Snow Emergency

Pre-reading

Questions:
• What do you know about the subject of this reading?
• What questions do you have about the subject?

Definitions:
• Update – current reports
• Declare – to announce or make something known in a formal way
• Impound lot – storage area for towed vehicles

Reading

Don listens to the weather report on his radio every morning. Today the forecaster says, “We can expect to see six inches of snow by evening. Listen for more updates throughout the day.” Don plans to keep his radio on most of the day.

Six inches of snow could mean a snow emergency in the city.

Last winter Don did not know about snow emergencies; what they were or what they meant. It cost him a lot of time and money.

It happened last December. It had been snowing all day. There were at least three inches of new snow on the ground. Don came home from work and parked on the street in front of his house.

He got up the next morning and got ready for work. He put on his heavy coat and gloves and went out to scrape the snow and ice off of his car. Much to his surprise, he had no car to scrape. His car was gone!

Don exclaimed, “Oh, no! My car has been stolen!” A neighbor approached him and said, “Don what’s wrong?” Don replied, “My car is gone! Someone stole my car!”

The neighbor pointed to the red “Snow Emergency Route” sign on the street and said, “Your car wasn’t stolen, Don. It was towed. When a snow emergency is declared, all car owners must remove their cars from the Snow Emergency Routes or their cars will be towed. I’ll give you a ride to the impound lot.” Don had to pay a fine of $118.00 to get his car back.

Level 3.5
Understanding

1. Where does Don get his weather news? ____________________________________________

2. What happened to Don’s car last winter? Why did it happen? ______________________

3. Where did he find it? ____________________________________________________________

4. Who helped Don find his car? ____________________________________________________

5. What does the word **fine** mean in this story? ______________________________________

Writing

**Choice A**: Retell the story in your own words.

**Choice B**: Write about the snow emergency rules where you live.

**Choice C**: Write about a time your car was towed. What did you do?

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