

Alberta Motor Association (AMA) Learner's Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

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- 1. What is the objective of the learner's knowledge test?**
 - A. To evaluate driving experience**
 - B. To assess road sign knowledge**
 - C. To ensure understanding of traffic laws**
 - D. To identify personal driving habits**
- 2. What is the maximum speed limit for a slow-moving vehicle indicated by a sign?**
 - A. 30 km/hr**
 - B. 40 km/hr**
 - C. 50 km/hr**
 - D. 60 km/hr**
- 3. What does black ice refer to?**
 - A. A rigid surface of frozen ice on the road**
 - B. Moisture that freezes on the road, making it nearly invisible**
 - C. A painted surface indicating icy conditions**
 - D. Combination of water and ice forming on the road**
- 4. What is the required stopping distance from a stop sign with no stop line or crosswalk?**
 - A. Within 3 metres (10 feet)**
 - B. Within 5 metres (15 feet)**
 - C. Within 7 metres (20 feet)**
 - D. Within 10 metres (30 feet)**
- 5. What action should be taken if there is a sign prohibiting a right turn?**
 - A. Yield the right of way**
 - B. Make the turn anyway**
 - C. Proceed straight through the intersection**
 - D. Wait for a green light**

- 6. What is the correct action to take after locking your doors?**
- A. Adjust your head restraint**
 - B. Fasten your seatbelt**
 - C. Adjust your mirrors**
 - D. Locate your keys**
- 7. What is hydroplaning?**
- A. A skidding caused by sudden braking on wet roads**
 - B. A condition where your tires lose contact with the road due to water buildup**
 - C. Driving on ice**
 - D. Using tires unsuitable for wet weather**
- 8. In terms of lane markings, what does it mean if there are both solid and broken lines together?**
- A. You can only cross the solid line**
 - B. You can only cross the broken line**
 - C. You must stop at both lines**
 - D. Crossing is allowed for certain vehicle types**
- 9. What is the color and shape of a sign that marks the direction you can travel in?**
- A. A black rectangle with a white arrow**
 - B. A white circle with a red border**
 - C. A yellow triangle with a black line**
 - D. A fluorescent yellow-green square**
- 10. What should you do if your brakes fail while driving?**
- A. Pump the brakes and use the emergency brake if needed**
 - B. Accelerate to get out of trouble**
 - C. Ignore other traffic and coast to a stop**
 - D. Immediately pull over and stop**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the objective of the learner's knowledge test?

- A. To evaluate driving experience
- B. To assess road sign knowledge
- C. To ensure understanding of traffic laws**
- D. To identify personal driving habits

The objective of the learner's knowledge test is to ensure understanding of traffic laws. This test is designed to gauge a new driver's comprehension of the rules, regulations, and laws that govern road usage. Understanding these laws is crucial for maintaining road safety, as they dictate how drivers should behave in various situations, the rights of pedestrians and cyclists, and the consequences of traffic violations. While assessing road sign knowledge is an important component of the test and relates to understanding traffic laws, the broader objective encompasses all aspects of the legal framework necessary for safe and responsible driving. This foundational knowledge is critical for novice drivers, as it prepares them for real-life scenarios they will encounter on the road.

2. What is the maximum speed limit for a slow-moving vehicle indicated by a sign?

- A. 30 km/hr
- B. 40 km/hr**
- C. 50 km/hr
- D. 60 km/hr

The maximum speed limit for a slow-moving vehicle is typically indicated by a sign at 40 km/hr. This limit is established to ensure safety on the roads, as slow-moving vehicles can pose challenges for faster traffic. By designating 40 km/hr as the upper limit, it allows these vehicles to operate safely while still being mindful of the flow of traffic. This speed is generally recognized across various jurisdictions to maintain a balance between safety for the slower vehicle and efficiency for other road users.

3. What does black ice refer to?

- A. A rigid surface of frozen ice on the road
- B. Moisture that freezes on the road, making it nearly invisible**
- C. A painted surface indicating icy conditions
- D. Combination of water and ice forming on the road

Black ice refers to a layer of moisture that has frozen on the road surface, creating a situation where the ice is often nearly invisible to drivers. This makes it particularly hazardous, as it can cause vehicles to lose traction unexpectedly. The term "black ice" originates from its appearance; it takes on the color of the asphalt beneath it, which can lead to a false sense of security for drivers who may not realize the road conditions have changed. Understanding this concept is vital for safe driving, as black ice can form during particular weather conditions, such as when temperatures drop and moisture settles on the roads. Recognizing the conditions that lead to black ice formation is essential for preventing accidents. The option mentioning a rigid surface of frozen ice indicates a more obvious ice hazard, whereas the painted surface option refers to roadway markings, which are not related to ice conditions. The combination of water and ice forming on the road does not capture the key characteristic of black ice being primarily made up of moisture that freezes and becomes almost transparent.

4. What is the required stopping distance from a stop sign with no stop line or crosswalk?

- A. Within 3 metres (10 feet)**
- B. Within 5 metres (15 feet)**
- C. Within 7 metres (20 feet)**
- D. Within 10 metres (30 feet)**

The correct stopping distance from a stop sign when there is no stop line or crosswalk is within 5 metres (15 feet). When approaching a stop sign, the emphasis is on safety and ensuring that you come to a complete stop before proceeding. This distance allows the driver to observe the intersection closely for any oncoming traffic or pedestrians, which is crucial for preventing accidents. The stopping distance is mandated by traffic regulations to help maintain orderly traffic flow and ensure the safety of all road users. Adequate stopping distance provides drivers with enough space to stop safely while also allowing them to exit the intersection without encroaching into the path of other approaching vehicles. While minimizing your stopping distance may seem practical, it is vital to adhere to the required distance for safety. This approach encourages defensive driving and responsible vehicle operation, ensuring compliance with local traffic laws.

