

DPS THIRD PARTY SKILLS TESTING (TPST) PRACTICE TEST (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. A driver who releases the clutch when traveling at 10 to 20 mph demonstrates what level of control?**
 - A. Excellent control
 - B. Good control
 - C. Fair control
 - D. Poor control
- 2. Using mirrors effectively while backing is classified under which observation rating?**
 - A. Observation - Fair
 - B. Control - Fail
 - C. Observation - Excellent
 - D. Control - Pass
- 3. If a driver demonstrates a lack of smoothness while beginning to move or stop, how might this impact their overall control rating?**
 - A. Increase control rating
 - B. No change in control rating
 - C. Lower control rating
 - D. Improve control rating
- 4. If a driver takes twice as long as average to perform a maneuver, what is the assessment of their control?**
 - A. Control - Good
 - B. Control - Average
 - C. Control - Bad
 - D. Control - Excellent
- 5. When does the control rating become 'Fair' regarding releasing the brake before the car stops?**
 - A. When the car accelerates
 - B. When the engine stalls
 - C. When the brake is released too early
 - D. When the driver fails to signal

- 6. What is an indicator of fair position during a reverse maneuver?**
- A. Always bumping the curb lightly
 - B. Keeping the vehicle centered in the lane
 - C. Not looking behind while reversing
 - D. Consistently checking mirrors
- 7. What might disqualify an applicant from the TPST?**
- A. Having a learner's permit
 - B. Insufficient proof of identity
 - C. Previous driving experience
 - D. Having a car older than five years
- 8. What is the consequence of entering an intersection on an amber light?**
- A. Position - Good
 - B. Position - Bad
 - C. Position - Acceptable
 - D. Position - Excellent
- 9. Which of the following is NOT a component assessed during the TPST?**
- A. Pre-trip vehicle inspection
 - B. Driving under the influence tests
 - C. Road skills maneuvers
 - D. Ability to read road signs
- 10. What are some common components of the road skills test?**
- A. Speed racing and parallel parking
 - B. Maneuvering, parking, turning, and obeying traffic signals
 - C. Multimedia driving simulations and written assessments
 - D. Night driving and highway merging

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. A driver who releases the clutch when traveling at 10 to 20 mph demonstrates what level of control?

- A. Excellent control
- B. Good control
- C. Fair control**
- D. Poor control

When a driver releases the clutch while traveling at a speed of 10 to 20 mph, it indicates an understanding of vehicle mechanics and the need to engage the transmission smoothly. However, this speed range suggests that the driver may not be fully utilizing their control of the vehicle. At lower speeds, especially during maneuvers like stopping or starting, releasing the clutch too quickly can lead to stalling or jerking motions, which can indicate a lack of refinement in control. While the driver is making an effort to manage the clutch, the specific context of operating within a speed range that may not fully leverage their ability to control the vehicle suggests that the driver's proficiency is moderate. Thus, describing the control as "fair" fits this scenario best, as it implies that while the driver is somewhat skilled, there are areas for improvement when it comes to smooth acceleration and deceleration at those speeds.

2. Using mirrors effectively while backing is classified under which observation rating?

- A. Observation - Fair**
- B. Control - Fail
- C. Observation - Excellent
- D. Control - Pass

Using mirrors effectively while backing is classified under the observation rating of "Fair" because this rating indicates that the driver is making good use of visual aids to assess their surroundings while reversing. Effective use of mirrors allows the driver to spot obstacles or hazards that may not be immediately visible through the rear window. While it may not score as "Excellent," which would imply an exceptional level of awareness and situational assessment, being rated as "Fair" suggests that the driver is at least consistently checking their mirrors and using them to support safe backing maneuvers. This highlights the importance of observational skills in driving and reflects an understanding of the role that mirrors play in enhancing spatial awareness.

3. If a driver demonstrates a lack of smoothness while beginning to move or stop, how might this impact their overall control rating?

