

ICBC DRIVING COMMERCIAL VEHICLES PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



Prepare with structure. Pass with confidence



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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 type of emergency supplies should be carried in a commercial vehicle?**
 - A. First aid kit, warning triangles, fire extinguisher, and basic tools
 - B. Only a first aid kit
 - C. A spare tire and basic tools only
 - D. Just a flashlight and water
- 2. What does engine braking achieve when driving a heavy vehicle?**
 - A. It increases speed without using gas
 - B. It helps slow down the vehicle without using the brakes, reducing wear
 - C. It assists in accelerating quickly from a stop
 - D. It improves fuel efficiency significantly
- 3. In a sedan-type vehicle, how many additional passengers may sit in the front seat with the driver?**
 - A. One passenger
 - B. Two passengers
 - C. Three passengers
 - D. No additional passengers are allowed
- 4. What determines the amount of off-tracking in a vehicle combination?**
 - A. Color of the vehicle
 - B. Distance between the front and rear wheels
 - C. Type of vehicle used
 - D. Weight of the vehicle
- 5. What is the legal limit for a single axle weight for commercial vehicles in BC?**
 - A. 9,100 kg (20,000 lbs)
 - B. 10,500 kg (23,000 lbs)
 - C. 8,000 kg (17,600 lbs)
 - D. 11,000 kg (24,250 lbs)

- 6. In Cycle 2, what is the maximum allowable on-duty time before mandatory time off?**
- A. 70 hours in 14 days
 - B. 100 hours in 14 days
 - C. 120 hours in 14 days
 - D. 150 hours in 14 days
- 7. What is the main function of ATC?**
- A. To improve fuel efficiency
 - B. To reduce engine power during slippery conditions
 - C. To prevent wheel lockup caused by over-braking
 - D. To transfer power to the drive wheels when traction is lost
- 8. What does the truck's air pressure gauge indicate?**
- A. The speed of the vehicle
 - B. The pressure in the vehicle's air brake system
 - C. The amount of fuel remaining
 - D. The temperature of the engine
- 9. What is the purpose of a retarding device in a commercial vehicle?**
- A. To enhance fuel efficiency
 - B. To provide auxiliary slowing of the vehicle
 - C. To maintain speed on flat roads
 - D. To replace standard brakes
- 10. Is it necessary for drivers of large trucks to stop and check their brakes if a sign is posted?**
- A. No, it's optional
 - B. Yes, it is always necessary
 - C. Only if they are new drivers
 - D. Only if they feel their brakes may be faulty

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What type of emergency supplies should be carried in a commercial vehicle?

- A. First aid kit, warning triangles, fire extinguisher, and basic tools**
- B. Only a first aid kit
- C. A spare tire and basic tools only
- D. Just a flashlight and water

Carrying a comprehensive set of emergency supplies in a commercial vehicle is essential for ensuring safety and preparedness in various situations that may arise on the road. The correct choice emphasizes the inclusion of a first aid kit, warning triangles, a fire extinguisher, and basic tools. A first aid kit is crucial for addressing any medical emergencies that may occur, providing immediate assistance until professional help can be reached. Warning triangles serve as a vital safety measure to alert other drivers in case of breakdowns or accidents, helping to prevent further incidents. A fire extinguisher is an important safety device that can help manage small fires before they escalate, protecting both the vehicle and its occupants. Basic tools are necessary for performing minor repairs or maintenance if issues arise while on the road, enabling the driver to resolve problems efficiently without needing to wait for roadside assistance. In contrast, limiting emergency supplies to just a first aid kit, a spare tire and basic tools, or minimal items like a flashlight and water leaves gaps in preparedness. Each of those alternatives omits crucial elements of safety equipment that can prevent and address more extensive emergencies. Thus, a well-rounded kit is vital for any commercial vehicle to ensure that drivers are equipped to handle a variety of unexpected situations effectively.