5. What action should be taken if there is a sign prohibiting a right turn?

- A. Yield the right of way**
- B. Make the turn anyway**
- C. Proceed straight through the intersection**
- D. Wait for a green light**

If there is a sign prohibiting a right turn, the appropriate action is to proceed straight through the intersection. This means that you must obey the traffic rules indicated by the sign, which is there for safety and traffic management reasons. Making a turn despite a prohibition violates traffic laws and can create dangerous situations for both the driver and other road users. Yielding the right of way, waiting for a green light, or making the turn anyway would either lead to non-compliance with traffic regulations or unnecessary delays. Therefore, proceeding straight is the lawful and safe choice when faced with a sign that prohibits turning.

6. What is the correct action to take after locking your doors?

- A. Adjust your head restraint**
- B. Fasten your seatbelt**
- C. Adjust your mirrors**
- D. Locate your keys**

The appropriate action to take after locking your doors is to fasten your seatbelt. This step is crucial for ensuring your safety and compliance with road regulations. Fastening your seatbelt secures you in your seat and minimizes the risk of injury in the event of an accident. Additionally, it is a legal requirement in many places, including Alberta. While adjusting your head restraint, mirrors, or locating your keys may be important for vehicle operation, those actions are typically done prior to securing your seatbelt. The primary focus when initiating a journey should always be on safety measures, making fastening your seatbelt the immediate priority after ensuring the doors are locked.

7. What is hydroplaning?

- A. A skidding caused by sudden braking on wet roads
- B. A condition where your tires lose contact with the road due to water buildup**
- C. Driving on ice
- D. Using tires unsuitable for wet weather

Hydroplaning occurs when a vehicle's tires lose contact with the road surface due to a layer of water that builds up between the tires and the pavement. This situation creates a loss of traction, making it difficult or impossible to steer or brake effectively. Essentially, the vehicle is riding on top of the water rather than maintaining proper contact with the road, which can lead to a complete loss of control. Drivers need to be particularly cautious during rainy conditions, especially if the water on the roadway accumulates and exceeds the tire's ability to disperse it. This emphasizes the importance of maintaining proper tire tread depth and ensuring tires are appropriate for wet conditions to reduce the likelihood of hydroplaning. While sudden braking on wet roads can potentially contribute to loss of control, it is the specific condition of losing contact with the road due to water buildup that defines hydroplaning. Furthermore, driving on ice and using tires unsuitable for wet weather are related safety concerns but do not describe the hydroplaning phenomenon itself.

8. In terms of lane markings, what does it mean if there are both solid and broken lines together?

- A. You can only cross the solid line
- B. You can only cross the broken line**
- C. You must stop at both lines
- D. Crossing is allowed for certain vehicle types

When both solid and broken lines appear together, the meaning is primarily focused on the rules pertaining to lane usage and vehicle movements. The presence of a broken line indicates that you are permitted to change lanes or cross it, provided it is safe to do so. In contrast, the solid line serves as a warning or restriction, suggesting that crossing it is generally prohibited. Therefore, if you encounter both types of lines, the rules state that you may only cross the broken line while the solid line indicates that the area is meant to discourage lane changes or crossing. This understanding supports the idea that crossing is allowed where the broken line is present, but not where the solid line is marked. In summary, the broken line permits lane changes or crossings while the solid line presents a restriction, clarifying that you should adhere to the guidelines set by the broken line.

9. What is the color and shape of a sign that marks the direction you can travel in?

- A. A black rectangle with a white arrow**
- B. A white circle with a red border**
- C. A yellow triangle with a black line**
- D. A fluorescent yellow-green square**

The sign that indicates the direction you can travel in is represented as a black rectangle with a white arrow. This design is specifically used for directional signs that guide drivers on proper routes or lanes. The black background allows the white arrow to stand out clearly, ensuring that the information is easily visible and understood by drivers. Such signage helps in navigation by providing explicit instructions about which way to go, thereby enhancing safety and reducing confusion on the road. In contrast, other sign shapes and colors serve different purposes. For example, a white circle with a red border typically indicates a regulatory sign, such as a no entry or speed limit sign, which does not guide the direction of travel. Similarly, a yellow triangle with a black line usually serves as a warning sign, alerting drivers to a hazard ahead, rather than providing guidance on direction. Lastly, a fluorescent yellow-green square is often associated with pedestrian crossing or school zone signs, which again do not indicate travel direction but rather focus on safety in those specific areas. This understanding of the significance of sign shapes and colors is crucial for recognizing and interpreting traffic signs effectively.

10. What should you do if your brakes fail while driving?

- A. Pump the brakes and use the emergency brake if needed**
- B. Accelerate to get out of trouble**
- C. Ignore other traffic and coast to a stop**
- D. Immediately pull over and stop**

When confronted with brake failure while driving, the appropriate action is to pump the brakes and utilize the emergency brake if necessary. Pumping the brakes can sometimes help build up brake pressure again if there's a minor issue, allowing for some deceleration. Using the emergency brake provides a secondary means to slow down the vehicle. This action is important because the emergency brake usually engages the rear brakes independently of the hydraulic system used for normal braking, making it a crucial tool in regaining control of the vehicle. In contrast, simply accelerating could lead to losing control and worsening the situation, as speed would increase and make stopping more difficult. Coasting to a stop without taking other factors, like other vehicles and road conditions, into account is risky and doesn't provide a proactive approach to safely manage a loss of braking capability. Pulling over immediately can be a viable option, but it is not the first course of action when you have the ability to try stopping the vehicle through other means first.