

ICBC Heavy Trailer Endorsement (Code 20) Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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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 is the characteristic of an air-over-hydraulic braking system?**
 - A. It uses mechanical levers for braking**
 - B. It combines air brake features with hydraulic systems**
 - C. It is solely hydraulic in nature**
 - D. It does not allow for automatic adjustments**

- 2. How can you determine the amount of air pressure in the main reservoirs?**
 - A. Using the air pressure gauge**
 - B. By watching the compressor function**
 - C. Listening for air leaks**
 - D. Looking at the brake pedal position**

- 3. What should you do to check for any air leaks from the air brake system?**
 - A. Observe the trailer lights**
 - B. Listen for any air leaks**
 - C. Inspect air lines visually**
 - D. Feel for vibrations**

- 4. What happens if the load is not adequately secured during transport?**
 - A. The load will become heavier**
 - B. There is a risk of cargo loss or accidents**
 - C. The vehicle will require more fuel**
 - D. The load will need extra dunnage**

- 5. What is a potential danger of transporting livestock?**
 - A. They require special feed**
 - B. Increased fuel consumption**
 - C. They may cause vehicle instability**
 - D. They can escape during transit**

- 6. What could be a result of combining air brake application with spring force?**
- A. Enhanced braking performance**
 - B. Increased risk of brake damage**
 - C. Faster response time during braking**
 - D. Lower braking force required**
- 7. What type of lights are required on the extremities of an oversize load for night travel?**
- A. White lights to the sides**
 - B. Amber lights to the front and red lights to the rear**
 - C. Green lights to the sides**
 - D. No lights are needed at night**
- 8. At what brake application pressure is the steering axle brake pressure approximately equal to the drive axle brake pressure?**
- A. At low application pressures**
 - B. At 40 p.s.i.**
 - C. At 60 to 70 p.s.i.**
 - D. At 50 p.s.i.**
- 9. Which of the following are smart driving techniques that can save fuel?**
- A. Accelerating rapidly from stops**
 - B. Maintaining high RPMs**
 - C. Easing off the throttle**
 - D. Driving in the wrong gear**
- 10. If the vehicle speed is doubled, how much more stopping power is required?**
- A. 2 times**
 - B. 4 times**
 - C. 8 times**
 - D. 1 time**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the characteristic of an air-over-hydraulic braking system?

A. It uses mechanical levers for braking

B. It combines air brake features with hydraulic systems

C. It is solely hydraulic in nature

D. It does not allow for automatic adjustments

An air-over-hydraulic braking system is designed to leverage the advantages of both air brakes and hydraulic systems. This characteristic means that it combines air pressure to activate a hydraulic system which can amplify the force applied at the brake pedal. The air part of the system compresses and then activates hydraulic fluid, leading to more efficient stopping power than hydraulic systems alone, particularly in heavier vehicles. This integration enhances braking performance and helps in managing the braking process effectively, especially under heavy loads. Vehicles employing this type of braking system benefit from the reliability of air brakes for large loads while utilizing the responsiveness of hydraulic brakes. This combination is key to the safety and efficiency of many commercial vehicles that require robust braking mechanisms.

2. How can you determine the amount of air pressure in the main reservoirs?

A. Using the air pressure gauge

B. By watching the compressor function

C. Listening for air leaks

D. Looking at the brake pedal position

The amount of air pressure in the main reservoirs is most accurately determined by using the air pressure gauge. This gauge provides real-time readings of the air pressure within the air reservoir system, which is essential for ensuring that the air brake system is functioning properly. Monitoring air pressure is crucial because insufficient pressure can lead to brake failure or reduced braking efficiency, creating safety hazards on the road. While watching the compressor function can give an indication of whether the system is working, it does not provide a precise measurement of the air pressure in the reservoirs. Listening for air leaks can alert the driver to potential issues within the air system but also does not provide a specific reading of pressure. Observing the brake pedal position offers no relevant information regarding air pressure levels, as it only indicates how far the pedal has been pressed, not the status of the air supply needed for braking. Thus, relying on the air pressure gauge is the most effective method for assessing the condition of the braking system.

3. What should you do to check for any air leaks from the air brake system?

- A. Observe the trailer lights**
- B. Listen for any air leaks**
- C. Inspect air lines visually**
- D. Feel for vibrations**

Listening for any air leaks is a crucial step in checking the air brake system because air leaks can significantly impair the performance and safety of the braking system. Air brake systems operate under pressure, and even a small leak can lead to a loss of pressure, which affects the brakes' effectiveness. By using your ears to detect hissing sounds or other indicators of air escaping, you can identify potential problems before they escalate into more serious safety issues. Adopting this approach allows for a thorough examination of the air brake system without requiring extensive equipment or tools, making it a practical and effective method for operators. Additionally, while the other methods might contribute to identifying issues indirectly, they do not directly target the air leaks like listening does. Observing trailer lights, inspecting air lines visually, or feeling for vibrations can provide some information about the truck's condition, but they won't specifically pinpoint problematic air leaks in the same efficient manner as auditory checks.

4. What happens if the load is not adequately secured during transport?

- A. The load will become heavier**
- B. There is a risk of cargo loss or accidents**
- C. The vehicle will require more fuel**
- D. The load will need extra dunnage**

When a load is not adequately secured during transport, there is a significant risk of cargo loss or accidents. An unsecured load can shift or fall off the vehicle, leading to dangerous situations on the road. This can result in collisions, injuries to other road users, or damage to property, making safety a primary consideration in transport operations. Moreover, the failure to secure a load properly can lead to legal repercussions for the driver or the company, as regulations typically mandate that cargo be secured to prevent these types of incidents. The potential for damage to the load itself can also lead to financial losses beyond the immediate dangers of accidents. Therefore, ensuring that all loads are properly secured is critical for safety and compliance with transport regulations.

