How can we recognise a roundabout? There are various ways, 1 is a big sign with directions of where you need to go. 2 is a warning sign (always found 100 yards before the hazard) 3 is a mini roundabout (this sign which is blue with 3 white arrows, is found just by the mini roundabout) 4 there are no signs on approach, only the blue arrow & sometimes the black and white chevron signs.

Which lane should we choose to use? Firstly we need to see where we intend to go, Left, Ahead or right? So we have to decide where to position our car for the approach. If we are going to go left, we need to be in the left lane, signalling left on our approach, if we are to go ahead, it is always best to approach in the left hand lane, do not signal until you have passed the first exit, then we can signal left (look left too) if we are to turn right, we need to signal right on our approach, hugging the roundabout, once we have passed exit 2, then we signal left (don't forget to look left too) when we give our signal we then need to drift to the left lane (as long as it is clear)

So now we have to think of our MSPSL! M= Mirrors, S= Signal, P= Position (this depends on which exit we want to take) S= Speed (this will also include your gear selection) L= Look.

So we have done our MIRRORS, SIGNAL, POSITION. Now we need to think of our speed, most roundabouts should be taken in second gear (if the road is clear) if we are not happy in 2nd gear, then 1st is then the best gear to select. In order to get the correct gear selection, lets look ahead at the cars in front in our lane, is there a big line of traffic? Is there only a few cars? If you can keep good control of the car and there are only a few cars in front, lets select 2nd gear, we need to have our speed at about 10 mph max. now we need to look at what could cause an issue to us to prevent us entering the roundabout. What traffic is on our right? Can we see past the cars or are they blocking our view? If they are blocking our view, it is best to select 1st gear. Do not use the vehicle as a shield, what if there is another road user who has had to slow down for the vehicle entering the roundabout? If there is no blockage on our right hand side, we now need to view the roundabout to see if our exit is clear or if there is any road user that can cause vehicles to stop in order for us to enter safely onto the roundabout?

Lets look at the roundabout photo, your aim is to go ahead, taking the 2nd exit, so we need to approach the roundabout in the left hand lane, you are the red car, if you look in front of you there are no vehicles blocking your entry onto the roundabout, but we do have traffic to our right hand side which could be causing a blockage? So you may have selected 2nd gear on your approach, but now we need to think of 1st gear. As you approach the give way marker, we now need to observe all around the roundabout so we can check for any safe gaps that we can use, look around see if you can spot some traffic that will allow a gap? If there is no immediate gap, apply the handbrake, position your feet on the gas & clutch, keep your left hand on the hand brake, when you think there is a gap appearing that is safe for you to go for, prepare the car ready (gas & bite, handbrake ready for release) as you start to set off, just have a final lifesaver check to your right. Once you have entered the roundabout, get to 2nd gear as soon as you feel safe/able to do so, try not to exceed 15 mph on your route around the roundabout as you want to keep good control.

Lets now have a look at the other approaches to the roundabout, can we see if any vehicle will create a good safe gap for us? There are 2 cars on the roundabout, 1 entering from our left, these cars could be coming off at our exit, if they do, then they will cause a blockage to traffic entering the roundabout from our right hand side, which will give us a good safe gap to make our entry on to the roundabout.

You are the red car approaching the roundabout

These vehicles are causing a blockage, so best to prepare to go to 1st gear and wait.

Look at these cars to your right, they are already on the roundabout and there are vehicles waiting to enter from the right, so there is no safe gap yet.