Alberta Commercial Driver Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide

Everything you need from our exam experts!

Table of Contents

Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- **Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,**
- **Improve accuracy and speed,**
- **Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and**
- **Approach the exam with greater confidence.**

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

1. What lights would typically not be found at the rear of a bus?

A. Turn signal lights

B. Brake lights

C. All of these lights would be found at the rear

D. Reverse lights

2. In the event of an accident, what is the first step a driver should take?

A. Ensure safety and check for injuries

B. Call emergency services immediately

C. Exchange information with other drivers

D. Move vehicles to the side of the road

3. Which of the following statements about braking force is false?

A. A vehicle weighing 4000kg and travelling at 50kph will require the same braking force as a vehicle weighing 2000kg and travelling at 100kph

B. If the speed of a vehicle is doubled, the braking force must be quadrupled

C. Braking distance increases with the increase in weight

D. Braking force is equal to the weight of the vehicle multiplied by the deceleration

4. Which statement about preventative maintenance plans is false?

A. Small defects discovered during an inspection must be reported

B. All maintenance records must be accessible to the carrier

C. Small defects do not need to be reported to the carrier

D. Maintenance checks should be performed regularly

5. Which statement about making a turn with a school bus is false?

A. The front wheels should point to a ten o'clock position when waiting to turn left

B. Signals must be given well in advance of the turn

C. All students should be seated before making a turn

D. Turning radii must be assessed before the maneuver

6. What is the appropriate action to take if you experience a tire blowout while driving?

A. Gradually ease off the accelerator and steer straight

B. Immediate hard brake to control the vehicle

C. Steer sharply to the right to gain control

D. Accelerate to maintain speed stability

7. When inspecting the power steering pump and hose during a pre-trip inspection, you should check for:

A. Friction and noise

B. Leaks and fluid level

C. Excessive wear and tear

D. Movement during operation

8. What type of inspection is required before operating a commercial vehicle?

A. A random inspection

B. A post-trip inspection

C. A pre-trip inspection

D. An annual inspection

9. When stopping at an uncontrolled railway crossing in foggy conditions, what is the safest course of action?

A. Proceed without stopping if no trains are visible

B. Walk to the track to check for trains

C. Wait for emergency vehicles to direct traffic

D. Continue driving if lights are not flashing

10. What should a driver do if their vehicle becomes disabled on the highway?

A. Stay inside the vehicle and wait for help

B. Try to fix it immediately

C. Move the vehicle to the shoulder if possible and turn on hazard lights

D. Leave the vehicle and walk for help

Answers

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

Explanations

1. What lights would typically not be found at the rear of a bus?

A. Turn signal lights

B. Brake lights

C. All of these lights would be found at the rear

D. Reverse lights

The understanding of the question revolves around recognizing the typical configurations of lights on a bus, particularly at its rear. When considering the various light types, turn signal lights and brake lights are essential safety features on any bus, including their rear sections. Turn signal lights indicate the bus's intention to change lanes or turn, while brake lights signal to drivers behind that the bus is slowing down or stopping. Both are crucial for road safety and are required by traffic regulations. Reverse lights are also standard on buses. They illuminate when the vehicle is in reverse, alerting other road users and pedestrians that the bus is moving backward. This feature is important, especially given the size and blind spots of a bus. Thus, stating that all of these lights would be found at the rear of a bus is accurate, as each plays a vital role in ensuring the safety and awareness of those around the vehicle on the road. Therefore, the reasoning behind the choice emphasizes the comprehensive presence of all listed lights on a bus, affirming their importance and necessity in maintaining safe transport operations.

2. In the event of an accident, what is the first step a driver should take?

A. Ensure safety and check for injuries

B. Call emergency services immediately

C. Exchange information with other drivers

D. Move vehicles to the side of the road

In the event of an accident, ensuring safety and checking for injuries is the most crucial first step a driver should take. This priority is essential because the well-being of everyone involved in the accident is paramount. By assessing the situation for injuries, the driver can determine if immediate medical help is needed and can provide assistance if they are able. Once the safety of individuals is addressed, it is necessary to secure the accident scene to prevent further incidents, such as additional collisions. This initial action can help prevent further harm and is a fundamental aspect of responsible driving practices. After ensuring safety, the next steps such as calling emergency services, exchanging information with other drivers, and moving vehicles if applicable can be appropriately addressed.

