

Mississippi Driver's Permit & License Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. What must you do when slowing down or stopping while driving?**
 - A. Use your horn to alert drivers behind you**
 - B. Use arm signals or the brake-operated lights**
 - C. Flash your headlights**
 - D. Slowly pull over to the shoulder**
- 2. What must you do whenever a school bus is stopped and children are getting on or off?**
 - A. Speed up to pass quickly**
 - B. Stop**
 - C. Honk your horn**
 - D. Change lanes**
- 3. What is the recommended action if you feel unsure about yielding the right of way?**
 - A. Assert your right to go first**
 - B. Wait for a police officer's direction**
 - C. Defer to the person on the right**
 - D. Speed through the intersection**
- 4. What percentage of accidents are typically caused by drivers?**
 - A. 75%**
 - B. 80%**
 - C. 85%**
 - D. 90%**
- 5. In Mississippi, what should you do if you encounter a flooded road?**
 - A. Drive through quickly to avoid the water**
 - B. Turn around and find an alternate route**
 - C. Stop and wait for the water to recede**
 - D. Drive cautiously and keep moving**

- 6. How far before a turn should you begin signaling and slow down?**
- A. 50 feet**
 - B. 100 feet**
 - C. 150 feet**
 - D. 200 feet**
- 7. What is the safest practice when overtaking a vehicle on a two-lane highway?**
- A. Honk to alert the vehicle being passed**
 - B. Cut back in as soon as possible**
 - C. Be sure you can see the vehicle being passed in your rearview mirror**
 - D. Signal before you overtake**
- 8. If your vehicle develops a flat tire or has a blowout, what should you do?**
- A. Apply your brakes suddenly**
 - B. Turn off your engine immediately**
 - C. Slowly apply the brakes**
 - D. Steer sharply to the side of the road**
- 9. At what speed should you generally be driving in a school zone?**
- A. 25 mph**
 - B. 15 mph**
 - C. 35 mph**
 - D. 10 mph**
- 10. What should you do when a law enforcement officer is directing traffic?**
- A. Continue driving as normal**
 - B. Follow his instructions, which override signals and signs**
 - C. Wait for the officer to finish before proceeding**
 - D. Only follow signs, not the officer's instructions**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What must you do when slowing down or stopping while driving?

- A. Use your horn to alert drivers behind you**
- B. Use arm signals or the brake-operated lights**
- C. Flash your headlights**
- D. Slowly pull over to the shoulder**

When slowing down or stopping while driving, it is essential to use arm signals or the brake-operated lights to communicate your intentions to other drivers on the road. This communication is vital for safety, as it informs those behind you of your actions and allows them to adjust their speed accordingly. Using brake lights is a standard practice that activates with your vehicle's brakes, providing a clear signal that you are reducing speed or coming to a stop. For additional clarity, especially in instances where you might be signaling a turn or lane change in areas where it's safe to do so, using arm signals can further enhance communication with nearby drivers. Other methods like honking your horn, flashing headlights, or pulling over to the shoulder do not effectively convey your intention to slow down or stop; they can confuse other drivers or create hazardous situations. Clear signaling through brake lights and arm signals helps maintain a safer driving environment by ensuring all road users are aware of your actions.

2. What must you do whenever a school bus is stopped and children are getting on or off?

- A. Speed up to pass quickly**
- B. Stop**
- C. Honk your horn**
- D. Change lanes**

When a school bus is stopped and children are getting on or off, it is crucial to stop your vehicle. This action is mandated by law to ensure the safety of children as they board or exit the bus. When a school bus is displaying its stop sign and red flashing lights, it indicates that children may be crossing the road, and drivers must come to a complete stop. Stopping provides a safe environment for children, who may be distracted or unsure about their surroundings. It is essential for all motorists to recognize that children may not be aware of the dangers of traffic and may act unpredictably, which is why stopping is a critical safety measure. Failing to stop not only endangers the lives of children but can also result in significant legal penalties, including fines or points on a driver's record. Therefore, when encountering a stopped school bus with its warning signals activated, stopping your vehicle is the right and responsible action.

3. What is the recommended action if you feel unsure about yielding the right of way?

- A. Assert your right to go first**
- B. Wait for a police officer's direction**
- C. Defer to the person on the right**
- D. Speed through the intersection**

Deferring to the person on the right is the recommended action when you're unsure about yielding the right of way because it aligns with the fundamental right-of-way rules that govern traffic flow at intersections. When two vehicles approach an intersection simultaneously, traffic regulations typically dictate that the vehicle on the right has the right of way. This principle helps to prevent confusion and enhances safety, as it provides a clear guideline for drivers in uncertain situations. By yielding to the vehicle on your right, you are making a cautious decision that prioritizes safety over assertiveness. Maintaining awareness of traffic rules and executing defensive driving techniques is crucial in situations where yielding the right of way may be ambiguous.

4. What percentage of accidents are typically caused by drivers?

- A. 75%**
- B. 80%**
- C. 85%**
- D. 90%**

The figure of 85% reflects a commonly accepted statistic regarding the role of driver behavior in traffic accidents. This percentage indicates that a significant majority of accidents can be attributed to actions or decisions made by drivers, such as distracted driving, speeding, failure to yield, or drunk driving. This statistic highlights the crucial importance of responsible driving. It underscores the need for drivers to remain vigilant and maintain awareness while on the road since a large portion of traffic incidents stem from human error. Understanding that most accidents result from driver decisions emphasizes the necessity for ongoing education, adherence to traffic laws, and safe driving practices to reduce the frequency of these incidents. This knowledge also encourages the implementation of preventative measures, such as driver training programs and campaigns to raise awareness about safe driving, ultimately aiming to lower that percentage and enhance road safety.