2. What does engine braking achieve when driving a heavy vehicle?

- A. It increases speed without using gas
- B. It helps slow down the vehicle without using the brakes, reducing wear**
- C. It assists in accelerating quickly from a stop
- D. It improves fuel efficiency significantly

Engine braking is a technique that leverages the engine's compression to slow down a vehicle, particularly heavy vehicles such as trucks. When the driver shifts into a lower gear without pressing the accelerator, the engine creates resistance against the motion of the vehicle. This resistance slows the truck down, allowing the driver to maintain control while reducing the need to apply the brake pedal. This method is beneficial because it minimizes wear on the braking system, which can be subject to significant stress, especially under heavy loads. By relying on engine braking, drivers can prolong the life of their brake components, improve overall safety by maintaining better control during descents or when slowing down, and lessen the chances of brake fade—an effect where brakes lose effectiveness due to overheating. Other options present various scenarios that do not accurately reflect the purpose or impact of engine braking. For instance, while engine braking can help manage speed without the brakes, it does not inherently increase speed or assist in rapid acceleration, nor does it directly contribute to significant fuel efficiency. Instead, the primary function of engine braking revolves around enhancing control and decreasing brake wear, leading to the correct understanding of its role in heavy vehicle operation.

3. In a sedan-type vehicle, how many additional passengers may sit in the front seat with the driver?

- A. One passenger
- B. Two passengers**
- C. Three passengers
- D. No additional passengers are allowed

In a sedan-type vehicle, the front seat typically accommodates the driver and one additional passenger. This configuration usually includes a driver's seat and a front passenger seat. Although vehicles can vary slightly, standard safety regulations and design often restrict the front seat to just two occupants to ensure safety and compliance with seatbelt laws. As such, one additional passenger is the maximum number allowed in the front seat alongside the driver, making the correct answer one passenger. The reasoning for allowing only one extra passenger centers on safety concerns. Additional passengers can interfere with the driver's ability to control the vehicle and may increase the risk of injury in the event of an accident due to inadequate space or safety restraints. It's important to pay attention to specific vehicle guidelines and local traffic legislation, which can specify seating limits and requirements to ensure safe transportation.

4. What determines the amount of off-tracking in a vehicle combination?

- A. Color of the vehicle
- B. Distance between the front and rear wheels**
- C. Type of vehicle used
- D. Weight of the vehicle

The amount of off-tracking in a vehicle combination is determined primarily by the distance between the front and rear wheels, commonly referred to as the wheelbase. Off-tracking refers to the phenomenon where the rear wheels of a trailer follow a different path than the front wheels of the towing vehicle when making a turn. A longer wheelbase results in a larger turning radius, which can affect how much off-tracking occurs. When a vehicle has a longer distance between its front and rear wheels, the angle at which the trailer pivots changes, potentially leading to more off-tracking compared to a vehicle with a shorter wheelbase. This is crucial for drivers of commercial vehicles to understand, as it can impact maneuverability in tight spaces, particularly when navigating corners or making turns. The other factors, such as the color of the vehicle, the type of vehicle used, and the weight of the vehicle, do not play a significant role in determining off-tracking. While weight can influence handling and braking, it does not inherently change the path taken by the wheels in relation to turns. Thus, focusing on the wheelbase of the vehicle provides a clear understanding of how off-tracking is affected during maneuvers.

5. What is the legal limit for a single axle weight for commercial vehicles in BC?

- A. 9,100 kg (20,000 lbs)**
- B. 10,500 kg (23,000 lbs)
- C. 8,000 kg (17,600 lbs)
- D. 11,000 kg (24,250 lbs)

The legal limit for a single axle weight for commercial vehicles in British Columbia is 9,100 kg (20,000 lbs). This weight limit is established to ensure safety on the roads, as exceeding it can lead to increased wear and tear on road infrastructure, a higher risk of accidents, and potential harm to the vehicle's handling and braking systems. By adhering to this weight limit, drivers are better positioned to maintain vehicle control, particularly during turns and in adverse conditions. Understanding and complying with these weight regulations is essential for all commercial vehicle operators to promote the safe and efficient movement of goods on the province's highways.

6. In Cycle 2, what is the maximum allowable on-duty time before mandatory time off?

- A. 70 hours in 14 days
- B. 100 hours in 14 days
- C. 120 hours in 14 days**
- D. 150 hours in 14 days

The correct answer reflects the maximum allowable on-duty time before mandatory time off for commercial drivers operating under Cycle 2 regulations. Under these guidelines, drivers can accumulate a maximum of 120 hours of on-duty time over a 14-day period. This regulation is designed to ensure that drivers have adequate rest and do not exceed safe working hours, thereby promoting safety on the roads for both the drivers and other road users. Cycle 2 specifically allows for a flexible schedule that can accommodate more demanding work cycles while still having limits that prevent fatigue. This balance is crucial for maintaining alertness and performance while driving. The other options, while they represent potential maximums in different contexts or cycles, do not align with the regulations stipulated for Cycle 2. Understanding these limits is essential for compliance with transportation regulations and for the health and safety of drivers and the general public.

