

DMV Test Firefighter Endorsement Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

Copyright © 2025 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain from reliable sources accurate, complete, and timely information about this product.

SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. What is the term for a commercial vehicle's tendency to swing wide on turns?**
 - A. Backtracking**
 - B. Offtracking**
 - C. Oversteering**
 - D. Drifting**
- 2. What is correct about emergency evasive action in vehicles?**
 - A. You need a loose grip on the steering wheel**
 - B. Firm grip on the steering wheel is necessary**
 - C. Use both hands only when turning**
 - D. Vary your grip based on speed**
- 3. When is it necessary to sign a written vehicle inspection report?**
 - A. At the end of each week**
 - B. Only if the vehicle is new**
 - C. When the previous driver noted any defects**
 - D. Daily, regardless of vehicle condition**
- 4. What immediate action should firefighters take when responding to a fire alarm?**
 - A. Quickly assess the situation and gather information**
 - B. Notify the public about the alarm**
 - C. Begin firefighting efforts immediately**
 - D. Ignore the alarm if it's a false alarm**
- 5. Which statement is true about rear drive wheel braking skids?**
 - A. They can occur only with non-heavy vehicles**
 - B. Trailers can push the towing vehicle sideways**
 - C. They happen only on icy roads**
 - D. They are more common with front-wheel drive vehicles**

- 6. What is the recommended following distance behind a vehicle in ideal conditions?**
- A. 2 seconds**
 - B. 3 seconds**
 - C. 4 seconds**
 - D. 5 seconds**
- 7. What should you do if you encounter a downed power line?**
- A. Call for a utility crew**
 - B. Stay at least 30 feet away and report it**
 - C. Try to move it out of the way**
 - D. Ignore it if no one is nearby**
- 8. What type of fire extinguisher is used for electrical fires?**
- A. Class A**
 - B. Class B**
 - C. Class C**
 - D. Class D**
- 9. What is the critical threshold temperature that can lead to flashover?**
- A. 300°F**
 - B. 600°F**
 - C. 1,000°F**
 - D. 1,400°F**
- 10. Why is situational awareness important for firefighters?**
- A. It helps them to memorize routes**
 - B. It allows them to assess hazards efficiently**
 - C. It ensures they follow orders strictly**
 - D. It keeps them distracted from danger**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What is the term for a commercial vehicle's tendency to swing wide on turns?

- A. Backtracking**
- B. Offtracking**
- C. Oversteering**
- D. Drifting**

The term that describes a commercial vehicle's tendency to swing wide on turns is offtracking. This phenomenon occurs because of the articulation of the vehicle, especially in vehicles with multiple axles and trailers. When a commercial vehicle makes a turn, the rear wheels (or wheels of the trailer) do not follow the exact path of the front wheels. Instead, they follow a wider arc, which can create a discrepancy in the path that the two sets of wheels travel. Understanding offtracking is crucial for drivers of large vehicles to navigate turns safely, ensuring they don't encroach on other lanes or collide with obstacles such as curbs, traffic signs, or pedestrians. This concept emphasizes the importance of spatial awareness and proper turning techniques when operating larger vehicles.

2. What is correct about emergency evasive action in vehicles?

- A. You need a loose grip on the steering wheel**
- B. Firm grip on the steering wheel is necessary**
- C. Use both hands only when turning**
- D. Vary your grip based on speed**

A firm grip on the steering wheel is essential during emergency evasive actions because it provides better control over the vehicle. In critical situations where swift maneuvers are required to avoid obstacles or other hazards, a strong grip allows the driver to respond more effectively to rapid changes in direction and ensure stability. A secure hold helps maintain steering precision, reducing the likelihood of losing control, which is particularly important during high-speed scenarios or when navigating through tight spaces. In contrast, a loose grip could lead to delayed reactions or difficulty in making sharp turns, while using both hands only when turning could compromise control in a sudden evasive maneuver where you may need to react quickly in any direction. Finally, varying your grip based on speed may not guarantee the consistent control needed in emergencies, as being able to instinctively manage the vehicle's response is crucial regardless of the speed. Therefore, maintaining a firm grip at all times ensures maximum command over the vehicle when it's needed most.

3. When is it necessary to sign a written vehicle inspection report?

- A. At the end of each week**
- B. Only if the vehicle is new**
- C. When the previous driver noted any defects**
- D. Daily, regardless of vehicle condition**

The requirement to sign a written vehicle inspection report specifically arises when the previous driver has noted any defects. This ensures that the next driver is aware of existing issues and can take necessary actions to address them before operating the vehicle. Documenting these defects is crucial for safety and accountability as it helps maintain the operational readiness of the vehicle and protects the driver and others on the road. In contrast, the other options may not align with standard practices for vehicle inspections. While routine inspections are important, they are not typically required on a weekly basis unless stipulated by organizational policies or regulations. New vehicles may have less immediate need for such reports, as they are generally less likely to have defects. Daily inspections, while beneficial for maintenance and safety, are generally finalized through reports only when issues are present, making the third option the most accurate in terms of protocol.

