

CMSC DRIVER'S ED PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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. What should a driver do if another vehicle is tailgating them?**
 - A. Speed up to create distance
 - B. Change lanes safely and let them pass
 - C. Brake hard to signal the driver
 - D. Ignore them and continue driving
- 2. When should you check the air pressure in your tires?**
 - A. Only when a warning light appears
 - B. After every gas fill-up
 - C. At least every time you change the oil and before any long trip
 - D. Once a month
- 3. When should you return to the lane after passing a truck?**
 - A. When you can see the entire cabin in your rear view mirror
 - B. As soon as you clear the truck's front bumper
 - C. When you hear the truck's horn
 - D. Only when traffic is light
- 4. What should a junior operator do if they are late driving during curfew?**
 - A. Drive slowly and take detours
 - B. Speed to reach the destination quickly
 - C. Do not speed; avoid being pulled over
 - D. Call a parent for advice
- 5. What is the primary consideration at an intersection to avoid gridlock?**
 - A. Go when you can expect to make it all the way through
 - B. Always stop at red lights
 - C. Only turn left when safe
 - D. Wait for traffic to clear
- 6. Which of the following describes the function of air bags?**
 - A. To inflate tires during a flat
 - B. To provide cushioning during a crash
 - C. To maintain tire pressure
 - D. To keep passengers from sliding

7. What should you do to secure your car when parking?

- A. Put it in drive
- B. Put in park
- C. Leave it in neutral
- D. Turn the ignition off

8. What is the minimum distance to follow emergency vehicles?

- A. 200 feet
- B. 300 feet
- C. 400 feet
- D. 500 feet

9. What action should you take when the light turns yellow?

- A. Accelerate to cross before it turns red
- B. Stop if it is safe to do so
- C. Ignore the light and keep going
- D. Prepare to turn left

10. What does an open container violation imply?

- A. A beverage container must be sealed
- B. No alcohol containers should be in the vehicle
- C. Alcohol containers can only be in the trunk
- D. Passengers must be sober

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What should a driver do if another vehicle is tailgating them?

- A. Speed up to create distance
- B. Change lanes safely and let them pass**
- C. Brake hard to signal the driver
- D. Ignore them and continue driving

When facing a situation where another vehicle is tailgating, the best approach is to change lanes safely and let them pass. This action helps to alleviate the immediate pressure and potential stress that comes from a car closely following behind. By allowing the tailgating vehicle to overtake, you create a safer distance between your vehicle and the other driver, reducing the likelihood of a collision caused by sudden stops or distractions. Creating space is a fundamental aspect of safe driving. When a vehicle is following too closely, it increases the risk of a rear-end accident; thus, the best method to enhance safety is to maneuver to a lane where the other vehicle can pass, eliminating the hazardous tailgating scenario. Other options, such as speeding up or braking abruptly, introduce further risks. Speeding up can lead to reckless driving behavior and potentially escalate the situation. Braking hard is dangerous as it may catch the tailgating driver off guard, making a rear-end collision more likely. Ignoring the tailgater is less effective in promoting safety since it does not address the proximity issue. Hence, changing lanes safely is the most prudent choice.

2. When should you check the air pressure in your tires?

- A. Only when a warning light appears
- B. After every gas fill-up
- C. At least every time you change the oil and before any long trip**
- D. Once a month

Checking the air pressure in your tires at least every time you change the oil and before any long trip is a sound practice because it promotes safety and vehicle efficiency. Proper tire pressure is crucial for optimal traction, handling, and fuel economy. Tires that are under-inflated can lead to poor handling, increased tire wear, and reduced fuel efficiency, while over-inflated tires can be more prone to blowouts. Changing the oil intervals often align closely with general vehicle maintenance routines, making it practical to incorporate a tire check at that time. Additionally, inspecting tire pressure before embarking on a long trip ensures that tires are in good condition to handle extended driving. This proactive approach helps prevent potential issues on the road, such as tire blowouts or decreased performance, that could arise from neglecting tire maintenance.

3. When should you return to the lane after passing a truck?

- A. When you can see the entire cabin in your rear view mirror**
- B. As soon as you clear the truck's front bumper
- C. When you hear the truck's horn
- D. Only when traffic is light

Returning to your lane after passing a truck should be done when you can see the entire cabin of the truck in your rear view mirror. This ensures that you have cleared the truck completely, allowing for a safe distance between your vehicle and the truck before merging back into the lane. Visibility of the entire cabin indicates that you are far enough ahead of the truck to avoid cutting off the driver, who may have a larger blind spot than you do. This practice not only enhances safety but also helps maintain proper traffic flow, as trucks take longer to stop and may require more distance to maneuver. The other choices can lead to unsafe situations. For instance, clearing the truck's front bumper might mean you are still too close, and returning to the lane could obstruct the truck's path. Hearing the truck's horn does not provide adequate information about distance or safety, and only merging back into the lane when traffic is light is impractical; safe merging is crucial regardless of traffic conditions. Thus, ensuring that the entire truck cabin is visible in your rearview mirror is the most reliable method for a safe lane change after passing a truck.

