

California CHP School Bus Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. What type of medication must be reported by a school bus driver?**
 - A. Any medication that may impair driving abilities**
 - B. Only over-the-counter medications**
 - C. Prescription medications only**
 - D. Vitamins and supplements**
- 2. Who has the authority while transporting pupils on a school bus?**
 - A. The school principal**
 - B. The bus driver**
 - C. The transportation coordinator**
 - D. The school board**
- 3. What must be provided to students regarding emergency procedures?**
 - A. Instructions once a semester**
 - B. Instructions before each field trip and annually**
 - C. Instructions only at the start of the school year**
 - D. No instructions are required**
- 4. In addition to traffic laws, what must school bus drivers comply with?**
 - A. Federal driving regulations**
 - B. School district policies and regulations**
 - C. State vehicle codes**
 - D. Local municipal laws**
- 5. What action is required if a school bus driver suspects a child has been abducted?**
 - A. Immediately contact authorities and provide a description**
 - B. Wait for the child to return on their own**
 - C. Search the nearby area**
 - D. Inform the school principal**

- 6. How far must you stop from a railroad track if there is no sign indicating a stop?**
- A. 5 feet from the nearest track**
 - B. 15 feet from the track**
 - C. 50 feet from the track**
 - D. 25 feet from the nearest track**
- 7. What is a critical factor every bus driver must be aware of regarding fuel safety?**
- A. The bus must always be fueled during stops**
 - B. Fueling should only be done at designated stations**
 - C. Fueling can occur at any time**
 - D. Drivers should always carry extra fuel in the bus**
- 8. When does the school bus stop sign activate?**
- A. When the bus comes to a complete stop to load or unload students**
 - B. When the bus reaches a designated bus stop**
 - C. Only in case of an emergency**
 - D. When a student requests to get off**
- 9. What is the requirement for mirrors on a school bus?**
- A. Only one rearview mirror**
 - B. Flat and crossview mirrors along with an interior mirror**
 - C. No mirrors are required**
 - D. Standard car side mirrors**
- 10. What should a driver do if they see a child running towards the bus as it is about to depart?**
- A. Blow the horn**
 - B. Stop the bus and wait for the child to safely board**
 - C. Proceed with caution**
 - D. Call for assistance**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What type of medication must be reported by a school bus driver?

- A. Any medication that may impair driving abilities**
- B. Only over-the-counter medications**
- C. Prescription medications only**
- D. Vitamins and supplements**

The requirement for a school bus driver to report medication stems from the potential impact that certain substances can have on driving capabilities. Any medication that may impair driving abilities could compromise the safety of the driver, passengers, and other road users. This includes both prescription and over-the-counter medications that have side effects such as drowsiness, dizziness, impaired coordination, or delayed reaction times. Therefore, it is essential for drivers to disclose any such medications to ensure they are fit for duty and to promote a safe transportation environment for students. In contrast, the other options are too restrictive. Reporting only over-the-counter medications would omit significant risks posed by prescribed medications that could also impair driving. Limiting the requirement to prescription medications ignores the potential effects of common over-the-counter drugs known to cause impairment. Lastly, vitamins and supplements typically do not have an effect on driving abilities and thus do not need to be reported. This comprehensive approach helps maintain safety on the road and ensures that all necessary precautions are taken.

2. Who has the authority while transporting pupils on a school bus?

- A. The school principal**
- B. The bus driver**
- C. The transportation coordinator**
- D. The school board**

The bus driver has the authority while transporting pupils on a school bus because they are responsible for the safety and well-being of the students during the entire bus ride. This includes enforcing safety rules, managing student behavior, and ensuring compliance with traffic laws. Drivers are trained to handle various situations that may arise on the bus, including emergencies, and are positioned to make immediate decisions to protect the students. While the school principal, transportation coordinator, and school board play essential roles in the overall administration and operation of school transportation services, their authority does not extend to the direct supervision of students on the bus itself. The day-to-day management and direct oversight of student conduct and safety while on the bus rests firmly with the bus driver.

3. What must be provided to students regarding emergency procedures?

- A. Instructions once a semester**
- B. Instructions before each field trip and annually**
- C. Instructions only at the start of the school year**
- D. No instructions are required**

The correct answer emphasizes the importance of providing clear and updated emergency procedures to students before each field trip and on an annual basis. This approach ensures that students are familiar with the protocols for various emergency situations, which can include evacuations, natural disasters, or other unexpected incidents that may arise while they are at school or during transportation. By conducting these instructions before each field trip, students receive timely information relevant to any specific risks or procedures associated with the outing. Annual instructions help reinforce knowledge and account for any changes in procedures or potential hazards that may have developed throughout the year. This practice not only enhances student safety but also empowers them with the knowledge to respond effectively in emergencies. It reflects a proactive approach to safety and preparedness in a school environment, emphasizing that students should be well-equipped with the necessary skills and information to handle emergencies appropriately.

4. In addition to traffic laws, what must school bus drivers comply with?

- A. Federal driving regulations**
- B. School district policies and regulations**
- C. State vehicle codes**
- D. Local municipal laws**

Choosing to comply with school district policies and regulations is crucial for school bus drivers because these specific guidelines are designed to ensure the safety and well-being of students while they are being transported. Each school district may have unique protocols regarding bus operations, student conduct, safety measures, and emergency procedures that complement the overarching traffic laws. While federal driving regulations, state vehicle codes, and local municipal laws are important, the school district policies directly impact how drivers interact with students and the specific requirements for school transportation activities. These policies might address issues such as the proper loading and unloading of students, managing behavior on the bus, or specific routes that need to be followed, ensuring that the students are transported safely and effectively according to the standards set by the school district. This makes compliance with school district policies especially relevant for school bus drivers in the execution of their duties.