3. Which of the following statements about braking force is false?

A. A vehicle weighing 4000kg and travelling at 50kph will require the same braking force as a vehicle weighing 2000kg and travelling at 100kph

B. If the speed of a vehicle is doubled, the braking force must be quadrupled

C. Braking distance increases with the increase in weight

D. Braking force is equal to the weight of the vehicle multiplied by the deceleration

The assertion regarding the braking force is based on the physical principles of physics, particularly the impact of mass and speed on stopping distances and forces. When considering braking scenarios, it's essential to understand that the braking force required to stop a vehicle depends on both its weight and its speed. In the case presented, a heavier vehicle traveling at a lower speed will not require the same braking force as a lighter vehicle traveling at a higher speed. For example, while the first vehicle has a mass of 4000 kg and is moving at 50 kph, the second vehicle, weighing 2000 kg and traveling at 100 kph, has been shown to require more braking force to bring it to a stop. This is because kinetic energy, which must be dissipated through braking, increases with the square of the speed, and the greater mass also contributes to the total energy that needs to be managed. Therefore, as the speed increases, the braking force necessary to achieve the same rate of deceleration becomes substantially higher. By understanding these concepts, it is clear why the statement that both vehicles require the same braking force is false. The other statements highlight accurate principles related to braking: the doubled speed does indeed result in a quadrupled braking force requirement due

4. Which statement about preventative maintenance plans is false?

A. Small defects discovered during an inspection must be reported

B. All maintenance records must be accessible to the carrier

C. Small defects do not need to be reported to the carrier

D. Maintenance checks should be performed regularly

The statement that small defects do not need to be reported to the carrier is false because all findings, regardless of their size, should be documented and communicated. This is a crucial aspect of a preventative maintenance plan, as even minor defects can escalate into more significant issues if not addressed in a timely manner. Prompt reporting ensures that the maintenance team can take appropriate action to prevent potential breakdowns and maintain safety standards. By keeping a diligent record of all defects, carriers can not only monitor the condition of their vehicles more effectively but also adhere to regulatory requirements that mandate transparency in maintenance processes. This systematic approach supports operational efficiency, enhances safety, and helps in complying with legal obligations related to vehicle maintenance. Regular communication about all defects, including minor ones, contributes to an overall culture of safety and accountability within the organization.

5. Which statement about making a turn with a school bus is false?

A. The front wheels should point to a ten o'clock position when waiting to turn left

B. Signals must be given well in advance of the turn

C. All students should be seated before making a turn

D. Turning radii must be assessed before the maneuver

The statement regarding the front wheels of a school bus pointing to a ten o'clock position when waiting to turn left is correct. When making a left turn, the front wheels should ideally be oriented straight ahead and not angled, as this helps prevent the bus from moving towards the oncoming lane of traffic before the turn is actually made. This ensures maximizing safety and maintaining control over the vehicle. The other statements accurately reflect important safety protocols and practices when maneuvering a school bus. Giving signals well in advance allows other road users, especially pedestrians and students, to be aware of the bus's intentions. Ensuring all students are seated before making a turn helps guarantee their safety and reduces the risk of accidents or injuries, as it minimizes distractions within the bus. Assessing turning radii is crucial for ensuring that the bus can complete the turn safely without encroaching into other lanes or hitting objects, which is particularly important given the larger size of school buses compared to regular vehicles.

6. What is the appropriate action to take if you experience a tire blowout while driving?

A. Gradually ease off the accelerator and steer straight

B. Immediate hard brake to control the vehicle

C. Steer sharply to the right to gain control

D. Accelerate to maintain speed stability

Experiencing a tire blowout can be a frightening situation, but knowing the correct response can help maintain control of the vehicle and enhance safety. Gradually easing off the accelerator and steering straight is the recommended action in this scenario because it allows you to maintain control without causing the vehicle to veer off course or spin out. The natural instinct might be to brake suddenly, but doing so can lead to loss of control and increase the risk of an accident. By gently reducing speed, you allow the vehicle's handling to remain stable as it slows down. Steering straight keeps the vehicle moving in the intended direction, reducing the likelihood of swerving and losing control. This method enables you to come to a stop safely in a controlled manner, ideally on the shoulder or an area away from traffic. Other actions, such as hard braking or suddenly steering sharply, can lead to hazardous situations, like skidding or flipping the vehicle. Accelerating in a blowout situation is also dangerous, as it can cause further instability and complicate the driver's ability to manage the vehicle. Thus, the correct response is to gradually ease off the accelerator and steer straight for optimal control and safety.

