel mixture)

P

PAINT BLEMISHES

“PARALLEL PARKING PARALYSIS” (Consistent difficulty in parallel parking)

PARKING ASKEW (In parking slots or spots)

PARKING BRAKE

PARKING BRAKE FAILURE TO SET, OR PUT IN PARK

PARKING LIGHTS

“PARKING LOT” DELAYS (Frequent stand-still traffic) [Construction, peak period traffic, signal out, traffic obstruction, curiosity slowing, accident, etc.]

“PARKING TICKET GARNERER” PROPENSITY

PARTS FALLING OFF

PASSENGER COMPARTMENT PROBLEMS

“PCV” (“Positive Crankcase Ventilation” for clearing fumes from the crankcase)

PETCOCK (Spigot on the bottom of the radiator for draining)

PHONE, CAR

“PINGING” (Sharp, high-pitched “clicks” in the engine upon acceleration)

PISTONS (Deliver the power of the gas explosions in the engine to the crankshaft in a vertical up and down motion inside the cylinders)

PITMAN ARM (Steering gearbox connector)

“POINT PERSON” (Compulsively getting ahead of others in traffic)

POWER BRAKES

POWER LOCKS

POWER-LOSS (Interruption or reduction of engine operating and/or effectiveness)

POWER RUNNING BOARD, STEP (It emerges from the vehicle for your use, and then it retracts it back in automatically)

POWER SEAT CONTROL

POWER STEERING

POWER WINDOWS

PUSH RODS (To push the valves up so as to let fuel/air in and to let explosion gases out of the cylinders)

Q

R

RACING THE ENGINE AT STOP SIGNS

RACING THE ENGINE AT SIGNALS (Competition-inviting)

RACK (On the roof or on the trunk)

RACK AND PINION (Steering gears)

RADAR DETECTOR

RADIATOR

RADIO; RADIO/TAPE DECK; CD PLAYER

“RAGE-AHOLIC” (“Road rage”)

RATTLES

READING LIGHT

“READY OR NOT” (Dangerous pull-outs)

REAR HALF OF THE BODY
REAR VIEW MIRROR
REAR WINDOW LOUVERS
REAR WINDOW SHELF
“RECKLESS DRIVING” PROPENSITY
RECTIFIER (Adjusts the flow of electric current to the spark plugs)
REMOTE TRUNK-RELEASE
RESONATOR (Part of the ignition and exhaust system -- it enhances and controls the occurrence of the sparks)
“REVENGE-FREAK” (They feel that they have the right to “get back” for any and all “transgressions” -- and they act on it behind the wheel)
REVOKED LICENSE
RIGHT HALF OF THE BODY
“RIGHT-HUGGING” (As they drive) [“Left-hugging” in England]
RINGS (Sealers around the pistons against the cylinder walls)
“ROAD HOG” (Constantly taking up road space and not allowing passing)
“ROAD RAGE” (Directed at them by other drivers consistently)
“ROAD RAGE” (Their own)
ROCKER ARM (Part of the valve controls -- they pull them up and let them down in sequence)
ROD(S) (They connect the pistons to the crankshaft)
ROLL BAR
ROOF
“ROUGH & TOUGH” (Abrupt/rough driving style)
RUNNING BOARD; STEP (Van, truck)
RUNNING BOARD LIGHTS (Van, truck)
RUNNING OUT OF GAS PROPENSITY
RUNNING OVER SOMEONE
RUNNING OVER SOMETHING
RUNNING RED LIGHTS; RUNNING STOP SIGNS PROPENSITY
RUST

S

SCRAPED
“SCRAPING” BRAKES
SCRATCHES
SEAT(S)
SEAT BACK
“SEAT BEADS” (Body-massaging seat cover composed of beads)
SEAT BELT(S)
SEAT COVER(S); SHEEP SKIN SEAT COVER(S)
SEAT HEATER
SEAT LOCATION CONTROL
SEAT PAD(S)
“SEQUENTIAL BREAKDOWNS” (One damned thing after another also, the “lemon”)
“SEQUENTIAL COLLISIONS” (One after another in a short span of time)
“SHAKING” (The whole car usually due to tire trouble)
“SHIMMYING” (Front wheels wobbling or wavering)

