

CHATT-STATE CDL CLASS A PRE-TRIP INSPECTION PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

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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

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- 1. When inspecting the king pin apron and king pin, what must be ensured?**
 - A. Not BBC, no illegal welds, and no space between apron and skid plate
 - B. Only visual inspection without details
 - C. Loose connections are acceptable
 - D. Visible wear is acceptable
- 2. What is the purpose of the rubber straps under the metal straps on the fuel tank?**
 - A. To ensure they are strictly for show
 - B. To keep the tank from rubbing and getting holes
 - C. To allow the tank to move freely
 - D. To prevent any securement
- 3. What condition should the brake chamber and clamp be in?**
 - A. No rust and must be flexible
 - B. Must not be cracked or broken
 - C. Condition of paint is important
 - D. Must be completely dry
- 4. What should you tell the examiner after performing the brake tests?**
 - A. The tests are complete and pass
 - B. The lights and buzzers are working properly
 - C. Both valves did not pop out
 - D. The air pressure is insufficient
- 5. How should the air pressure be checked in the brake system?**
 - A. By using a pressure gauge to ensure it meets manufacturer specifications
 - B. By visually checking the air hoses for leaks
 - C. By listening for the sound of the compressor
 - D. By gently pressing the brake pedal
- 6. What should be assessed regarding the catwalk during the inspection?**
 - A. If it is flexible or rigid
 - B. Its overall aesthetic appeal
 - C. Whether it is cracked, broken, or secure
 - D. If it is the correct color

7. In checking the marker light by the driver door, what must be ensured?

- A. It can be a different color than required
- B. It is working and clean
- C. It should be dismantled for inspection
- D. It needs to be discolored for nighttime visibility

8. What does PMS stand for in the context of vehicle inspections?

- A. Proper Maintenance Standards
- B. Pre-Maintenance Safety
- C. Preventative Maintenance System
- D. Pre-Trip Maintenance Safety

9. What is the minimum tire pressure reading during an inspection?

- A. No less than 50 PSI
- B. No less than 75 PSI
- C. No less than 90 PSI
- D. No less than 100 PSI

10. How do you check the fuel system for leaks?

- A. Look for wet spots underneath the tank and check for any cracks or fittings
- B. Inspect the fuel gauge for accuracy
- C. Ensure the fuel cap is secured tightly
- D. Check the fuel filter for blockages

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. When inspecting the king pin apron and king pin, what must be ensured?

- A. Not BBC, no illegal welds, and no space between apron and skid plate**
- B. Only visual inspection without details
- C. Loose connections are acceptable
- D. Visible wear is acceptable

When inspecting the king pin apron and king pin, it is essential to ensure that there are no illegal welds, that the connection does not show any gaps between the apron and skid plate, and that the system is secure. This is crucial because the king pin and apron are vital components that secure the tractor to the trailer. Illegal welds could indicate a compromised structural integrity, leading to potential safety hazards during operation. Ensuring there is no space between the apron and the skid plate is equally important, as a proper fit is necessary to maintain the stability of the trailer while it is being transported. Any gap could result in misalignment or even loss of connection between the truck and the trailer, which can lead to accidents. Therefore, confirming the integrity and security of the king pin assembly is a vital part of a thorough pre-trip inspection.

2. What is the purpose of the rubber straps under the metal straps on the fuel tank?

- A. To ensure they are strictly for show
- B. To keep the tank from rubbing and getting holes**
- C. To allow the tank to move freely
- D. To prevent any securement

The purpose of the rubber straps under the metal straps on the fuel tank is to keep the tank from rubbing and getting holes. The rubber serves as a cushion between the metal straps and the fuel tank, absorbing vibrations and preventing direct contact that could lead to wear and tear over time. This is particularly important as constant motion and vibrations from the vehicle can cause abrasions on the tank's surface. The rubber material helps maintain the integrity of the tank, ensuring it remains leak-free and functional throughout its use. This design consideration is crucial for the longevity of the fuel tank and for overall vehicle safety.

