

# 5 Dollar Traffic School Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



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**SAMPLE**

## **Questions**

- 1. What should you do before making a lane change?**
  - A. Decrease your speed**
  - B. Check your mirrors and blind spot**
  - C. Honk your horn**
  - D. Use the turn signal after changing**
- 2. How does driving with headlights on during sunny days increase safety?**
  - A. It improves visibility inside your car**
  - B. It makes your vehicle less noticeable**
  - C. It allows your car to be more noticeable to other drivers**
  - D. It enhances your speed**
- 3. When is it appropriate to use high beam headlights?**
  - A. In well-lit urban areas.**
  - B. On dark, open roads without oncoming traffic.**
  - C. Whenever driving at speeds above 45 mph.**
  - D. In foggy conditions.**
- 4. When parallel parking, how far should your vehicle be from the curb?**
  - A. At least 18 inches**
  - B. No more than 6 inches**
  - C. No more than 12 inches**
  - D. 1 foot to 2 feet**
- 5. What does the term 'right of way' mean?**
  - A. The first vehicle to arrive at an intersection has priority**
  - B. The legal right of a vehicle or pedestrian to proceed first in a traffic situation**
  - C. The rule that allows drivers to ignore signals**
  - D. The concept of yielding to larger vehicles**

- 6. What does a solid yellow line indicate?**
- A. No passing is allowed**
  - B. Passing is allowed with caution**
  - C. It is a no parking zone**
  - D. It indicates a pedestrian crossing**
- 7. What are potential penalties for driving under the influence (DUI)?**
- A. Only community service and a warning**
  - B. A fine and nothing else**
  - C. Fines, license suspension, and possible jail time**
  - D. Confiscation of the vehicle only**
- 8. What does a green traffic light indicate?**
- A. Proceed with caution**
  - B. Stop and wait for the light to change**
  - C. Proceed through the intersection**
  - D. Yield to pedestrians only**
- 9. What does a yield sign indicate?**
- A. Speed up if other vehicles are present**
  - B. Slow down and prepare to stop if necessary to give way to other vehicles or pedestrians**
  - C. Come to a complete stop**
  - D. Only slow down when pedestrians are present**
- 10. What is the correct action when approaching a stop sign?**
- A. Slow down and proceed through**
  - B. Stop completely before proceeding**
  - C. Yield to pedestrians only**
  - D. Ignore the sign if the way is clear**

## **Answers**

SAMPLE

1. B
2. C
3. B
4. C
5. B
6. A
7. C
8. C
9. B
10. B

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. What should you do before making a lane change?

- A. Decrease your speed
- B. Check your mirrors and blind spot**
- C. Honk your horn
- D. Use the turn signal after changing

Before making a lane change, it's essential to check your mirrors and blind spot to ensure it's safe to do so. This practice helps to identify any vehicles or obstacles that may be in the adjacent lane or in areas you cannot see directly through your mirrors, thus preventing potential collisions. Using mirrors provides a broader view of your surroundings, while checking your blind spot is critical as that area is not visible through your mirrors. Being aware of other vehicles helps maintain safety on the road and supports a smoother traffic flow, which is crucial for safe driving practices. While decreasing speed can sometimes be part of preparing for a lane change, it is not a universally applicable action and may not necessarily aid in safety. Honking the horn before changing lanes isn't standard procedure and might confuse or alarm other drivers. Using the turn signal after changing lanes is also not the recommended approach; signaling should be done before the lane change to inform other road users of your intentions in advance.

## 2. How does driving with headlights on during sunny days increase safety?

- A. It improves visibility inside your car
- B. It makes your vehicle less noticeable
- C. It allows your car to be more noticeable to other drivers**
- D. It enhances your speed

Driving with headlights on during sunny days increases safety primarily because it allows your car to be more noticeable to other drivers. Even in bright daylight, vehicles can sometimes blend into their surroundings, making it difficult for other road users to see them, especially in situations like intersections or when changing lanes. By using headlights, your vehicle stands out more distinctly against the backdrop of the road and environment. This visibility is particularly beneficial during conditions where glare from the sun can obstruct the view, such as when driving towards the sun or in areas with bright, reflective surfaces. Enhanced visibility reduces the chances of collisions, as other drivers are more likely to see your vehicle in advance, allowing them to react properly. The other options do not contribute to safety in the same way. While improving visibility inside your car might create a more comfortable driving experience, it does not directly impact how visible the car is to others. Suggesting that headlights make a vehicle less noticeable contradicts the purpose of using them. The idea that headlights could enhance speed lacks relevance to vehicle safety. Therefore, the correct reasoning revolves around making the vehicle more conspicuous to others on the road, which is crucial for preventing accidents.

