# Idaho Written Driver's License Practice Test (Sample)

**Study Guide** 



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## **Questions**



- 1. What does the Idaho DMV recommend regarding seatbelt use?
  - A. It is optional for all passengers
  - B. Only the driver is required to wear one
  - C. It should be worn by all passengers in the vehicle
  - D. Children under 12 do not need one
- 2. Which of the following is true about using a cell phone while driving in Idaho?
  - A. It is legal to make calls while driving
  - B. Texting while driving is prohibited for all drivers
  - C. Only commercial drivers are prohibited from using phones
  - D. Hands-free devices are not allowed
- 3. What is the maximum speed limit on rural interstates in Idaho?
  - A. 65 mph
  - B. 70 mph
  - C. 75 mph
  - D. 80 mph
- 4. What does a yield sign indicate?
  - A. You must come to a complete stop
  - B. Speed up to merge safely
  - C. Slow down and give way to traffic or pedestrians
  - D. Proceed without stopping
- 5. What action should you take if you encounter a yield sign?
  - A. Speed up
  - B. Come to a complete stop
  - C. Slow down and yield to traffic
  - D. Ignore the sign if the road is clear

- 6. Under what circumstance may you legally exceed the speed limit?
  - A. To keep up with traffic
  - B. To pass another vehicle
  - C. Never
  - D. In emergencies only
- 7. Why is it important to maintain a safe following distance?
  - A. To allow ample time to react in emergencies
  - B. To drive closely to save fuel
  - C. To reduce vehicle wear and tear
  - D. To encourage aggressive driving
- 8. What should you do when entering a freeway with an acceleration lane?
  - A. Stop completely before merging
  - B. Adjust your speed to merge smoothly
  - C. Force your way into traffic
  - D. Turn around and find a different route
- 9. Which hand and arm signal indicates a right turn?
  - A. Hand and arm straight out
  - B. Hand and arm upward
  - C. Hand and arm bent down
  - D. Hand and arm at a 45-degree angle
- 10. When passing another vehicle on a two-way, two-lane highway, when must you complete the pass?
  - A. Within 50 feet of oncoming traffic
  - B. Before coming within 100 feet of oncoming traffic
  - C. Before coming within 200 feet of oncoming traffic
  - D. Whenever safe to do so

### **Answers**



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



## **Explanations**



# 1. What does the Idaho DMV recommend regarding seatbelt use?

- A. It is optional for all passengers
- B. Only the driver is required to wear one
- C. It should be worn by all passengers in the vehicle
- D. Children under 12 do not need one

The Idaho DMV strongly emphasizes the importance of seatbelt use for safety, recommending that all passengers in a vehicle should wear seatbelts. This recommendation is based on extensive research that demonstrates seatbelts significantly reduce the risk of injury or death in the event of an accident. The law reflects a commitment to ensuring the safety of everyone in the vehicle, not just the driver. By encouraging all passengers to buckle up, the DMV aims to promote responsible behavior and enhance overall safety on the road. Additionally, many states have specific laws that require all occupants to wear seatbelts, making it a standard practice for safe driving.

# 2. Which of the following is true about using a cell phone while driving in Idaho?

- A. It is legal to make calls while driving
- B. Texting while driving is prohibited for all drivers
- C. Only commercial drivers are prohibited from using phones
- D. Hands-free devices are not allowed

In Idaho, texting while driving is indeed prohibited for all drivers, making the option regarding the prohibition of texting the correct answer. This law is in place to enhance road safety, as texting significantly distracts a driver's attention from the road, thereby increasing the risk of accidents. The legislation reflects a growing recognition of the dangers associated with distracted driving, especially through activities such as texting, which requires visual and manual attention. The other options do not hold true within Idaho's regulations for cell phone use while driving. For instance, making calls while driving is generally legal, though it is advisable to use hands-free devices to minimize distractions. The prohibition on texting applies universally to all drivers, not just commercial ones. Additionally, hands-free devices are indeed allowed and encouraged to help reduce distractions while still enabling communication on the road.

# 3. What is the maximum speed limit on rural interstates in Idaho?

- A. 65 mph
- B. 70 mph
- C. 75 mph
- D. 80 mph

The maximum speed limit on rural interstates in Idaho is set at 75 mph. This speed limit reflects the state's consideration for safe and efficient travel on interstate highways while accommodating various factors such as road conditions, traffic density, and safety practices. By establishing this limit, Idaho aims to promote safe driving behaviors while also recognizing that rural interstates are typically designed for higher speeds due to their engineering and structure. This allows drivers to maintain a reasonable pace that is consistent with traffic flow and reduces the likelihood of accidents caused by drastic speed differences among vehicles.

#### 4. What does a yield sign indicate?

- A. You must come to a complete stop
- B. Speed up to merge safely
- C. Slow down and give way to traffic or pedestrians
- D. Proceed without stopping

A yield sign indicates the need to slow down and give way to traffic or pedestrians that have the right of way. When you approach a yield sign, you should be prepared to stop if necessary. This traffic control device is meant to alert drivers that they are entering an intersection or merging with another roadway where other vehicles or pedestrians may already be present. By slowing down and yielding, you help ensure safety for everyone on the road. In contrast, other options suggest actions that would not be appropriate when encountering a yield sign. Coming to a complete stop is not required unless traffic conditions dictate it, speeding up to merge goes against the intention of yielding, and proceeding without stopping could lead to dangerous situations if other vehicles or pedestrians are present. Therefore, understanding the role of a yield sign is crucial for safe driving practices.