- A. Increase control rating
- B. No change in control rating
- C. Lower control rating**
- D. Improve control rating

A lack of smoothness while beginning to move or stop indicates that the driver may struggle with fundamental driving skills, such as applying acceleration and braking in a controlled manner. This can lead to jerky movements that not only affect the comfort of the passengers but also compromise the driver's ability to maintain proper control of the vehicle. Smooth transitions in speed are essential for maintaining stability and preventing sudden changes that can lead to accidents. When a driver is not smooth in these actions, it can cause a negative perception of their overall driving ability, leading to a lower control rating. A driver who demonstrates a lack of smoothness may also struggle to respond effectively to changing road conditions or signals from other road users, further diminishing their control over the vehicle. Overall, the ability to execute maneuvers smoothly is foundational to effective driving, and any deficiencies in this area are likely to be reflected in a reduced control rating.

4. If a driver takes twice as long as average to perform a maneuver, what is the assessment of their control?

- A. Control - Good
- B. Control - Average
- C. Control - Bad**
- D. Control - Excellent

When a driver takes twice as long as average to perform a maneuver, it indicates significant delays in their reaction time and execution of the necessary actions. This prolonged response can suggest a lack of awareness, hesitation, or difficulty in managing the vehicle and the surrounding conditions effectively. Such traits typically reflect poor control, as efficient driving relies on timely and precise execution of maneuvers. In this context, the assessment of "Control - Bad" accurately captures the driver's inability to perform the maneuver in a timely manner. Good control is characterized by responsiveness and the ability to execute tasks effectively, while being significantly slower than the average suggests a detrimental level of performance. Hence, this choice reinforces the idea that control is a critical aspect of driving ability, and taking excessive time can compromise safety and situational awareness on the road.

5. When does the control rating become 'Fair' regarding releasing the brake before the car stops?

- A. When the car accelerates
- B. When the engine stalls
- C. When the brake is released too early**
- D. When the driver fails to signal

The control rating becomes 'Fair' when the brake is released too early because this action can compromise the driver's ability to bring the vehicle to a complete and controlled stop. Releasing the brake prematurely may cause the car to roll or move forward unexpectedly, which can lead to a loss of control over the vehicle. This is particularly important in situations where stopping distance is critical, such as when approaching traffic signals or pedestrian crosswalks. Maintaining proper control of the vehicle during the stopping process is essential for safety. If the brake is not held until the car is fully stopped, it can result in unintended acceleration or lead to an abrupt stop, thereby affecting the overall driving performance and safety. In contrast, the other options do not directly relate to the timing of brake release; for instance, the performance rating pertains specifically to the braking process and vehicle control, rather than actions that might not relate to stopping performance directly.

6. What is an indicator of fair position during a reverse maneuver?

- A. Always bumping the curb lightly**
- B. Keeping the vehicle centered in the lane
- C. Not looking behind while reversing
- D. Consistently checking mirrors

The correct choice reflects an understanding of positioning the vehicle and the importance of spatial awareness during a reverse maneuver. When conducting reverse maneuvers, maintaining a fair position is crucial for safety and accuracy. Lightly bumping the curb can sometimes be indicative of an attempt to achieve proper alignment with the curb, ensuring that the vehicle is positioned correctly relative to the road and potential obstacles. However, it is important to note that this practice could lead to other issues, such as damaging the vehicle or creating an unsafe environment if not done carefully. Keeping the vehicle centered in the lane is also important; it ensures that the vehicle maintains a safe distance from obstacles on either side, thereby supporting safe maneuvering. However, this option does not highlight the specifics of reverse maneuvers relative to curb contact. Not looking behind while reversing is dangerous because it prevents awareness of obstacles and pedestrians directly behind the vehicle. This diminishes the safety of the maneuver, which is contrary to the essential practices of reversing safely. Consistently checking mirrors is critical for awareness of the surrounding environment while reversing, but it does not directly address the positioning of the vehicle in relation to the curb or lane. Overall, the selected answer emphasizes the importance of spatial feedback during a reverse maneuver, while