### 3. When is it appropriate to use high beam headlights?

- A. In well-lit urban areas.
- B. On dark, open roads without oncoming traffic.**
- C. Whenever driving at speeds above 45 mph.
- D. In foggy conditions.

Using high beam headlights is most appropriate on dark, open roads without oncoming traffic because these conditions allow for maximum visibility. High beams illuminate the road further ahead and widen the field of vision, which is especially useful on unlit roadways where streetlights are absent. In such scenarios, the improved light enhances the driver's ability to spot obstacles, wildlife, or any other hazards that may not be visible with standard low beams. In well-lit urban areas, using high beams can cause glare that distracts other drivers and is generally unnecessary due to the available street lighting. On the other hand, driving at speeds above 45 mph does not in itself necessitate the use of high beams; it is the visibility conditions that dictate when high beams should be engaged. Additionally, in foggy conditions, high beams can actually reflect off the fog particles and reduce visibility, making low beams the safer choice.

### 4. When parallel parking, how far should your vehicle be from the curb?

- A. At least 18 inches
- B. No more than 6 inches
- C. No more than 12 inches**
- D. 1 foot to 2 feet

When parallel parking, your vehicle should ideally be no more than 12 inches from the curb. This distance is important for several reasons. Staying within this range ensures that your vehicle is close enough to the curb to avoid obstructing traffic lanes, which can be critical in busy urban environments. It also makes it easier for other vehicles to maneuver around your parked car without having to significantly veer into the oncoming lane. Maintaining this distance can help you avoid getting a citation for improper parking, as many local laws specify that vehicles must be parked within a certain distance of the curb. Furthermore, parking too far away from the curb can pose a safety hazard, increasing the risk that your vehicle may be struck by passing vehicles. This standard reflects a balance between ensuring that you are not blocking traffic and meeting local parking regulations. Therefore, aiming to park within 12 inches of the curb is advisable for safe and compliant parallel parking.

## 5. What does the term 'right of way' mean?

- A. The first vehicle to arrive at an intersection has priority
- B. The legal right of a vehicle or pedestrian to proceed first in a traffic situation**
- C. The rule that allows drivers to ignore signals
- D. The concept of yielding to larger vehicles

The term 'right of way' refers specifically to the legal right of a vehicle or pedestrian to proceed first in a traffic situation. This means that when two vehicles or a vehicle and a pedestrian encounter each other, the right of way designates which one is permitted to move forward without yielding. Understanding right of way is essential for ensuring safety on the road, as it helps to prevent conflicts and collisions by clearly establishing who has priority in various scenarios, such as at intersections, crosswalks, and other traffic areas. The other options do not accurately represent the meaning of 'right of way.' Simply arriving first at an intersection does not automatically confer priority; specific rules govern who has the right of way. Ignoring signals would contradict traffic laws and is not a principle associated with right of way. Additionally, while yielding to larger vehicles may sometimes be prudent in driving situations, it does not encompass the broader legal implications of right of way.

## 6. What does a solid yellow line indicate?

- A. No passing is allowed**
- B. Passing is allowed with caution
- C. It is a no parking zone
- D. It indicates a pedestrian crossing

A solid yellow line serves as a critical road marking that indicates no passing is allowed. This means that vehicles are not permitted to cross this line to overtake another vehicle. The presence of a solid yellow line generally signifies that there are conditions ahead that may make passing unsafe, such as curves, hills, or other visibility issues. In contrast, passing is permitted where there are broken yellow lines, which allow drivers to cross the line when it is safe to do so. The other options do not accurately reflect the meaning of a solid yellow line; for instance, a no parking zone is typically marked by specific signs or red lines. Similarly, pedestrian crossings are indicated through various other road markings and signage that alert drivers to watch for people crossing the street. Thus, understanding the significance of a solid yellow line helps ensure safe driving practices and adherence to traffic laws.