4. What immediate action should firefighters take when responding to a fire alarm?

- A. Quickly assess the situation and gather information**
- B. Notify the public about the alarm**
- C. Begin firefighting efforts immediately**
- D. Ignore the alarm if it's a false alarm**

When responding to a fire alarm, firefighters should prioritize quickly assessing the situation and gathering information. This step is crucial because understanding the context of the alarm—such as the location, the presence of occupants, the type of building, and any potential hazards—can significantly influence their tactics and decisions. By quickly evaluating the situation, firefighters can determine if the alarm is genuine or if it might be a false alarm. They can also ascertain whether they need to employ full firefighting tactics or if a lighter response is appropriate. Immediate assessment helps in prioritizing safety for both the firefighters and any individuals within or around the building, ensuring that resources are used effectively and efficiently. This initial evaluation sets the stage for coordinated efforts, creating a structured approach to firefighting that maximizes the chances of successfully addressing the situation.

5. Which statement is true about rear drive wheel braking skids?

A. They can occur only with non-heavy vehicles

B. Trailers can push the towing vehicle sideways

C. They happen only on icy roads

D. They are more common with front-wheel drive vehicles

The statement about rear drive wheel braking skids being true is anchored in the fact that trailers can indeed exert a pushing force on the towing vehicle when braking. This phenomenon occurs because of the trailer's momentum, which can lead to a situation where the trailer pushes the rear of the towing vehicle sideways if the rear wheels lock up during braking. This is particularly important to understand for drivers who tow trailers, as it highlights the need for careful braking techniques to maintain control of both the towing vehicle and the trailer. Understanding this concept is crucial for safe driving, especially in situations where the towing vehicle might be heavily loaded or when road conditions change rapidly. Drivers need to be aware of the dynamics involved in towing and how braking can affect the stability of both the trailer and the vehicle. This knowledge helps in preventing loss of control during driving situations that could lead to skids or accidents.

6. What is the recommended following distance behind a vehicle in ideal conditions?

A. 2 seconds

B. 3 seconds

C. 4 seconds

D. 5 seconds

The recommended following distance behind a vehicle in ideal conditions is three seconds. This guideline is based on the perception-reaction time and provides a safe buffer to allow for adequate stopping distance should the vehicle in front suddenly brake or encounter an obstacle. By maintaining a three-second gap, drivers can better assess their surroundings and have sufficient time to react to changes in the traffic situation. In ideal conditions, such as clear weather and good road surfaces, this distance strikes a balance between being close enough to maintain traffic flow while avoiding potential rear-end collisions. It also allows for a sufficient margin in case the driver needs to respond to unexpected actions from the vehicle ahead. Keeping this distance helps promote safer driving practices and enhances overall road safety for everyone.

7. What should you do if you encounter a downed power line?

- A. Call for a utility crew
- B. Stay at least 30 feet away and report it**
- C. Try to move it out of the way
- D. Ignore it if no one is nearby

Encountering a downed power line poses significant safety risks, and the appropriate action is to stay at least 30 feet away and report it. This ensures your safety and the safety of others. Downed power lines can be live and pose a high risk of electric shock or electrocution. By maintaining a safe distance, you minimize your risk of coming into contact with the electrical current. Reporting the incident to the proper authorities or utility crew is crucial because they have the training and equipment necessary to handle such dangerous situations safely. Prompt reporting helps ensure that the area can be secured and power can be restored safely. By following this procedure, you contribute to the overall safety of the environment and are taking the right steps in response to a hazardous situation.

8. What type of fire extinguisher is used for electrical fires?

- A. Class A
- B. Class B
- C. Class C**
- D. Class D

A Class C fire extinguisher is specifically designed for electrical fires. These extinguishers use non-conductive agents to put out fires that involve energized electrical equipment, such as wiring, circuit breakers, and appliances. It is crucial to use the appropriate type of extinguisher on electrical fires to avoid the risk of electric shock or furthering the fire by using a conductive media. Class C extinguishers typically contain agents like carbon dioxide (CO₂) or dry chemical powders that effectively extinguish flames without conducting electricity, making them safe for use on electrical sources. Understanding the classification of fire extinguishers is essential in ensuring safety during firefighting efforts, particularly regarding how different types react to various fire sources.

9. What is the critical threshold temperature that can lead to flashover?

- A. 300°F
- B. 600°F**
- C. 1,000°F
- D. 1,400°F

Flashover is a rapid engulfing of a room or space in flames caused by the ignition of combustibles within that space. This phenomenon typically occurs when the temperature reaches around 1,400°F. At this critical threshold, the significant rise in temperature causes items in the room, whether they are furniture, curtains, or other flammable materials, to ignite almost simultaneously due to the radiant heat. Understanding the flashover temperature is crucial for firefighters, as it informs them of the dangers of high heat and the need for proper ventilation and strategies to combat such rapid fire spread. Maintaining awareness of this temperature helps in making vital decisions during firefighting operations, including whether to enter a structure or to apply specific firefighting tactics to prevent this dangerous situation.

10. Why is situational awareness important for firefighters?

- A. It helps them to memorize routes**
- B. It allows them to assess hazards efficiently**
- C. It ensures they follow orders strictly**
- D. It keeps them distracted from danger**

Situational awareness is crucial for firefighters because it enables them to assess hazards efficiently. It involves understanding the environment, recognizing potential dangers, and anticipating how situations may develop. This heightened awareness allows firefighters to make quick decisions, prioritize actions, and adapt to changing conditions during emergencies. Being aware of their surroundings aids firefighters in identifying risks such as structural instability, the presence of hazardous materials, or changing weather conditions that could impact their safety and the effectiveness of their operations. By accurately assessing these hazards, firefighters can take the necessary precautions, implement safety measures, and ensure the safety of themselves and those they are attempting to rescue. This skill ultimately enhances their ability to respond effectively and manage incidents successfully.