

BETTER GRADES THROUGH SELF-STIMULATION

by Joe Stallings

All new students coming to college must prepare themselves for the treacherous road that leads to tests. If you're like most of us, you are not exactly thrilled at that idea. However, there is no way around it. It has to be done.

So people, the way to better grades is through studying. I know through experience that it's very hard sometimes to fight off all the pleasurable distractions and put your nose in a book. There are always so many other things that a person would rather do. You must apply yourself to your studies and try to channel out all the distractions.

It is important to try to really get into your subjects and stimulate yourself in those topics. It is definitely much easier to learn something concerning a topic you enjoy rather than one in which you dislike. Many times, if you hate a subject, you form a mental block whereby you don't take in the hard facts (let alone understand the concepts)!

So everyone, get into your studies this year. Throw yourself to the wolves. . . . I mean the books. Remember also that if you get into the junk to start with, you'll learn it faster and also make better grades!

If you're a typical driver, you drive your car about 11,000 miles per year, and it consumes nearly 800 gallons of gasoline, for an average fuel economy rating of 14-15 miles per gallon. Gasoline costs over 5 cents per mile, or over \$600 per year. And the price is rising.

If you'd save only one-tenth of a gallon, your savings would amount to a five percent discount on every gallon you buy.

Passenger automobiles account for about 31 percent of all the petroleum consumed in the United States, and almost half of the total is imported. And though Americans have cut back the growth rate in overall oil use, their demand for motor gasoline is up substantially.

(Total estimated petroleum for the first three months of 1979 is up 1.7 percent from a year ago, but motor gasoline use is up an estimated 4.5 percent.)

This increase in gasoline use comes at a bad time. Members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Companies (OPEC) have again raised prices and oil supplies worldwide are tight. And because gasoline accounts for about 40 percent of U.S. oil consumption, demand must be reduced to avoid shortages and to meet a commitment to the International Energy Agency to reduce demand for world oil 5 percent below projected fourth quarter 1979 levels.

FOURS WAYS TO SAVE GAS AND STRETCH ENERGY DOLLARS

Here are four gasoline-saving tips to help you--and your country--save this essential fuel.

1.) Share the ride. About one-third of all private automobile use is for commuting, frequently with only one driver in the car. If only one person were added as a passenger, the two occupants of the car would use about half the gasoline required if each drove alone.

2.) Combine trips and eliminate unnecessary trips. Plan your trips--to market, to the library, to school, or to visit friends. You'll find that many neighborhood jaunts could be combined, and you could help your neighbors by offering to run errands for them. Some trips might be better handled--or even eliminated--by telephoning, writing, or combining with another trip.

3.) Drive at a moderate speed. The most efficient range usually is 35-45 miles per hour. On the highway, where you may need to maintain a higher speed, stay at 55 mph. Most automobiles get about 18 percent better mileage on the highway at 50 than at 65 mph, and 20 percent mileage at 55 than 70 mph.

4.) Have you had your engine tune-up recently? Do you need one? If your engine is hard to start, hesitates, sputters, idles

roughly, or the like--you are losing mileage and should check on its condition immediately. How much you will save on gasoline consumption will depend on the condition of your engine and how much you drive in the course of a year, but savings could range up to 12 percent on your gasoline bills.



The next time you pick up your car keys and head for the door, ask yourself whether a phone call could save you the trip--and the wasted gasoline.

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