

ICBC British Columbia Written Exam Practice Test 2026 (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	16

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

- 1. What does a stop sign require you to do?**
 - A. Come to a full stop, check for pedestrians and traffic**
 - B. Slow down and yield to oncoming vehicles**
 - C. Proceed through the intersection without stopping**
 - D. Honk to alert other drivers**
- 2. What does a solid yellow line indicate?**
 - A. No passing**
 - B. Passing allowed**
 - C. Caution ahead**
 - D. End of school zone**
- 3. What may happen if you refuse to take a breathalyzer test when asked by police?**
 - A. You will receive a warning**
 - B. Your license may be immediately suspended**
 - C. You will get another chance to take the test**
 - D. You may face a fine, but no license impact**
- 4. What must drivers do when they see an emergency vehicle with flashing lights?**
 - A. Speed up and pass it quickly**
 - B. Move to the right side of the road and stop**
 - C. Ignore the vehicle and continue driving**
 - D. Pull into a parking lot**
- 5. What does it indicate if a light is flashing red at an intersection?**
 - A. You can continue through the intersection without stopping**
 - B. Stop, then proceed when safe**
 - C. Yield to pedestrians only**
 - D. It's a malfunctioning signal**

- 6. What is the proper action to take when your vehicle starts to skid?**
- A. Turn the steering wheel in the opposite direction of the skid**
 - B. Brake hard to stop the skid**
 - C. Steer into the direction you want the front wheel to go**
 - D. Accelerate out of the skid**
- 7. What kind of insurance is mandatory for drivers in BC?**
- A. Comprehensive insurance**
 - B. Basic Autoplan insurance**
 - C. Collision insurance only**
 - D. Liability insurance only**
- 8. What is the purpose of a yield sign?**
- A. To instruct drivers to stop completely**
 - B. To indicate a speed limit of 25 mph**
 - C. To indicate that you must slow down and yield to traffic**
 - D. To require drivers to merge**
- 9. What must you do if you see a "Yield" sign?**
- A. Stop and wait for a minute**
 - B. Slow down and give way to any oncoming traffic**
 - C. Speed up to beat oncoming traffic**
 - D. Ignore it if no cars are present**
- 10. How far must you park from a fire hydrant?**
- A. At least 3 meters (9.8 feet)**
 - B. At least 5 meters (16.4 feet)**
 - C. At least 7 meters (23 feet)**
 - D. At least 10 meters (32.8 feet)**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What does a stop sign require you to do?

- A. Come to a full stop, check for pedestrians and traffic**
- B. Slow down and yield to oncoming vehicles**
- C. Proceed through the intersection without stopping**
- D. Honk to alert other drivers**

A stop sign requires you to come to a complete stop before proceeding. This rule is foundational to ensuring safety at intersections. When you encounter a stop sign, the first action is to halt your vehicle fully, which provides you the opportunity to check for pedestrians, cyclists, and other vehicles. This is essential because it helps you assess the situation at the intersection to determine whether it is safe to proceed. While other maneuvers involve yielding to traffic or approaching the intersection with caution, they do not fulfill the primary requirement of stopping. The requirement to check for pedestrians is especially crucial, as it helps prevent accidents and ensures that all road users can navigate safely. The necessity of coming to a complete stop distinguishes this rule from other traffic controls, making it clear that a stop sign commands total compliance to maximize safety at intersections.

2. What does a solid yellow line indicate?

- A. No passing**
- B. Passing allowed**
- C. Caution ahead**
- D. End of school zone**

A solid yellow line indicates that passing is not allowed in that area. This marking is used to enhance road safety by providing clear guidance to drivers about sections of the road where visibility may be limited or where the risks associated with passing are higher. When drivers see a solid yellow line, they should remain in their lane and not attempt to overtake other vehicles. This is particularly important in scenarios where oncoming traffic is present or where there are specific hazards, such as curves or intersections, that could make passing dangerous. The solid line serves as a visual warning to encourage cautious driving behavior and helps to prevent accidents in situations where lane changes could compromise safety.

