

ICBC British Columbia Written Exam Practice Test 2025 (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

- 1. What action should you take when driving in foggy conditions?**
 - A. Use high beam headlights and accelerate**
 - B. Use low beam headlights and reduce speed**
 - C. Turn off headlights and drive cautiously**
 - D. Use hazard lights and drive at normal speed**
- 2. What should you do if your vehicle breaks down on the highway?**
 - A. Turn on your music and wait for assistance**
 - B. Pull over to a safe area, turn on your hazard lights, and stay with your vehicle**
 - C. Attempt to fix the vehicle on the highway**
 - D. Call for help and leave the vehicle on the highway**
- 3. What do you do if your accelerator is stuck?**
 - A. Turn off the engine immediately**
 - B. Shift to neutral and steer safely off the road**
 - C. Brake hard and try to regain control**
 - D. Pull over and coast to a stop**
- 4. What should you do if you miss your exit on a freeway?**
 - A. Make a U-turn at the next opportunity**
 - B. Backtrack on the freeway**
 - C. Continue to the next exit**
 - D. Stop and wait for assistance**
- 5. What is the recommended following distance behind another vehicle?**
 - A. At least one second**
 - B. At least two seconds**
 - C. At least three seconds**
 - D. At least four seconds**

- 6. What is the recommended following distance behind another vehicle?**
- A. At least one second**
 - B. At least two seconds**
 - C. At least three seconds**
 - D. Only as per the vehicle's speed**
- 7. How far must you park from a crosswalk or intersection?**
- A. At least 2 meters**
 - B. At least 5 meters**
 - C. At least 10 meters**
 - D. At least 15 meters**
- 8. What does the "left turn yield on green" sign indicate?**
- A. You can turn left on red**
 - B. You may turn left on green but must yield to oncoming traffic**
 - C. You must always stop before turning left**
 - D. You should turn left regardless of oncoming traffic**
- 9. How do you properly merge onto a highway?**
- A. Stop first and then merge**
 - B. Use the acceleration lane to match the speed of traffic**
 - C. Speed limit signs should guide your merging speed**
 - D. Wait for a gap and then accelerate**
- 10. What should you do if you experience brake failure while driving?**
- A. Shift into neutral and steer off the road**
 - B. Downshift and pump the brakes**
 - C. Apply the emergency brake immediately**
 - D. Accelerate to gain control**

Answers

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

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1. What action should you take when driving in foggy conditions?

- A. Use high beam headlights and accelerate**
- B. Use low beam headlights and reduce speed**
- C. Turn off headlights and drive cautiously**
- D. Use hazard lights and drive at normal speed**

When driving in foggy conditions, it is essential to use low beam headlights and reduce speed. Low beam headlights are designed to illuminate the road directly in front of your vehicle without causing glare that can reflect off the fog, which would impair your visibility even further. By using low beams, you can see more clearly, and other drivers can see you more easily as well. Reducing speed is crucial because fog can create deceptive visibility conditions. What might seem like a safe distance or a clear path can quickly change, so driving at a slower speed gives you ample time to react to obstacles or changes in the road. This combination of using the appropriate lights and driving at a cautious speed helps ensure your safety and the safety of others on the road under limited visibility conditions. In contrast, using high beam headlights in fog will create a blinding effect, making it harder to see. Turning off headlights is dangerous as it can make your vehicle less visible to others. Utilizing hazard lights while driving at normal speed does not adequately address the reduced visibility and can also confuse other drivers about your intentions.