**7. What are potential penalties for driving under the influence (DUI)?**

- A. Only community service and a warning**
- B. A fine and nothing else**
- C. Fines, license suspension, and possible jail time**
- D. Confiscation of the vehicle only**

Driving under the influence (DUI) of alcohol or drugs carries serious consequences due to the risks associated with impaired driving. The correct choice encompasses a range of potential penalties that reflect the severity of the offense. Fines are a common penalty for DUI, serving as a financial deterrent to discourage individuals from repeating the offense. Additionally, license suspension is a significant consequence, as it directly impacts an individual's ability to drive legally. This can lead to further inconveniences, such as difficulty commuting to work or carrying out daily responsibilities. Moreover, the possibility of jail time reflects the legal system's stance on the dangers of impaired driving. Jail sentences can vary widely based on the circumstances of the offense, such as whether it's a first-time or repeat offense or if any accidents or injuries occurred as a result of the DUI. The other options provided do not adequately encapsulate the typical legal repercussions associated with DUI. Community service and a warning alone fail to address the gravity of the situation. Likewise, stating that there is only a fine overlooks the complete range of penalties imposed by law, while the confiscation of the vehicle alone does not present a comprehensive view of the consequences faced by someone convicted of DUI.

**8. What does a green traffic light indicate?**

- A. Proceed with caution**
- B. Stop and wait for the light to change**
- C. Proceed through the intersection**
- D. Yield to pedestrians only**

A green traffic light indicates that drivers are allowed to proceed through the intersection. This signal means that the traffic flow is permitted, and vehicles can safely move forward without the need to stop, as long as the intersection is clear of any obstructions. It's crucial, however, for drivers to remain aware of their surroundings and yield to any pedestrians or cyclists who may be in the crosswalk before proceeding. While options that suggest caution or stopping are important considerations in different contexts, during a green light, the primary action expected is to move through the intersection unless otherwise indicated by road signs or pedestrian traffic. Yielding to pedestrians is part of safe driving practices but does not negate the fundamental meaning of a green light, which is to proceed.

## 9. What does a yield sign indicate?

- A. Speed up if other vehicles are present
- B. Slow down and prepare to stop if necessary to give way to other vehicles or pedestrians**
- C. Come to a complete stop
- D. Only slow down when pedestrians are present

A yield sign indicates that drivers must slow down and prepare to stop if necessary to yield the right-of-way to other vehicles or pedestrians. This means that when you approach a yield sign, you should assess the traffic conditions and be ready to stop if there are other vehicles or individuals who have the right-of-way. The purpose of a yield sign is to ensure that traffic flows smoothly and safely at intersections or areas where merging occurs, without requiring a full stop unless necessary. This is important for maintaining safety on the roads, as it helps prevent accidents by ensuring that drivers are attentive to their surroundings and responsive to the actions of other road users. The other options do not accurately describe the meaning of a yield sign. Specifically, yielding does not entail speeding up when other vehicles are present or coming to a complete stop unless required. Additionally, the concept of only slowing down when pedestrians are present does not capture the broader requirement to yield to all vehicles as well. Thus, understanding the complete act of yielding enhances safe driving habits and compliance with traffic laws.

## 10. What is the correct action when approaching a stop sign?

- A. Slow down and proceed through
- B. Stop completely before proceeding**
- C. Yield to pedestrians only
- D. Ignore the sign if the way is clear

When approaching a stop sign, the appropriate action is to come to a complete stop before proceeding. This rule is in place to ensure the safety of all road users, including vehicles, pedestrians, and cyclists. Stopping completely allows drivers to assess the intersection for any oncoming traffic or hazards and to give the right of way to any vehicles or pedestrians that might be present. Failing to come to a complete stop can lead to dangerous situations, such as collisions, particularly at intersections where visibility may be limited. A rolling stop may cause drivers to miss seeing other vehicles or pedestrians. Therefore, adhering to the requirement of a full stop is crucial for making informed and safe decisions before moving ahead through the intersection.