3. What condition should the brake chamber and clamp be in?

- A. No rust and must be flexible
- B. Must not be cracked or broken**
- C. Condition of paint is important
- D. Must be completely dry

The condition of the brake chamber and clamp is critical to the safe operation of a commercial vehicle. For the brake chamber and clamp, they must not be cracked or broken. This is important because any damage to these components can lead to brake failure, which is a significant safety risk. A functional brake chamber is essential for maintaining the integrity of the braking system, as it houses the diaphragm that converts air pressure into mechanical force to apply the brakes. Ensuring that the brake chamber and clamp are free from cracks or breaks helps maintain proper air pressure management and ensures that the brakes engage fully and effectively when needed. This aspect of vehicle safety cannot be overlooked, as it directly impacts the driver's ability to stop the vehicle safely. While aspects like rust and flexibility are also important for other components, and the condition of paint may indicate maintenance aspects, the primary focus must be on the structural integrity of these critical brake components. A dry condition in the brake system may be misleading; while moisture needs to be managed, the fundamental safety concern remains about cracks or breaks that could compromise brake functionality.

4. What should you tell the examiner after performing the brake tests?

- A. The tests are complete and pass
- B. The lights and buzzers are working properly**
- C. Both valves did not pop out
- D. The air pressure is insufficient

After performing the brake tests, informing the examiner that the lights and buzzers are working properly is essential because these components play a critical role in safety checks of a vehicle's braking system. Properly functioning lights indicate to the driver important operational information, such as whether the brakes are applied or if there is a malfunction warning. The buzzers serve as auditory alerts, enhancing driver awareness of issues that may arise during braking. Thus, confirming that both lights and buzzers are operational ensures that the vehicle is equipped to communicate effectively with the driver, contributing to safer driving conditions. In the context of the other options, discussing the completion and success of the tests, or the status of the valves or pressure levels, does not emphasize the immediate safety communications that the lighting and buzzing systems provide. Addressing these elements ensures a comprehensive understanding of the vehicle's functionality beyond just the brake test results.

5. How should the air pressure be checked in the brake system?

- A. By using a pressure gauge to ensure it meets manufacturer specifications**
- B. By visually checking the air hoses for leaks
- C. By listening for the sound of the compressor
- D. By gently pressing the brake pedal

The correct method for checking the air pressure in the brake system is to use a pressure gauge to ensure it meets the manufacturer specifications. This approach provides a precise measurement of the air pressure, which is crucial for the proper functioning of the braking system. Each vehicle has specific air pressure requirements that need to be met to ensure safety and performance. Using a pressure gauge allows you to confirm that the air pressure is within safe operating limits, which is vital for effective brake operation. If the pressure is too low, the brakes may not engage properly, leading to potentially dangerous situations. Conversely, if the pressure is too high, it might indicate a malfunction in the system that could also result in brake failure. Other methods, such as visually checking the air hoses for leaks or listening for the sound of the compressor, may provide preliminary insights but do not offer a definitive assessment of air pressure levels. Pressing the brake pedal can indicate whether brakes are functioning, but it won't provide an accurate measurement of the air pressure in the brake system itself. Therefore, using a pressure gauge is the most reliable and accurate method for ensuring that the brake system is functioning correctly.

6. What should be assessed regarding the catwalk during the inspection?

- A. If it is flexible or rigid
- B. Its overall aesthetic appeal
- C. Whether it is cracked, broken, or secure**
- D. If it is the correct color

The assessment of the catwalk is critical during a pre-trip inspection because it serves as a platform for the driver to safely move between the tractor and trailer. Ensuring that the catwalk is not cracked, broken, or insecure is vital for maintaining safety and operational integrity. A damaged or unstable catwalk could lead to serious accidents or injuries while the driver is performing necessary tasks, such as inspecting or securing the cargo. Therefore, focusing on its structural integrity directly impacts overall safety and functionality during operation. The other options, while they may touch on surface-level characteristics or appearances, do not address the fundamental safety concerns associated with the catwalk's function. Aesthetics, flexibility, or color do not play a role in the operational safety and effectiveness that the catwalk must provide.