3. What may happen if you refuse to take a breathalyzer test when asked by police?

- A. You will receive a warning**
- B. Your license may be immediately suspended**
- C. You will get another chance to take the test**
- D. You may face a fine, but no license impact**

Refusing to take a breathalyzer test when asked by police can lead to immediate consequences, primarily concerning your driving privileges. In British Columbia, if you decline to provide a breath sample, you are subject to immediate penalties, which may include an automatic suspension of your driver's license. Such a suspension is grounded in the principle of implied consent, where drivers are expected to comply with requests for sobriety testing when operating a motor vehicle. The rationale behind the suspension is to discourage impaired driving and ensure public safety. Law enforcement agencies are equipped to handle situations where breathalyzer tests are refused, and the severity of the measure reflects the emphasis placed on maintaining road safety standards. While other options mention warnings, chances for retesting, and fines, they do not accurately capture the severe outcome associated with refusing the test, which is an immediate suspension of the license. This strict enforcement is part of the legal framework aimed at deterring impaired driving and promoting responsible alcohol consumption among drivers.

4. What must drivers do when they see an emergency vehicle with flashing lights?

- A. Speed up and pass it quickly**
- B. Move to the right side of the road and stop**
- C. Ignore the vehicle and continue driving**
- D. Pull into a parking lot**

When drivers see an emergency vehicle with flashing lights, the correct course of action is to move to the right side of the road and stop. This action is crucial for the safety of all road users. By pulling over and stopping, drivers give the emergency vehicle, which may be responding to a critical incident, a clear path to maneuver through traffic. This response helps prevent accidents and ensures that emergency responders can reach their destination quickly. It also demonstrates respect for the urgency of the situation the emergency personnel are handling. The law mandates this behavior in most jurisdictions to facilitate the swift and safe passage of emergency vehicles. Other options, such as speeding up to pass or ignoring the emergency vehicle, can create dangerous situations that may lead to collisions. Similarly, pulling into a parking lot may not always be appropriate unless it can be done safely without obstructing traffic, and it may delay the response time of emergency services. Thus, moving to the right and stopping is the safest and most effective action to take when encountering an emergency vehicle with flashing lights.

5. What does it indicate if a light is flashing red at an intersection?

- A. You can continue through the intersection without stopping**
- B. Stop, then proceed when safe**
- C. Yield to pedestrians only**
- D. It's a malfunctioning signal**

When a traffic light is flashing red at an intersection, it indicates that a driver must come to a complete stop at the intersection. This is similar to a stop sign. After stopping, the driver may proceed only when it is safe to do so, giving consideration to other vehicles and pedestrians. The flashing red light requires clear acknowledgment from the driver that the intersection is treated as a point of caution where safety checks must be made before proceeding. In contrast, the other choices misinterpret the signals' implications. Continuing through the intersection without stopping would violate traffic rules and compromise safety. Yielding to pedestrians only does not encompass the full responsibility of a driver at a flashing red light, as it requires stopping first and checking for any oncoming traffic. Lastly, a malfunctioning signal would typically involve a different type of indication or behavior; a flashing red light is an intentional signal used for managing traffic flow, not an indication of malfunctions. Thus, the requirement to stop and then proceed when safe is the accurate interpretation of a flashing red light.

6. What is the proper action to take when your vehicle starts to skid?

- A. Turn the steering wheel in the opposite direction of the skid**
- B. Brake hard to stop the skid**
- C. Steer into the direction you want the front wheel to go**
- D. Accelerate out of the skid**

When your vehicle begins to skid, the appropriate action is to steer into the direction you want the front wheels to go. This technique is crucial because it helps regain control of the vehicle. When you're skidding, your rear wheels lose traction and slide sideways. By steering in the direction you wish to go, you can realign the vehicle's front wheels with its trajectory, allowing the tires to regain grip on the road. This method is often referred to as "counter-steering" and is essential for correcting a skid effectively. It's important to avoid over-correcting, as this can lead to losing control again. Engaging in other actions, such as turning the steering wheel in the opposite direction of the skid or braking hard, may exacerbate the situation and could lead to a loss of control. Accelerating during a skid can cause further loss of traction and increase the likelihood of a spin-out. Thus, appropriately steering into the skid is the best course of action for regaining control of your vehicle.