5. In Mississippi, what should you do if you encounter a flooded road?

- A. Drive through quickly to avoid the water**
- B. Turn around and find an alternate route**
- C. Stop and wait for the water to recede**
- D. Drive cautiously and keep moving**

When you encounter a flooded road in Mississippi, the safest course of action is to turn around and find an alternate route. Flooded roads can pose serious hazards; even a small amount of water can cause your vehicle to lose traction or be swept away. Additionally, the true depth and strength of the water are often difficult to assess, making it risky to attempt to drive through it. Choosing to find an alternative route ensures your safety and prevents potential vehicle damage or accidents. Taking proactive measures to avoid flooded areas is crucial, especially during heavy rain or when flash flooding is a concern. This approach keeps you and others safe while minimizing the chance of having to make a dangerous decision in the moment, such as driving through rising water.

6. How far before a turn should you begin signaling and slow down?

- A. 50 feet**
- B. 100 feet**
- C. 150 feet**
- D. 200 feet**

Signaling before a turn is essential for ensuring safety on the road by alerting other drivers and pedestrians of your intended actions. In Mississippi, the guideline is to signal your intentions at least 100 feet before making a turn. This distance gives sufficient time for drivers and cyclists around you to react appropriately. Slowing down is equally important, as it prepares your vehicle to navigate the turn safely and helps to maintain control. Signaling and slowing down in advance also contributes to a smoother flow of traffic, reducing the risk of accidents caused by sudden stops or maneuvers. Thus, beginning to signal and reducing speed at least 100 feet before the turn aligns with safe driving practices and is a requirement specified in the Mississippi Driver's Handbook.

7. What is the safest practice when overtaking a vehicle on a two-lane highway?

A. Honk to alert the vehicle being passed

B. Cut back in as soon as possible

C. Be sure you can see the vehicle being passed in your rearview mirror

D. Signal before you overtake

The safest practice when overtaking a vehicle on a two-lane highway is to ensure you can see the vehicle being passed in your rearview mirror. This indicates that you have successfully completed the maneuver and that it is safe to return to your lane. By confirming that the overtaken vehicle is no longer in your blind spot, you reduce the risk of a collision. This practice promotes awareness of your surroundings and ensures that the lane is clear behind you, which is crucial for safely merging back after passing. Considering the other choices, using your horn to alert the vehicle being passed may create confusion or anxiety, and it can be unnecessary and potentially distracting. Cutting back into your lane too soon can pose risks if the vehicle you have overtaken is not sufficiently behind you, increasing the chance of side-swiping. Signaling before overtaking is important, but it alone does not ensure that the maneuver is safe; visibility of the vehicle being passed in your rearview mirror is a more critical factor for safe lane changes.

8. If your vehicle develops a flat tire or has a blowout, what should you do?

A. Apply your brakes suddenly

B. Turn off your engine immediately

C. Slowly apply the brakes

D. Steer sharply to the side of the road

When your vehicle develops a flat tire or experiences a blowout, the best course of action is to slowly apply the brakes. This method allows you to gradually reduce your speed without losing control of the vehicle. The key here is to remain steady and not to make any abrupt movements that may cause the vehicle to skid or swerve. Suddenly applying the brakes can lead to a loss of control, especially if the tire blowout causes the vehicle to pull to one side. Turning off the engine immediately is not advisable since it can impair your ability to steer and maintain control. Steering sharply to the side of the road could also lead to a dangerous loss of control, especially if there are other vehicles or obstacles nearby. By taking a slow and deliberate approach to braking, you give yourself the best chance to maneuver to a safe spot on the side of the road, where you can stop the vehicle and assess the situation safely.

9. At what speed should you generally be driving in a school zone?

- A. 25 mph**
- B. 15 mph**
- C. 35 mph**
- D. 10 mph**

In a school zone, the speed limit is typically set to enhance the safety of children who may be crossing the street to reach school or waiting at bus stops. Driving at 15 mph in a school zone is designed to allow drivers ample time to react to any sudden movements by pedestrians, especially children who may not always be aware of their surroundings. This reduced speed limit aims to create a safer environment where the risk of accidents is minimized while children are present. School zones often have clear signage indicating the reduced speed limit, and these limits are enforceable during specific times when children are arriving or departing from school. Therefore, adhering to a speed limit of 15 mph is crucial in promoting safety and ensuring that drivers can safely navigate these areas during high-traffic times for schoolchildren. It's also important to note that exceeding this speed limit could lead to fines or other penalties, as well as posing a danger to children.

10. What should you do when a law enforcement officer is directing traffic?

- A. Continue driving as normal**
- B. Follow his instructions, which override signals and signs**
- C. Wait for the officer to finish before proceeding**
- D. Only follow signs, not the officer's instructions**

When a law enforcement officer is directing traffic, the correct response is to follow their instructions, which take precedence over normal traffic signals and signs. Officers are trained to manage traffic flow and ensure safety on the roads, using their authority to direct drivers when needed. Traffic signals and road signs are designed for general situations; however, they may not account for unique circumstances that an officer is addressing in real-time, such as an accident, road construction, or other hazards. Following the officer's instructions ensures that you are complying with the most relevant guidance pertinent to the current traffic scenario, even if it contradicts what the traffic signals or signs indicate. This action not only promotes safety but also assists in maintaining an orderly flow of traffic in situations where the ordinary rules may not apply. In contrast, continuing to drive as normal could lead to confusion and accidents, waiting for the officer to finish may not always be practical or necessary, and disregarding the officer's instructions in favor of sign compliance undermines their authority and could compromise safety.