7. In checking the marker light by the driver door, what must be ensured?

- A. It can be a different color than required
- B. It is working and clean**
- C. It should be dismantled for inspection
- D. It needs to be discolored for nighttime visibility

The essential aspect of checking the marker light by the driver door is to ensure that it is operational and clean. A functioning marker light contributes significantly to vehicle safety by indicating the vehicle's presence and its dimensions to other drivers, especially during low visibility conditions such as nighttime or inclement weather. A clean light allows for maximum visibility and effectiveness, ensuring that it emits light properly without obstruction. If the light is dirty or non-functional, it defeats its purpose, potentially leading to dangerous situations on the road. Options that suggest different colors or disrepair do not adhere to safety standards, as they could lead to confusion among other motorists regarding the vehicle's position or size. Therefore, the primary focus during the inspection of the marker light should center on its operational status and cleanliness, confirming that it meets regulatory requirements and safety protocols for visibility.

8. What does PMS stand for in the context of vehicle inspections?

- A. Proper Maintenance Standards**
- B. Pre-Maintenance Safety
- C. Preventative Maintenance System
- D. Pre-Trip Maintenance Safety

In the context of vehicle inspections, PMS stands for Preventative Maintenance System. This term refers to a proactive strategy involving regular inspections, maintenance, and repairs to keep the vehicle in optimal condition and to prevent breakdowns or failures before they occur. A Preventative Maintenance System incorporates scheduled maintenance tasks, such as oil changes, tire rotations, and brake inspections, to extend the life of the vehicle and ensure safety on the road. By implementing a PMS, operators can address potential issues before they escalate into significant problems, thus enhancing safety and reliability. This system is crucial for a CDL driver because it helps maintain the vehicle in a condition that meets safety standards and regulations, ultimately leading to better performance and reduced costs related to repairs and downtime.

9. What is the minimum tire pressure reading during an inspection?

- A. No less than 50 PSI
- B. No less than 75 PSI
- C. No less than 90 PSI
- D. No less than 100 PSI**

The correct choice regarding the minimum tire pressure reading during an inspection emphasizes that maintaining proper tire pressure is crucial for safety, fuel efficiency, and tire longevity. A minimum pressure of at least 100 PSI is often recommended for commercial vehicles, particularly for Class A trucks, as these vehicles carry heavy loads. Under-inflated tires can lead to several issues, including increased rolling resistance, poor handling, overheating, and even tire blowouts, all of which pose significant safety risks on the road. In the context of commercial trucking, tire pressure directly affects vehicle performance and stability, especially at higher speeds and under heavy loads. Thus, ensuring a minimum tire pressure of 100 PSI helps to stabilize the vehicle and improves braking and traction abilities. The other levels of pressure listed may not be suitable for all heavy-duty vehicles, as they might not support the load properly or could lead to unsafe driving conditions. For instance, lower pressure readings like 50 PSI or 75 PSI may suffice for passenger vehicles or lighter commercial trucks but do not provide adequate support for the heavier demands on Class A vehicles.

10. How do you check the fuel system for leaks?

- A. Look for wet spots underneath the tank and check for any cracks or fittings
- B. Inspect the fuel gauge for accuracy
- C. Ensure the fuel cap is secured tightly
- D. Check the fuel filter for blockages

To check the fuel system for leaks, it is essential to look for any visible signs that could indicate a problem. Observing wet spots underneath the fuel tank is a direct way to identify leaks, as any fuel leakage would typically result in pooling or staining on the ground. Additionally, inspecting the tank itself for cracks or damaged fittings can help to identify potential sources of leaks. These physical indicators are crucial in ensuring that the fuel system is maintaining integrity and is safe for operation. Considering the other options, while ensuring the fuel cap is secured tightly is important for maintaining proper pressure in the fuel system, it does not directly indicate leaks. Inspecting the fuel gauge for accuracy is relevant to knowing how much fuel is onboard but does not assess the condition of the fuel system itself. Checking the fuel filter for blockages is also a good practice for ensuring fuel flow, but it does not address the issue of leaks specifically. Thus, looking for wet spots and assessing the condition of the tank and its fittings is the most comprehensive approach to checking for fuel system leaks.

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://chattstatecdlclassapretripinspec.examzify.com>

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

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