2. What should you do if your vehicle breaks down on the highway?

- A. Turn on your music and wait for assistance**
- B. Pull over to a safe area, turn on your hazard lights, and stay with your vehicle**
- C. Attempt to fix the vehicle on the highway**
- D. Call for help and leave the vehicle on the highway**

When your vehicle breaks down on the highway, the best and safest course of action is to pull over to a safe area, turn on your hazard lights, and stay with your vehicle. This ensures that you are visible to other drivers, reducing the risk of an accident. Staying with your vehicle provides a protective barrier, and it allows you to safely communicate with roadside assistance or emergency services when you call for help. Pulling over to a safe area helps to ensure your safety as well as the safety of others on the road. Hazard lights notify other drivers that you are experiencing trouble, making it less likely they'll inadvertently collide with your vehicle. It is essential to remain with your vehicle unless it is unsafe to do so, as abandoning your vehicle can lead to additional hazards and complicate the recovery process. Attempting to fix the vehicle on the highway can expose you to danger from moving traffic. Leaving the vehicle on the highway puts you at risk and may obstruct the flow of traffic, creating further hazards. Turning on your music while waiting for assistance does not address safety concerns or communication needs, making it an inadequate response to a breakdown situation.

3. What do you do if your accelerator is stuck?

- A. Turn off the engine immediately
- B. Shift to neutral and steer safely off the road**
- C. Brake hard and try to regain control
- D. Pull over and coast to a stop

If the accelerator is stuck, shifting to neutral and steering safely off the road is the most effective course of action. This approach allows you to disengage the engine's power from the wheels, which can help to reduce speed while maintaining control of the vehicle. By placing the car in neutral, you can prevent further acceleration, making it easier to navigate to a safe area away from traffic. Additionally, steering safely off the road ensures that you avoid potential collisions with other vehicles, as well as any obstacles that might be in your path. Once you have brought the vehicle to a stop in a safe location, you can then take the next steps, such as turning off the engine and addressing the issue with the accelerator. This method prioritizes safety for both yourself and other road users while effectively managing a potentially dangerous situation.

4. What should you do if you miss your exit on a freeway?

- A. Make a U-turn at the next opportunity
- B. Backtrack on the freeway
- C. Continue to the next exit**
- D. Stop and wait for assistance

When you miss your exit on a freeway, the safest and most responsible action is to continue to the next exit. This approach helps ensure that you do not create a dangerous situation for yourself or other drivers. Making sudden maneuvers, such as trying to make a U-turn or backtrack, can lead to collisions or other accidents, as these actions are typically illegal and unsafe in freeway conditions. By proceeding to the next exit, you can safely pull off the freeway, regain your bearings, and find a safe place to turn around if necessary. This method not only maintains the flow of traffic but also reduces the risk of inflicting harm on yourself or others. It is essential to remain calm and focused, allowing you to navigate back to your desired route without causing disruptions.

5. What is the recommended following distance behind another vehicle?

- A. At least one second
- B. At least two seconds**
- C. At least three seconds
- D. At least four seconds

The recommended following distance behind another vehicle is at least two seconds. This practice allows for a safe buffer between vehicles, which is especially important for reacting to sudden stops or emergencies. The two-second rule provides enough time to assess the road ahead and adapt to changing traffic conditions, enhancing overall road safety. To measure this distance, one can observe a stationary object on the side of the road when the vehicle in front passes it; if the driver reaches the same object before counting to two, it indicates that they are following too closely. Maintaining this distance helps in avoiding rear-end collisions and gives drivers adequate time to apply brakes or maneuver if necessary. Longer distances may be advisable under certain conditions, such as poor weather or heavy traffic, but two seconds is generally the standard recommended distance for safe driving in typical circumstances.

6. What is the recommended following distance behind another vehicle?

- A. At least one second**
- B. At least two seconds**
- C. At least three seconds**
- D. Only as per the vehicle's speed**

The recommended following distance behind another vehicle is at least two seconds. This guideline is based on the need for a safe buffer zone, allowing drivers enough time to react to sudden stops or emergencies from the vehicle ahead. The two-second rule helps ensure that drivers have adequate space to brake safely in various conditions, including different weather environments or when driving on unfamiliar roads. When following another vehicle, calculating the two-second gap is simple: choose a fixed point along the road, such as a sign or a tree. When the vehicle in front of you passes that point, start counting "one thousand and one, one thousand and two." If you reach the same point before finishing your count, you are too close and should increase your following distance. Having at least two seconds of following distance improves overall road safety, as it reduces the risk of rear-end collisions, especially during unpredictable situations such as sudden stops. It also encourages more attentive driving since maintaining a safer distance allows for better visibility and reaction time. In contrast, following distances less than two seconds can lead to accidents, especially in adverse weather conditions where stopping distances may need to be longer.