5. What action is required if a school bus driver suspects a child has been abducted?

- A. Immediately contact authorities and provide a description**
- B. Wait for the child to return on their own**
- C. Search the nearby area**
- D. Inform the school principal**

When a school bus driver suspects that a child has been abducted, the most crucial action is to immediately contact authorities and provide a detailed description of the child, potential abductor, and any vehicle involved. This prompt communication is vital because the first few moments after an abduction are critical for law enforcement to locate and recover the child. Reporting the situation to authorities without delay ensures that they can begin their search and investigation promptly. The driver should convey all relevant information, such as the last known location of the child, physical descriptions, and any identifiable features of the abductor. This approach facilitates a swift response and increases the chances of a successful recovery. The other options, such as waiting for the child to return on their own, searching the nearby area without guidance, or informing the school principal, may waste valuable time and fail to utilize the organized response capabilities of law enforcement that can effectively mobilize resources to address the situation.

6. How far must you stop from a railroad track if there is no sign indicating a stop?

- A. 5 feet from the nearest track**
- B. 15 feet from the track**
- C. 50 feet from the track**
- D. 25 feet from the nearest track**

Stopping 15 feet from the nearest railroad track when there is no sign indicating a stop is in accordance with the safety regulations set forth for drivers around railroad crossings. This distance allows for adequate visibility of any approaching trains while also ensuring that vehicles are not positioned too close to the tracks, which could expose them to danger. It also provides sufficient space for the vehicle to stop safely without risking collision. While options such as 5 feet, 25 feet, and 50 feet are distances that could be associated with various other road safety measures, they do not match the specific requirement for stopping at railroad tracks under normal circumstances without signage. Stopping too close can limit visibility and reaction time, while stopping excessively far away could lead to confusion about the crossing and create potential safety hazards or delays in traffic. Hence, stopping precisely at 15 feet strikes a balance between safety and practicality at unmarked railroad crossings.

7. What is a critical factor every bus driver must be aware of regarding fuel safety?

- A. The bus must always be fueled during stops**
- B. Fueling should only be done at designated stations**
- C. Fueling can occur at any time**
- D. Drivers should always carry extra fuel in the bus**

Understanding fuel safety is vital for every bus driver, particularly in terms of where fueling occurs. Fueling at designated stations is critical because these locations are specially equipped and adhere to safety standards that minimize the risks associated with handling and storing fuel. This may include having spill containment measures and proper ventilation in place, which help prevent accidents such as fires or hazardous spills. Designated refueling stations are also typically monitored to ensure compliance with regulations and safety protocols, which ensures a safer process for the driver and those around them. In contrast, fueling in unauthorized or non-designated areas can lead to various dangers, including environmental hazards or increased likelihood of accidents due to lack of proper equipment and oversight. Therefore, the emphasis on using designated fueling stations is crucial for promoting fuel safety and ensuring the well-being of both the driver and the passengers.

8. When does the school bus stop sign activate?

- A. When the bus comes to a complete stop to load or unload students**
- B. When the bus reaches a designated bus stop**
- C. Only in case of an emergency**
- D. When a student requests to get off**

The school bus stop sign activates when the bus comes to a complete stop to load or unload students. This is a critical safety measure designed to protect students who are boarding or disembarking from the bus. The stop sign helps to alert other drivers that they must stop their vehicles to ensure the safety of the children during this process. When the bus is stopped and the stop sign is extended, it is an indication for other motorists to halt and stay clear of the area where students might be getting on or off the bus. This procedure is vital in preventing accidents and ensuring that children can safely navigate to and from the bus without the risk of vehicles moving through the area. While there are designated bus stops and the presence of students may warrant halting traffic, the activation of the stop sign is fundamentally triggered by the bus coming to a complete stop for the purpose of loading or unloading passengers.

9. What is the requirement for mirrors on a school bus?

- A. Only one rearview mirror
- B. Flat and crossview mirrors along with an interior mirror**
- C. No mirrors are required
- D. Standard car side mirrors

The requirement for mirrors on a school bus is that they must include flat and crossview mirrors, along with an interior mirror. This configuration is crucial for ensuring the safety of the bus driver and the students. Flat mirrors allow the driver to see a wider area behind the bus, which is particularly important when backing up or changing lanes. Crossview mirrors provide additional visibility of the area immediately in front of the bus and to the sides, helping the driver detect any obstacles or children who may be in danger. The interior mirror enhances the driver's ability to monitor the interior of the bus while maintaining awareness of the exterior environment. Having only one rearview mirror or standard car side mirrors would not supply adequate coverage or safety awareness necessary for a school bus, which operates in environments where children are frequently present. No mirrors being required would obviously compromise safety standards and violate regulations that mandate specific safety equipment for school buses. Therefore, the combination of flat, crossview, and interior mirrors is essential to support the driver's responsibilities and to protect the welfare of the students.

10. What should a driver do if they see a child running towards the bus as it is about to depart?

- A. Blow the horn
- B. Stop the bus and wait for the child to safely board**
- C. Proceed with caution
- D. Call for assistance

When a driver sees a child running towards the bus as it is about to depart, the appropriate action is to stop the bus and wait for the child to safely board. This response prioritizes safety, as children may be unpredictable in their movements. By stopping, the driver allows the child to reach the bus safely without the risk of injury. Other options like blowing the horn or proceeding with caution do not directly address the immediate situation of a child approaching the bus, which requires more decisive action. Calling for assistance may be necessary in some situations, but it does not prevent the potential risk of the child being in danger while the bus is in motion. Stopping the bus ensures that the driver and the passengers remain safe while allowing the child to safely board the bus.