

## **NEWS BREAK**

Sunday's News Break selects an article from **Sunday, May 14, 2017** of The Seattle Times print replica for an in-depth reading of the news. Read the selected article and answer the attached study questions.

**\*Please remember to always preview the content of the article before sharing with your students.**

### **Article: MILLENNIALS REVERSE CAR OWNERSHIP TREND**

#### **Section: NW SUNDAY, B1**

#### **Comprehension Questions:**

1. Census data show that from 2010 to 2015, the percentage of Seattle households that own a vehicle \_\_\_\_\_— that's noteworthy because it's something that hasn't happened in decades.
2. Car-ownership rates have crept up every 10 years, right through to 2010. That year, \_\_\_\_\_ percent of city households owned at least one vehicle.
3. But suddenly, that number is dropping. As of 2015, it's down by about 1 percentage point. And that's almost entirely because of one group. What group is it?
4. At the start of this decade, someone under the age of 35 was just as likely to own a car as anyone else in Seattle. Five years later, car ownership among the city's young had declined by about \_\_\_\_\_ percentage points.
5. In fact, among the 50 largest U.S. cities, none saw a bigger drop in the ownership rate among millennials in this period than what city?
6. For Seattle households headed by someone age 35 and up, was there a change in the rate of ownership?
7. The data suggests that young newcomers to the city are, more often than not, choosing to what?
8. It's a combination of economics and priorities, says Mark Hallenbeck, director of the Washington State Transportation Center at the University of Washington. What did he say?
9. Of course, that's partly because it's much easier to get by without owning a car than it used to be. Why? What's changed?
10. Hallenbeck says that younger people don't place the same value on car ownership as older generations, who still rely on the automobile as a means of social connectedness. What do Millennials have?

## Discussion Questions, Extension Essay Questions or Journal Prompts:

- Why do people need cars?
- Does your family have a car? How many?
- Does your family rely on public transportation? Who takes it? Why?
- Does any member of your family walk or bike to work on a daily basis?
- Has your family ever used an UBER or LYFT to get somewhere? Was it easy to use?
- Can you see why young people, under 30 want to go carless and have more money to spend on other things?
- Would you want a car in your 20's and 30's? Why or why not?
- Do you think Seattle's declining car ownership will continue to be on the rise? Why or why not?
- What are the financial incentives to not owning a car?

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