7. What is the main function of ATC?

- A. To improve fuel efficiency
- B. To reduce engine power during slippery conditions
- C. To prevent wheel lockup caused by over-braking
- D. To transfer power to the drive wheels when traction is lost**

The main function of an Automatic Traction Control (ATC) system is to transfer power to the drive wheels when traction is lost. This is essential for maintaining stability and control of the vehicle in slippery or challenging driving conditions. When the ATC system detects that one or more wheels are slipping—such as on ice, snow, or gravel—it adjusts the power distribution to ensure that the wheels with better traction receive more power. This helps to prevent loss of control and promotes safer driving by enhancing the vehicle's ability to maintain traction. In addition to this primary function, ATC can also work in conjunction with other traction and stability systems, providing a more comprehensive approach to vehicle control. While improving fuel efficiency, reducing engine power, and preventing wheel lockup are all important aspects of vehicle performance and safety, they do not encompass the specific role that ATC plays in managing traction under varying conditions. Thus, the emphasis on transferring power to the drive wheels is what defines the core functionality of the ATC system.

8. What does the truck's air pressure gauge indicate?

- A. The speed of the vehicle
- B. The pressure in the vehicle's air brake system**
- C. The amount of fuel remaining
- D. The temperature of the engine

The truck's air pressure gauge indicates the pressure in the vehicle's air brake system. This is a crucial aspect for the safe operation of a commercial vehicle, as air brakes rely on compressed air to function effectively. Monitoring this gauge allows the driver to ensure that the brake system is operating within the required pressure range for optimal braking performance. If the air pressure is too low, it could signify a potential failure in the braking system, which poses a significant safety risk. Understanding the status of the air brake system through the air pressure gauge helps drivers maintain control over their vehicle. It's essential to regularly check this gauge during the pre-trip inspection and throughout the drive to ensure that the brakes will engage properly when needed.

9. What is the purpose of a retarding device in a commercial vehicle?

- A. To enhance fuel efficiency
- B. To provide auxiliary slowing of the vehicle**
- C. To maintain speed on flat roads
- D. To replace standard brakes

The purpose of a retarding device in a commercial vehicle is to provide auxiliary slowing of the vehicle. This device, which can include exhaust brakes, engine brakes, or hydraulic retarders, helps to supplement the vehicle's primary braking system, allowing for smoother and more effective deceleration, particularly on downhill slopes or when carrying heavy loads. Using a retarding device can help reduce the wear and tear on the standard braking system, preventing overheating and enhancing overall safety by providing additional control during braking situations. Proper utilization of such a system is crucial for maintaining the safety of both the driver and the vehicle, especially under challenging driving conditions. By providing a consistent and controlled deceleration, retarding devices become essential tools for professional drivers managing large vehicles, ensuring that they can respond appropriately to varying road conditions and maintain safe operating speeds.

10. Is it necessary for drivers of large trucks to stop and check their brakes if a sign is posted?

- A. No, it's optional
- B. Yes, it is always necessary**
- C. Only if they are new drivers
- D. Only if they feel their brakes may be faulty

Drivers of large trucks must always stop and check their brakes when a sign indicates this requirement. This is crucial for safety, as brake inspections help ensure that the vehicle can stop effectively, preventing accidents and ensuring the safety of both the driver and other road users. Signs that prompt a brake check are typically placed in areas that might have steep grades or conditions that can lead to brake overheating or failure. Regular brake checks are a vital part of vehicle maintenance and operation, especially for large commercial vehicles that carry heavy loads. Proper brake function is essential not only for the driver's control but also for the safety of everyone on the road. Therefore, adhering to posted signs about brake checks is not just a suggestion; it is a critical safety measure that supports responsible driving practices in commercial trucking.

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://icbcdrivingcommvehicles.examzify.com>

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

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