7. What kind of insurance is mandatory for drivers in BC?

- A. Comprehensive insurance
- B. Basic Autoplan insurance**
- C. Collision insurance only
- D. Liability insurance only

In British Columbia, the only mandatory insurance for drivers is Basic Autoplan insurance. This type of insurance covers essential aspects such as third-party liability, which protects drivers against claims from other parties if they are at fault in an accident. Additionally, it includes coverage for accident benefits, which provide support for medical expenses and rehabilitation if a driver or passenger is injured in a crash. Basic Autoplan is designed to ensure that all drivers have a minimum level of coverage to protect themselves and others on the road, promoting safety and financial responsibility. It is important for drivers in BC to understand that while other types of insurance, like comprehensive or collision insurance, can provide additional protection, they are not legally required to drive legally in the province.

8. What is the purpose of a yield sign?

- A. To instruct drivers to stop completely
- B. To indicate a speed limit of 25 mph
- C. To indicate that you must slow down and yield to traffic**
- D. To require drivers to merge

A yield sign serves the purpose of alerting drivers that they must slow down and yield to oncoming traffic or pedestrians. This sign is typically placed at intersections where the driver is expected to give way to vehicles or individuals who have the right of way. It emphasizes the need for caution and attentiveness, as the driver should be prepared to stop if necessary to avoid interfering with the flow of traffic. The importance of yielding is signified by the shape and color of the sign, which is a downward-pointing triangle colored in red and white. Recognizing this sign helps maintain safety on the road by facilitating smooth traffic movement and preventing accidents at intersections where different flows of traffic converge.

9. What must you do if you see a "Yield" sign?

- A. Stop and wait for a minute
- B. Slow down and give way to any oncoming traffic**
- C. Speed up to beat oncoming traffic
- D. Ignore it if no cars are present

When you see a "Yield" sign, the correct action is to slow down and give way to any oncoming traffic. This means that if there are other vehicles, pedestrians, or cyclists approaching, you must allow them to go first to ensure safety and smooth traffic flow. The purpose of a Yield sign is to alert drivers to give priority to others at the intersection or junction, minimizing the risk of accidents. This approach promotes defensive driving by encouraging drivers to be aware of their surroundings and adjust their speed appropriately based on the traffic conditions. It is crucial to assess whether it is safe to proceed or if stopping is necessary. The other choices highlight unsafe or inappropriate actions that do not align with traffic regulations. Stopping for an unnecessary amount of time, speeding up recklessly, or ignoring the sign when it is still applicable can lead to dangerous situations on the road. Thus, slowing down and yielding to oncoming traffic ensures everyone's safety on the road.

10. How far must you park from a fire hydrant?

- A. At least 3 meters (9.8 feet)**
- B. At least 5 meters (16.4 feet)**
- C. At least 7 meters (23 feet)**
- D. At least 10 meters (32.8 feet)**

The correct distance to park from a fire hydrant is at least 5 meters (16.4 feet). This regulation exists to ensure that emergency services have immediate access to fire hydrants in the event of a fire. If a vehicle is parked too close to a hydrant, it may obstruct the flow of water needed by firefighters, potentially complicating rescue efforts and endangering lives and property. Parking this distance away allows firefighters to operate quickly and efficiently without having to navigate around parked vehicles. Understanding this distance not only helps in following local traffic laws but also emphasizes the importance of keeping fire hydrants accessible for public safety.

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://icbcpracticeexam.examzify.com>

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