

## Could This Collision Have Been Prevented?

### **Into the Sun**

*Squinting in the afternoon glare, Eddie neared the top of the final hill on the way home. He crested the hill into the blinding light of the low-lying sun. Suddenly he couldn't seem to see anything, least of all the car down the road waiting to turn left into a driveway. He hit the brakes and swerved, but it was too late to miss.*



1. What three actions can improve visibility when facing the sun? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Foresight is an important characteristic of defensive drivers. How would it have helped Eddie to prevent this collision? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. What defensive action could the other driver have taken?

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#### **Answers:**

1. Wearing sunglasses, using the sun visor, and keeping the windshield clean both inside and out. Many drivers neglect to clean the film that develops on the inside because it doesn't show up until they're driving into the sun.
2. Eddie knew there were driveways just over the hill. He probably knew that glare would be a problem at that time and location. He should have used this knowledge to anticipate hazards and drive more cautiously.
3. The driver could have gone past the driveway to a safe spot, turned around and come back to it. Or if road space and visibility permitted, the driver could have pulled over to the side of the road to wait for traffic to clear.