7. How far must you park from a crosswalk or intersection?

- A. At least 2 meters**
- B. At least 5 meters**
- C. At least 10 meters**
- D. At least 15 meters**

Parking at least 5 meters from a crosswalk or intersection is important for ensuring the safety of pedestrians and maintaining clear sightlines for all road users. This distance allows for a safer passage for pedestrians crossing at or near the crosswalk, as it provides them with a clear view of oncoming vehicles and vice versa. Additionally, maintaining this distance helps ensure that drivers can clearly see pedestrians waiting to cross and that they have sufficient space to maneuver their vehicles safely around intersections without blockage or obstruction. By adhering to this parking regulation, drivers contribute to a safer environment for everyone on the road, promoting better visibility and reducing the risk of accidents at critical points where vehicles and pedestrians converge.

8. What does the "left turn yield on green" sign indicate?

- A. You can turn left on red
- B. You may turn left on green but must yield to oncoming traffic**
- C. You must always stop before turning left
- D. You should turn left regardless of oncoming traffic

The "left turn yield on green" sign indicates that when you encounter a green light while waiting to turn left, you are permitted to make that left turn. However, it is crucial to yield to oncoming traffic. This means that while you have the right to turn, you must ensure that no vehicles approaching from the opposite direction are coming or are too close to safely complete the turn. This sign is important for traffic flow and safety, as it helps prevent collisions that could occur if a driver were to turn left without checking for oncoming vehicles. Yielding ensures that drivers making a left turn are aware of potential hazards and recognize the need to wait for a safe gap in oncoming traffic before proceeding. The other options do not accurately reflect the meaning of the sign. For instance, turning left on red is generally illegal unless specifically indicated by additional signage. Additionally, while stopping might be necessary in some situations, the sign does not command an absolute stop before turning left on green. Lastly, turning left regardless of oncoming traffic would disregard the safety protocol intended by the yield instruction.

9. How do you properly merge onto a highway?

- A. Stop first and then merge
- B. Use the acceleration lane to match the speed of traffic**
- C. Speed limit signs should guide your merging speed
- D. Wait for a gap and then accelerate

Merging onto a highway requires understanding how to seamlessly integrate into the flow of traffic while maintaining safety for everyone on the road. The correct answer emphasizes the importance of using the acceleration lane to match the speed of traffic. This approach allows a driver to gradually increase their speed to align with that of vehicles already traveling on the highway. Using the acceleration lane provides the necessary distance to adjust your speed and safely merge without causing disruption to the ongoing traffic. It creates a smooth transition from the entrance ramp onto the main roadway, which is essential for avoiding collisions and ensuring the safety of all road users. While the other options may seem relevant, they do not address the practicality of merging as effectively. For instance, stopping before merging disrupts the flow of traffic and creates hazards. Relying solely on speed limit signs without considering the current speed of traffic could lead to unsafe merging scenarios. Waiting for a gap is necessary, but failing to accelerate adequately might cause delays or force other drivers to make sudden adjustments, negating the safety of the merge. Therefore, utilizing the acceleration lane to match the speed of existing traffic is the most effective and safest method for merging onto a highway.

10. What should you do if you experience brake failure while driving?

A. Shift into neutral and steer off the road

B. Downshift and pump the brakes

C. Apply the emergency brake immediately

D. Accelerate to gain control

If you experience brake failure while driving, one of the recommended actions is to downshift and pump the brakes. This approach can help slow down the vehicle by utilizing engine braking as you shift to lower gears, which increases resistance and reduces speed. Pumping the brakes may help restore some braking pressure if there is partial failure of the brake system, allowing you to regain more control over the vehicle. While downshifting and pumping the brakes could provide the necessary deceleration, it's also important to make sure that you are aware of your surroundings and can steer your vehicle to a safe location. Other options might not provide the same level of control or could potentially worsen the situation, making it crucial to understand the best course of action in the event of brake failure.