SHOCK ABSORBERS

“SHORT” (Electrical disconnections, “crossed connections,” or “blow-outs”)

SIDE COMPARTMENT(S); SIDE POCKET(S)

SIDE MIRROR(S)

SIDE STRIP(S) (Car decoration and protection)

SIGNALER

SIREN OR WARNING SOUND SYSTEM (Police, fire or emergency vehicles)

SKI RACK

SLOW LEAK (Tires)

“SLOW-POKE” DRIVING PROPENSITY

SNOW-REMOVER (Long-handled scraper and brush)

SNOW TIRE(S)

SOLENOID (Step-up transformer for the starter)

“SPACE CASE” DRIVING PATTERN

SPARE TIRE

SPARK PLUG(S) (Electric spark-emitters that ignite and explode the air/fuel mixture)

SPEAKER(S)

“SPEEDING BULLET” (Driving too fast)

SPEEDOMETER

SPINNING OUT OF CONTROL (Ice, recklessness, etc.) [Repeatedly]

“SPINNING WHEELS” (Stuck in mud, ice, snow, slush, sand or whatever -- repeatedly)

SPRINGS

“SQUEAKING” BRAKES

“SQUEAKS”

STABILIZER BAR (Across the top of the trunk) [Keeps the car on a straight course -- at racing car speeds]

STALLING (Engine stops and is hard to re-start)

STARTER

SOLENOID (Step-up transformer for the starter)

STEAMING WINDOWS

STEERING PROBLEMS

STEERING WHEEL

STEERING WHEEL ANTI-THEFT DEVICE

STEERING WHEEL LOCK

STEP (Van, truck, SUV)

STEP-EXTENDER (Automatic, on a van. It extends out and then pulls back in)

STEREO

STOLEN CAR

STOLEN TRUCK CANOPY

“STRAP(S)” [“Holding handles”]

STRUCK BY LIGHTNING OR BY A POWER LINE (Their car/van/truck/SUV)

“SUDDEN SURPRISE-ARTIST” (Unpredictable abrupt moves that startle and endanger others)

SUMP PUMP (Oil pump in the crankcase oil storage area under the engine)

SUN ROOF

SUN VISOR

SURF BOARD RACK

T

TACOMETER (Tells how fast the engine is going)

TAIL GATE

“TAIL-GATED” (Frequently)

“TAIL-GATING” (Consistently)

TAIL LIGHT(S)

“TAIL NET” (Tail gate substitute consisting of woven leather or plastic with large open squares that goes across the rear of the truck bed)

TAIL PIPE

TAPE-DECK OR CD PLAYER

TAPPETS (Provide coordinated intermittent motion in the operation of the valves)

“TAXI,” “PIZZA” OR OTHER SIGNS (On the roof)

TEMPERATURE GAUGE OR INDICATOR LIGHT (For the engine)

THERMOSTAT (Controls the temperature of the coolant for the engine)

“THRILLS & CHILLS” DRIVING (“Pushing the limits” constantly)

THROTTLE (Controls how much fuel goes into the engine and therefore how fast the engine is running)

TICKETS

TIE ROD (Connects the steering gear with the wheels)

TIMING BELT; TIMING CHAIN; TIMING GEARS (Ties the engine events together in their timing so that it all meshes)

TIRE(S)

TIRE CHAINS

TIRE IRON (A short crow bar for prying off the hub caps)

TIRE WRENCH; LUG WRENCH (X-shaped with four different sized nut-unscrewers that fit over the bolt heads on the wheel)

TORQUE-CONVERTER (Adjusts the “twist” forces in the fluid in the automatic transmission that transmits the power from the engine to the wheels)