4. What should a junior operator do if they are late driving during curfew?

- A. Drive slowly and take detours
- B. Speed to reach the destination quickly
- C. Do not speed; avoid being pulled over**
- D. Call a parent for advice

When a junior operator finds themselves out during curfew hours, the most responsible action is to avoid speeding in order to prevent being pulled over. Speeding not only increases the risk of accidents but also heightens the chances of drawing attention from law enforcement, potentially leading to serious consequences such as fines or even points on their driving record. Maintaining a safe speed allows them to focus on driving safely and responsibly, which is crucial during uncertain situations. The junior operator should also be aware that driving within the speed limit can contribute to a more controlled driving environment, reducing stress and helping them navigate safely to their destination. Engaging in unsafe behaviors, such as speeding or taking detours, compromises their safety and that of others on the road. Additionally, while calling a parent for advice might be a valid choice, it is crucial that the junior operator prioritizes getting home safely above all else. This choice emphasizes the importance of adhering to traffic laws and fostering good driving habits, especially for inexperienced drivers.

5. What is the primary consideration at an intersection to avoid gridlock?

- A. Go when you can expect to make it all the way through**
- B. Always stop at red lights
- C. Only turn left when safe
- D. Wait for traffic to clear

The primary consideration at an intersection to avoid gridlock is to go when you can expect to make it all the way through. This principle is essential because it prevents situations where vehicles stop in the intersection, obstructing traffic from other directions and leading to congestion. When drivers enter an intersection without the clear ability to continue through to the other side, they can block lanes and create a chain reaction of stopped vehicles, exacerbating traffic delays. This proactive approach encourages drivers to only proceed when they are sure they can safely and fully exit the intersection, thus maintaining a smoother flow of traffic and reducing the chances of gridlock. By being mindful of this, drivers contribute to a more organized and predictable traffic pattern, benefiting all road users. Other considerations, such as stopping at red lights and waiting for traffic to clear, play important roles in traffic safety but do not directly address the specific issue of avoiding gridlock. Turning left only when safe is crucial for safety but does not directly correlate with managing overall intersection flow.

6. Which of the following describes the function of air bags?

- A. To inflate tires during a flat
- B. To provide cushioning during a crash**
- C. To maintain tire pressure
- D. To keep passengers from sliding

Airbags are a crucial safety feature in vehicles designed primarily to provide cushioning during a crash. They deploy rapidly in the event of a collision, acting as an additional protective barrier between the occupants and hard surfaces within the vehicle, such as the steering wheel, dashboard, and windows. The deployment of airbags helps to reduce the risk of injury by absorbing some of the force of impact, thereby minimizing the potential for severe trauma to the head, neck, and chest. While the other options mention important vehicle functions, they do not relate to the intended purpose of airbags. For instance, inflating tires and maintaining tire pressure are related to tire management and vehicle performance, while preventing passengers from sliding is more closely associated with seat belts and other restraint systems. Therefore, the option that highlights the cushioning aspect of airbags accurately reflects their primary function in enhancing passenger safety during accidents.

7. What should you do to secure your car when parking?

- A. Put it in drive
- B. Put in park**
- C. Leave it in neutral
- D. Turn the ignition off

To secure your car when parking, putting it in park is essential as it locks the transmission system, preventing the vehicle from rolling or moving unintentionally. This is especially important on any incline or decline, where gravity could cause the vehicle to roll away if not properly secured. In automatic vehicles, the park setting engages a lever mechanism that holds the transmission in place, significantly enhancing safety. While turning the ignition off is also necessary for ensuring the vehicle is not operating and to prevent battery drain, it does not actively secure the car in position. Leaving a vehicle in drive or neutral does not provide any security against movement, as these settings do not lock the transmission and can allow the car to roll away, creating a significant safety hazard. Therefore, for proper vehicle security when parked, the correct action is to ensure the vehicle is in park.

8. What is the minimum distance to follow emergency vehicles?

- A. 200 feet
- B. 300 feet
- C. 400 feet
- D. 500 feet**

The minimum distance to follow emergency vehicles is 500 feet. This distance is important for safety reasons, as emergency vehicles often need to maneuver quickly and may stop suddenly to respond to an incident. By keeping a distance of 500 feet, drivers can ensure that they are out of the way and allow emergency responders the space needed to operate effectively. This practice not only helps to keep the roads clear for emergency vehicles but also protects other drivers and pedestrians from potential hazards. Adhering to this distance is crucial for maintaining safety on the road.

9. What action should you take when the light turns yellow?

- A. Accelerate to cross before it turns red
- B. Stop if it is safe to do so**
- C. Ignore the light and keep going
- D. Prepare to turn left

When the light turns yellow, the appropriate action is to stop if it is safe to do so. A yellow light indicates that the traffic signal is about to change to red, warning drivers to prepare to stop. It is crucial to assess the situation quickly and determine if stopping is possible without endangering yourself or other vehicles. Stopping when the light turns yellow helps maintain safety on the road by preventing potential accidents that could occur if drivers attempt to rush through the intersection. It reinforces the understanding that yellow lights are a cautionary signal, not a cue to accelerate. In many cases, drivers should not be in such a hurry that they cannot stop safely when necessary. Recognizing that yellow does not mean go is key to responsible driving behavior.

10. What does an open container violation imply?

- A. A beverage container must be sealed**
- B. No alcohol containers should be in the vehicle
- C. Alcohol containers can only be in the trunk
- D. Passengers must be sober

An open container violation refers to the presence of an alcoholic beverage container that has been opened, its seal broken, or the contents partially consumed within a vehicle. This means that a beverage container needs to be sealed to avoid such a violation. The law is designed to discourage drinking alcohol while driving and to minimize the potential for impaired driving behaviors. In this context, while the other choices might address related aspects of alcohol consumption and transportation in a vehicle, having a sealed beverage container is specifically linked to the legal definition of an open container violation. Therefore, maintaining a sealed beverage container is crucial to comply with open container laws and ensure the safety of all vehicle occupants.

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://cmscdiversed.examzify.com>

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

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