### 5. What action should you take if you encounter a yield sign?

- A. Speed up
- B. Come to a complete stop
- C. Slow down and yield to traffic
- D. Ignore the sign if the road is clear

When you encounter a yield sign, the appropriate action is to slow down and yield to oncoming traffic or pedestrians. This sign indicates that you must allow other vehicles or individuals the right of way before proceeding. It is essential to be cautious and aware of the traffic around you, as there may be other vehicles that are already in the intersection or crossing your path. Yielding means that if the road is clear, you can proceed without coming to a complete stop; however, if there are vehicles or pedestrians, you must wait until it's safe to continue. This understanding helps maintain safe traffic flow and reduces the risk of accidents. In contrast, speeding up could lead to dangerous situations, particularly if there's oncoming traffic. Coming to a complete stop is unnecessary unless traffic requires it, as the yield sign allows for a more fluid movement when conditions are safe. Ignoring the sign can create hazards for other road users, thus violating traffic laws and endangering everyone on the road.

# 6. Under what circumstance may you legally exceed the speed limit?

- A. To keep up with traffic
- B. To pass another vehicle
- C. Never
- D. In emergencies only

The correct answer is that you may never legally exceed the speed limit. Speed limits are established for safety reasons, serving to protect all road users by ensuring predictable driving behavior. Regardless of the situation, such as keeping pace with traffic, attempting to pass another vehicle, or even in emergency situations, exceeding the speed limit is against the law. Adhering to posted speed limits is crucial; it allows drivers to maintain control of their vehicles and react appropriately to changing road conditions or potential hazards. There are also legal consequences for speed limit violations, emphasizing the importance of following these regulations at all times.

### 7. Why is it important to maintain a safe following distance?

- A. To allow ample time to react in emergencies
- B. To drive closely to save fuel
- C. To reduce vehicle wear and tear
- D. To encourage aggressive driving

Maintaining a safe following distance is crucial primarily because it allows ample time to react in emergencies. Keeping an adequate space between your vehicle and the one in front of you gives you more time to assess potential hazards, such as sudden stops, obstacles in the road, or erratic behavior from other drivers. This buffer zone is essential for safely braking or maneuvering to avoid a collision. When drivers follow too closely, they have less time to respond to unexpected situations, increasing the likelihood of rear-end accidents. A safe distance not only supports individual safety but also contributes to overall traffic flow and road safety, as it reduces the chance of sudden stops causing a chain reaction of collisions. Therefore, understanding and practicing safe following distances is a key principle in defensive driving.

# 8. What should you do when entering a freeway with an acceleration lane?

- A. Stop completely before merging
- B. Adjust your speed to merge smoothly
- C. Force your way into traffic
- D. Turn around and find a different route

When entering a freeway that has an acceleration lane, it is essential to adjust your speed to merge smoothly with the traffic already on the freeway. The purpose of the acceleration lane is to give drivers the opportunity to increase their speed to match that of the vehicles on the freeway, facilitating a smoother transition. Merging at the correct speed allows for a safer and more efficient integration into the flow of traffic, reducing the likelihood of accidents or disruptions. Drivers should assess the speed of the vehicles in the lane they are merging into and adjust their acceleration accordingly, allowing for a seamless entry without abrupt stops or slowdowns that could create hazards for themselves and others. Stopping completely before merging, forcing your way into traffic, or turning around would not be safe or advisable actions, as they could lead to dangerous situations or traffic disruptions. Adjusting speed correctly is the safest approach and aligns with the principles of safe and responsible driving.

### 9. Which hand and arm signal indicates a right turn?

- A. Hand and arm straight out
- B. Hand and arm upward
- C. Hand and arm bent down
- D. Hand and arm at a 45-degree angle

The signal indicating a right turn is represented by the hand and arm being raised upward. This position clearly communicates the driver's intent to other road users, making it an effective way to ensure safety on the road. In contrast, the other signals represent different actions: the hand and arm straight out denotes a left turn, the hand and arm bent down indicates a stop, and the 45-degree angle typically does not signify any standard maneuver recognized by traffic laws. Understanding these signals enhances communication among drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians and is vital for safe driving practices.

- 10. When passing another vehicle on a two-way, two-lane highway, when must you complete the pass?
  - A. Within 50 feet of oncoming traffic
  - B. Before coming within 100 feet of oncoming traffic
  - C. Before coming within 200 feet of oncoming traffic
  - D. Whenever safe to do so

When passing another vehicle on a two-way, two-lane highway, it is crucial to ensure not only the safety of the maneuver but also adherence to traffic regulations. Completing the pass before coming within 200 feet of oncoming traffic is designed to minimize the risk of collision. This distance allows ample room for the driver to return to their lane and ensures that there is sufficient space between the vehicles. The regulation emphasizes the importance of situational awareness and the need to avoid dangerous scenarios that could arise from abrupt lane changes in close proximity to oncoming vehicles. Maintaining this distance helps to ensure that drivers have the necessary time and visibility to judge the oncoming traffic's speed and distance, significantly enhancing overall road safety.