TOW BAR; TOW BALL; TRAILER HITCH

TOWED AWAY

TRANSAXLE (Combination transmission and axle in a front wheel drive car or a rear engine car)

TRANSFER CASE (Sends power to the front wheels in a four wheel drive vehicle)

TRANSMISSION (Adapts the engine speed to the wheel speed so that the engine isn't overwhelmed by the power it has to deliver at any point)

TRIM

TRIP CHARGE INDICATOR (Taxi)

TRIP ODOMETER (Indicates how many miles a trip was, if set correctly at the beginning of the trip)

TRUCK BED

TRUCK BED SUPPER-STRUCTURE (FOR FUNCTIONAL PURPOSES) (e.g., glass-carrying, plant-holding, fluid tank, vacuum cleaner, etc.)

TRUCK CANOPY

TRUCK REAR WINDOW GUARD

TRUNK

TUNE-UP NEED

TURN SIGNALER

TV

TWO-WAY RADIO

U

UNDER-CARRIAGE PROBLEMS (The underside of the floorboards, the oil pan, -- the “bottom” of the car, so to speak)

UNCONTROLLABLE ACCELERATION (With their car, truck, motorcycle, motor scooter, motor bike)

UNDERGUARD (“Shield” extending below the front and/or rear bumper)

UNIVERSAL JOINT; “U-JOINT” (Adjusts and transforms the movements of the drive shaft to mesh with the driver wheels)

UPHOLSTERY

UPPER HALF OF THE BODY

V

VACUUM-BREAKER (Part of the system that controls the flow of fuel and air into the engine)

VACUUM CLEANER (For the car -- usually battery-operated)

VACUUM HOSE (Part of the system that controls the flow of fuel and air into the engine)

VALVES (Open and close the openings to the cylinders to let the fuel mixture in and to let the exhaust fumes out)

VANDALISM

VANITY MIRROR

VAN LADDER

VAPOR LOCK (Stoppage of fuel flow in the fuel lines)

VENT(S)

VINYL TOP

VISOR

VOLTAGE REGULATOR (Determines how much and when electricity will flow through the car’s electrical system)

W

“WARP & WOOF” (Weaving -- wavering all over the road)

WATER HOSE (For the coolant to flow through)

WATER LEAK (From the cooling system, including the radiator)

WATER LEAKAGE (Into the car)

WATER PUMP (To keep the coolant flowing around the engine)

WEATHER STRIPPING (Inside -- around the windows and doors)

“WEAVING” (Wavering all over the road)

WHEEL(S)

WHEEL ALIGNMENT (Front wheels)

WHEEL BALANCE (All Wheels)

WHEEL BEARINGS (Ball bearings)

WHEEL CYLINDER(S) (Brake fluid container)

WHEEL DECORATION(S); DECORATIVE WHEELS

WHEEL LUGS; WHEEL NUTS

WHEEL WRENCH; LUG WRENCH; TIRE WRENCH (X-shaped four pointed wheel nut unscrewers whose ends fit over various sized bolt heads on the wheel)

“WHIPLASH”

WINCH

WINDOW(S)

WING WINDOWS

WINDOW CONTROL(S)

WINDOW DE-FOGGER/DEFROSTER

WINDOW MOLDING (Exterior)

WINDOW-SCRAPER (For ice)

WINDOW SHADE(S)

WINDOW-STEAMING

WINDSHIELD

WINDSHIELD-PIERCED (Road debris, rock dropped from over-hang, object thrown at them, stuff falling off the car/truck in front of them, etc.)

WINDSHIELD WASHER(S)

WINDSHIELD WIPER(S)

WIRING

“WOBBLE” (The whole car usually due to tire trouble)

WRIST PIN (Connecting the piston to the connecting rod in the crankshaft)

WRITING TABLE (In the back seat -- e.g., in a stretch limo)

“WRONG WAY CORRIGAN” (Going the wrong way on one-way streets repeatedly)

[Corrigan ran the football down the whole way to the opposing team’s goal post and lost the game]

Y

Z