

# NOLA Driving Institute - Driving (Road Skills) Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



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**SAMPLE**

## **Questions**

- 1. What action should you take if you see a school bus with its stop sign extended?**
  - A. Slow down and pass cautiously**
  - B. Stop and wait until the sign is retracted**
  - C. Honk your horn to alert the children**
  - D. Speed past carefully**
- 2. What is the rule regarding wearing headphones while driving?**
  - A. It is prohibited to wear headphones**
  - B. You can wear them in both ears**
  - C. You can wear them in one ear only**
  - D. Only for listening to directions**
- 3. Which color is specifically used for warning signs related to pedestrian crossings?**
  - A. Fluorescent yellow/green**
  - B. Blue**
  - C. Black**
  - D. Red**
- 4. What should you not drive slower or faster than?**
  - A. No slower than the maximum speed**
  - B. No slower than minimum speed and no faster than maximum speed**
  - C. No slower than the speed limit posted**
  - D. No faster than half the speed limit**
- 5. How long can a vehicle float on water before sinking?**
  - A. 10-20 seconds**
  - B. 30-60 seconds**
  - C. 1-2 minutes**
  - D. 5 minutes or more**

- 6. What action should be taken when approaching a school bus with its lights flashing?**
- A. Pass the bus quickly**
  - B. Stop your vehicle**
  - C. Honk to alert the driver**
  - D. Proceed cautiously**
- 7. What should be your main focus when experiencing a vehicular emergency?**
- A. Documenting the incident**
  - B. Ensuring personal safety**
  - C. Finding a cell signal**
  - D. Moving the vehicle to a garage**
- 8. How should you properly wear a seatbelt?**
- A. Loosely over your waist**
  - B. Tightly over your waist and shoulder**
  - C. Only over your waist**
  - D. Across your lap only**
- 9. What feature is common to all regulatory signs?**
- A. Provide warnings**
  - B. Indicate directions**
  - C. Inform about specific laws**
  - D. Describe point of interests**
- 10. What is the main function of road signs?**
- A. To decorate the roadway**
  - B. To provide information and instructions to drivers**
  - C. To promote tourism**
  - D. To indicate vehicle speed limits only**

## **Answers**

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

## **Explanations**

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**1. What action should you take if you see a school bus with its stop sign extended?**

- A. Slow down and pass cautiously**
- B. Stop and wait until the sign is retracted**
- C. Honk your horn to alert the children**
- D. Speed past carefully**

When you see a school bus with its stop sign extended, the appropriate action is to stop and wait until the sign is retracted. This is a critical safety measure designed to protect children who may be getting on or off the bus. The extension of the stop sign indicates that students are in the vicinity and that vehicles must come to a complete stop to ensure their safety. This rule is enforced to prevent accidents, as children are often unpredictable and may cross the street suddenly. It's important to remain stopped until the bus signals that it is safe to proceed, which is typically indicated by the retracting of the stop sign and the lights turning off. Recognizing and following this rule is essential for both legal compliance and the safety of children near school buses.

**2. What is the rule regarding wearing headphones while driving?**

- A. It is prohibited to wear headphones**
- B. You can wear them in both ears**
- C. You can wear them in one ear only**
- D. Only for listening to directions**

Wearing headphones while driving can significantly hinder a driver's ability to hear important sounds in their environment, such as sirens, horns, and other noises that are critical for safe driving. The rule allowing headphones in only one ear is designed to strike a balance between enjoying personal audio and maintaining awareness of the surroundings. By using just one ear, drivers can still engage with their audio while staying attuned to traffic sounds and alerts that may require their attention. The guidelines discourage wearing headphones in both ears, as this can create a dangerous situation where a driver may miss vital auditory cues necessary for safe navigation on the road. As for the other choices, the reasoning against prohibiting headphones entirely or allowing them in both ears relates to the dangers of reduced situational awareness, and only allowing them for directions can limit personal freedom and enjoyment for drivers who might be responsible enough to use audio in moderation.

**3. Which color is specifically used for warning signs related to pedestrian crossings?**

**A. Fluorescent yellow/green**

**B. Blue**

**C. Black**

**D. Red**

Fluorescent yellow/green is the color specifically designated for warning signs concerning pedestrian crossings. This vibrant hue is highly visible and effectively attracts the attention of drivers, alerting them to the presence of pedestrian activities in the area. The use of fluorescent yellow/green not only enhances visibility in various lighting conditions, such as dusk or dawn, but also signifies caution, making it a crucial choice for signs that indicate potential hazards, especially those involving pedestrians. The other colors mentioned do not serve the same purpose. Blue typically signals information about services or directions rather than caution. Black is often used for regulatory and informational signs, while red signifies stop or prohibitive actions, not warnings related to pedestrian crossings. Therefore, fluorescent yellow/green is the most appropriate color for this critical safety feature.

**4. What should you not drive slower or faster than?**

**A. No slower than the maximum speed**

**B. No slower than minimum speed and no faster than maximum speed**

**C. No slower than the speed limit posted**

**D. No faster than half the speed limit**

The correct response highlights the importance of adhering to both minimum and maximum speed limits for safe driving. Maintaining a speed above the minimum ensures that vehicles are not traveling too slowly, which can cause obstructions and increase the risk of accidents, especially on highways where traffic is moving at higher speeds. On the other hand, staying below the maximum speed limit is essential to align with legal guidelines and ensure road safety. By keeping within these parameters, drivers help promote a smooth flow of traffic and reduce the likelihood of collisions caused by sudden changes in speed. It is critical for drivers to be aware of both the minimum and maximum speed limits to ensure they are complying with traffic laws and prioritizing safety for themselves and other road users.