5. What is a potential danger of transporting livestock?

- A. They require special feed**
- B. Increased fuel consumption**
- C. They may cause vehicle instability**
- D. They can escape during transit**

Transporting livestock presents various risks, and vehicle instability is a significant concern. When animals are loaded onto a trailer, their movement can shift the weight and center of gravity, affecting how the vehicle handles on the road. If the animals are unsettled, such as in response to changes in speed or sudden turns, this can lead to instability that might impact the driver's control over the vehicle. A loss of control could result in accidents or hazardous situations, making it critical for drivers to be aware of this potential danger and to secure the livestock properly. While addressing the other options can provide a broader understanding, the key point with vehicle instability is its direct impact on safety during transport. Ensuring that livestock are transported in a manner that minimizes movement can help prevent these risks and keep both the driver and other road users safe.

6. What could be a result of combining air brake application with spring force?

- A. Enhanced braking performance**
- B. Increased risk of brake damage**
- C. Faster response time during braking**
- D. Lower braking force required**

Combining air brake application with spring force can indeed lead to an increased risk of brake damage. In air brake systems, springs are used in various components, such as the parking brake, to ensure that the brakes engage when needed. When both air and mechanical spring forces are applied simultaneously, it can create excessive pressure and stress on the braking components. This may lead to overheating, premature wear, or even total failure of the braking system if the components are not designed to handle such combined forces. Understanding the interaction between air brakes and mechanical systems is vital for maintaining vehicle safety. Properly calibrated and maintained brakes are essential to ensure the longevity of the braking system and the overall safety of the vehicle. In contrast to the options that suggest improvements in performance or efficiency, the reality is that this combination can cause detrimental effects that might compromise the system's integrity over time.

7. What type of lights are required on the extremities of an oversize load for night travel?

A. White lights to the sides

B. Amber lights to the front and red lights to the rear

C. Green lights to the sides

D. No lights are needed at night

The requirement for amber lights at the front and red lights at the rear of an oversize load for night travel is crucial for safety. These color specifications help in alerting other drivers about the dimensions and the presence of the oversized load. Amber lights at the front serve as a caution to oncoming traffic, indicating that there is a larger vehicle ahead, while red lights at the rear signal that there is something behind that may extend beyond the usual vehicle dimensions. This color coding is standardized to ensure that the visibility of oversized loads is maximized, particularly during low visibility conditions such as night time. Proper lighting not only enhances safety for the driver of the oversize load but also for all other road users who need to be informed of potential hazards in their vicinity.

8. At what brake application pressure is the steering axle brake pressure approximately equal to the drive axle brake pressure?

A. At low application pressures

B. At 40 p.s.i.

C. At 60 to 70 p.s.i.

D. At 50 p.s.i.

The correct answer indicates that at brake application pressures ranging from 60 to 70 p.s.i., the braking force applied to the steering axle becomes approximately equal to that of the drive axle. This balance is crucial for maintaining vehicle control and stability during braking, especially in larger commercial vehicles. When brakes are engaged, the distribution of brake force between the axles is essential for keeping the vehicle stable. At pressures lower than this range, such as low application pressures or around 40 p.s.i., it is common for the steering axle to have disproportionately lower braking force compared to the drive axle. This can lead to reduced steering control and potential underperformance in braking. At pressures around 50 p.s.i., while there may be some parity, it is not until you reach the 60 to 70 p.s.i. range that the braking forces truly balance out, optimizing responsiveness and safety. Understanding this pressure relationship helps drivers to better manage braking dynamics, especially when operating heavier trailers.

9. Which of the following are smart driving techniques that can save fuel?

- A. Accelerating rapidly from stops**
- B. Maintaining high RPMs**
- C. Easing off the throttle**
- D. Driving in the wrong gear**

Easing off the throttle is indeed a smart driving technique that can significantly save fuel. This method involves reducing the pressure on the accelerator, which leads to a smoother and more gradual increase in speed rather than a rapid acceleration. When drivers ease off the throttle, the vehicle can operate at lower RPMs, allowing the engine to be more fuel-efficient as it consumes less fuel at lower speeds. This practice not only conserves fuel but also helps in minimizing wear and tear on the vehicle's mechanical components. In contrast, methods such as accelerating rapidly from stops or maintaining high RPMs can lead to increased fuel consumption. Rapid accelerations demand more energy, resulting in increased fuel usage, while high engine RPMs typically indicate that the engine is working harder and consuming more fuel. Driving in the wrong gear can also result in inefficient fuel use since the engine may be overworked or under-utilized, leading to unnecessary fuel expenditure.

10. If the vehicle speed is doubled, how much more stopping power is required?

- A. 2 times**
- B. 4 times**
- C. 8 times**
- D. 1 time**

When the speed of a vehicle is doubled, the stopping power required increases by a factor of four. This relationship is derived from the physics of motion, specifically the formula for kinetic energy. The kinetic energy of a vehicle, which is the energy it possesses due to its motion, is proportional to the square of its velocity. This means that if you double the speed of the vehicle, the kinetic energy increases by a factor of four (since 2 squared is 4). When a driver applies the brakes, that kinetic energy has to be dissipated through the braking system. Therefore, to bring the vehicle to a stop, the brakes must exert four times the amount of stopping power compared to the amount required at the original speed. Understanding this principle is crucial for safe driving, especially when operating heavy trailers, as it emphasizes the importance of maintaining appropriate speeds and the need for adequate stopping distance. Consequently, the requirement for stopping power significantly increases with speed, highlighting the risks associated with high-speed driving and the increased severity of braking requirements.

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://icbcode20.examzify.com>

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

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