

Computers in cars

People are always complaining about the nuisance of cell phones! Whenever I see someone run a red light or drive carelessly, 99 percent of the time the person at the wheel is talking on a cell phone. And now I hear that cars will soon become equipped with computers enabling drivers to access the internet while driving!

Phones and TVs in our cars are already dangerous distractions; how much worse it will be when people can surf the net on the highway! There should be a national law making such nonsense illegal! Computers? Internet access? Ridiculous!

Voice-activated, hands-free computers that tell you how to get somewhere are the only exceptions I can think of. Small VCRs for backseat viewing on long trips are fine, but no driver should ever be distracted from the main job of staying alert at the wheel.

Vocabularies:

nuisance - a source of inconvenience or annoyance

access - to enter the system of (a computer)

distraction - that distracts or draws attention away

Questions for discussion:

1. What is the view of the speaker in this essay about having computers in cars? Why do you think does he react this way?
2. What are the advantages and disadvantages of having computers inside cars?
3. Do you agree with the view of the speaker? Why or why not?