7. What might disqualify an applicant from the TPST?

- A. Having a learner's permit
- B. Insufficient proof of identity**
- C. Previous driving experience
- D. Having a car older than five years

Insufficient proof of identity is a critical factor that can disqualify an applicant from the TPST. This process relies heavily on verifying the identity of the individual to ensure they meet the necessary criteria for the skills assessment. Valid proof of identity is essential for maintaining the integrity of the testing process and ensuring that the applicant is who they claim to be. Lacking appropriate identification can lead to concerns about identity fraud or misrepresentation, which are significant issues in driver assessments and licensing procedures. In contrast, other options do not typically disqualify an applicant. For instance, having a learner's permit implies that the individual is in the process of training and may still be eligible to take the test. Previous driving experience is generally seen as a positive attribute, as it indicates familiarity with driving protocols. Additionally, the age of a car is not usually a disqualifying factor as long as the vehicle meets the general requirements for safety and functionality. Therefore, not providing sufficient proof of identity stands out as a legitimate reason for disqualification.

8. What is the consequence of entering an intersection on an amber light?

- A. Position - Good
- B. Position - Bad**
- C. Position - Acceptable
- D. Position - Excellent

Entering an intersection on an amber light may indicate to others that you are unsure of the right course of action. While an amber light means the signal is about to change to red, it typically serves as a warning to slow down and prepare to stop. If a driver enters the intersection, it may cause confusion or potential hazards for other road users expecting that the light will soon change, leading to possible accidents or near misses. In terms of driving position, this suggests that the action is not wise or prudent; hence it is labeled as 'bad.' When driving, making decisions that ensure safety and respect for traffic signals is critical, and entering an intersection during an amber light does not align with these principles, showcasing the potential dangers involved in such behavior.

9. Which of the following is NOT a component assessed during the TPST?

- A. Pre-trip vehicle inspection
- B. Driving under the influence tests**
- C. Road skills maneuvers
- D. Ability to read road signs

The correct answer is that "Driving under the influence tests" is not a component assessed during the TPST. The Third Party Skills Testing is primarily focused on evaluating a driver's practical skills and knowledge related to safe driving and vehicle operation. This includes components such as pre-trip vehicle inspections, road skills maneuvers, and the ability to read road signs, all of which are essential for ensuring that a driver can operate a vehicle safely and effectively. Driving under the influence tests are conducted in specific circumstances related to assessing impairment due to alcohol or drugs, and are typically handled by law enforcement rather than being part of the standard skills testing process for licensing. This distinction highlights the TPST's focus on the practical aspects of driving rather than assessing a driver's condition regarding substance use.

10. What are some common components of the road skills test?

- A. Speed racing and parallel parking
- B. Maneuvering, parking, turning, and obeying traffic signals**
- C. Multimedia driving simulations and written assessments
- D. Night driving and highway merging

The selection of maneuvering, parking, turning, and obeying traffic signals as common components of the road skills test reflects the essential skills required for safe and effective driving. These elements are crucial in evaluating a driver's ability to operate a vehicle in a variety of everyday situations encountered on the road. Maneuvering tests a driver's control over the vehicle, ensuring they can navigate through obstacles and manage their space. Parking is vital as it requires the driver to demonstrate precision and awareness of their surroundings when stopping the vehicle in designated areas. Turning assesses a driver's ability to change directions safely while checking for pedestrians, cyclists, and other vehicles. Obeying traffic signals is fundamental to driving, as it maintains order and safety on the roads, emphasizing the importance of adherence to rules and regulations. The other options presented, while they do touch on aspects of driving, either include components not typically assessed in a standard road skills test or focus on specialized situations that are not as common in the broader assessment of everyday driving capabilities.

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:

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

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