7. When inspecting the power steering pump and hose during a pre-trip inspection, you should check for:

A. Friction and noise

B. Leaks and fluid level

C. Excessive wear and tear

D. Movement during operation

During a pre-trip inspection of the power steering pump and hose, checking for leaks and fluid level is crucial. A well-functioning power steering system relies on an adequate level of fluid to maintain hydraulic pressure, which assists in steering the vehicle effectively. If there are leaks in the hose or pump, it can lead to a drop in fluid level, resulting in reduced steering performance. This might cause difficulty in maneuvering and could ultimately compromise safety on the road. Ensuring that the fluid level is within the acceptable range helps guarantee that the system operates smoothly and reduces the risk of potential failures while driving. Thus, identifying leaks and verifying that the fluid is at the correct level are key elements of a thorough inspection.

8. What type of inspection is required before operating a commercial vehicle?

A. A random inspection

B. A post-trip inspection

C. A pre-trip inspection

D. An annual inspection

The correct answer is the pre-trip inspection. This type of inspection is crucial as it involves a thorough examination of the vehicle before it begins its journey. It ensures that all essential components of the vehicle, such as brakes, lights, tires, and fluid levels, are functioning correctly and are safe for operation. Conducting a pre-trip inspection helps prevent breakdowns and accidents on the road, thereby enhancing safety for the driver and other road users. This inspection is outlined in regulatory guidelines for commercial drivers as a mandatory procedure to maintain safety standards. It is critical for identifying potential mechanical issues that may not be evident during regular use. By performing this inspection, drivers can address any discrepancies before they become hazardous during operation. The focus on safety in the pre-trip inspection is why this option is the most appropriate choice.

9. When stopping at an uncontrolled railway crossing in foggy conditions, what is the safest course of action?

A. Proceed without stopping if no trains are visible

B. Walk to the track to check for trains

C. Wait for emergency vehicles to direct traffic

D. Continue driving if lights are not flashing

In foggy conditions, visibility is severely reduced, making it challenging to determine whether a train is approaching. Approaching an uncontrolled railway crossing requires caution, as trains can be operating at high speeds and may not be heard in advance due to surrounding noise or the fog itself. By choosing to walk to the track to check for trains, a driver can ensure their safety by visually confirming the absence of trains before proceeding. This action helps to mitigate the risk associated with limited visibility, allowing the driver to make an informed decision. It is critical for drivers to remain vigilant and prioritize safety when faced with uncertainty at railway crossings, especially in adverse weather conditions such as fog. Engaging in a proactive approach to confirm the track's safety is crucial.

10. What should a driver do if their vehicle becomes disabled on the highway?

A. Stay inside the vehicle and wait for help

B. Try to fix it immediately

C. Move the vehicle to the shoulder if possible and turn on hazard lights

D. Leave the vehicle and walk for help

When a vehicle becomes disabled on the highway, the safest course of action is to move the vehicle to the shoulder if possible and turn on the hazard lights. This approach prioritizes the safety of both the driver and other road users. By moving to the shoulder, the vehicle is out of the main traffic flow, reducing the risk of collisions. The hazard lights signal to other drivers that there is a problem, alerting them to navigate safely around the disabled vehicle. Staying inside the vehicle is not advisable without taking precautionary measures, especially if the vehicle is in a potentially dangerous position on the road. Attempting to fix the vehicle immediately can expose the driver to traffic hazards and may be impractical without proper tools or training. Leaving the vehicle to walk for help can also be dangerous, as it may increase the risk of an accident or leave the driver vulnerable in a public space. Therefore, moving to the shoulder and activating hazard lights ensures the best safety practices for all involved.

Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

https://albertacommercialdriver.examzify.com

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!