**5. How long can a vehicle float on water before sinking?**

- A. 10-20 seconds**
- B. 30-60 seconds**
- C. 1-2 minutes**
- D. 5 minutes or more**

The ability of a vehicle to float on water before sinking is influenced by various factors, including the vehicle's buoyancy, design, and whether the doors or windows have been breached, which can let water in and lead to sinking. Choosing the duration of 30-60 seconds for how long a vehicle can float is based on the average scenario in which a vehicle may maintain buoyancy for a brief period while water begins to fill the cabin. Most vehicles are designed with a certain level of buoyancy due to air trapped in the closed compartments, allowing them to float momentarily when first entering the water. However, this time is limited as the vehicle will eventually become waterlogged and unable to remain afloat. In a real-life situation, the precise time a vehicle floats before sinking can vary widely depending on its design and conditions. Nonetheless, a duration of 30-60 seconds is most commonly cited as a reasonable estimate for how long a typical vehicle might float, balancing the vehicle's initial buoyant state against the water intake that ultimately leads to sinking. The choice reflecting 1-2 minutes or longer may overestimate the time a vehicle can actually stay afloat, as it dramatically exceeds the average experience, while the shorter durations provide a more immediate sense

**6. What action should be taken when approaching a school bus with its lights flashing?**

- A. Pass the bus quickly**
- B. Stop your vehicle**
- C. Honk to alert the driver**
- D. Proceed cautiously**

When approaching a school bus with its lights flashing, the appropriate action is to stop your vehicle. This response is critical for the safety of children boarding or exiting the bus. School buses are equipped with flashing lights and extended stop signs as warning signals, indicating that children may be crossing the road. By stopping, you ensure that children can safely enter or leave the bus without the risk of being hit by a vehicle. This action also complies with traffic laws in many jurisdictions, which require vehicles to stop when encountering a school bus with its warning lights activated. It's essential to remain stopped until the lights turn off and the bus resumes its normal operation. This precaution reinforces community safety and protects the most vulnerable road users—students.

**7. What should be your main focus when experiencing a vehicular emergency?**

- A. Documenting the incident**
- B. Ensuring personal safety**
- C. Finding a cell signal**
- D. Moving the vehicle to a garage**

In the event of a vehicular emergency, your primary focus should be on ensuring personal safety. This involves assessing the situation to protect yourself, your passengers, and other road users. The immediate actions you take can prevent injury; for instance, moving to a safe location away from traffic or using hazard lights to alert other drivers is crucial. In emergencies like a breakdown or collision, if safety is compromised, the situation can escalate, leading to further accidents or injuries. By prioritizing safety, you create an environment where you can later address other aspects of the situation, such as seeking help or documenting the incident, without the risk of harm. Other options, while perhaps relevant in some contexts, distract from the urgent need to prioritize well-being in a crisis. Focusing on documenting the incident, finding a cell signal, or moving the vehicle may not only complicate the situation but could also lead to unsafe conditions if personal safety is disregarded.

**8. How should you properly wear a seatbelt?**

- A. Loosely over your waist**
- B. Tightly over your waist and shoulder**
- C. Only over your waist**
- D. Across your lap only**

Wearing a seatbelt properly is crucial for ensuring your safety while driving. The correct method involves placing the seatbelt tightly over both your waist and shoulder. This configuration is designed to distribute the force of a collision across the strongest parts of your body, which helps to minimize injury during an accident. When the seatbelt is secured over your shoulder and across your waist, it keeps you firmly in your seat, preventing excessive movement that could lead to serious injuries. A properly adjusted seatbelt should fit snugly against your body without any slack, ensuring effective protection in the event of a crash. In contrast, wearing the seatbelt loosely, only across the waist, or just across the lap compromises its effectiveness and increases the risk of injury. Each of these improper methods fails to secure the occupant adequately during an impact, which could lead to serious consequences in a collision. Therefore, the safest way to wear a seatbelt is across both the waist and shoulder, providing comprehensive protection.

## 9. What feature is common to all regulatory signs?

- A. Provide warnings
- B. Indicate directions
- C. Inform about specific laws**
- D. Describe point of interests

Regulatory signs play a crucial role in traffic management as they are designed to communicate specific laws and regulations that drivers must follow. This includes signs such as stop signs, yield signs, speed limit signs, and no parking signs, among others. Their primary function is to ensure safe and orderly movement of traffic by informing drivers of their legal responsibilities on the road. For instance, a stop sign mandates that drivers come to a complete halt at an intersection, while a speed limit sign clearly defines the maximum allowable speed on a stretch of road. These indicators are not merely suggestions; they are enforceable laws, and failing to comply can result in legal penalties. In contrast, signs that provide warnings alert drivers to potential hazards (like a curve ahead) and those that indicate directions guide drivers on how to navigate roads or reach particular destinations, which are fundamentally different from the regulatory function of compliance. Similarly, signs that describe points of interest typically highlight attractions or facilities but do not impose rules or directives related to traffic flow.

## 10. What is the main function of road signs?

- A. To decorate the roadway
- B. To provide information and instructions to drivers**
- C. To promote tourism
- D. To indicate vehicle speed limits only

The primary function of road signs is to provide information and instructions to drivers. These signs are essential for ensuring safety on the roads by conveying critical messages about traffic regulations, directions, hazards, and other important information necessary for safe navigation. For instance, signs indicate when to stop, yield, or merge, as well as provide guidance on routes and distances. This information helps drivers make informed decisions about their driving behavior, promoting safety for all road users. While some road signs might incidentally attract tourists or contribute to the aesthetic appearance of the area, their fundamental purpose is to communicate important operational details to drivers. Additionally, although speed limit signs are crucial, the functionality of road signs extends far beyond merely indicating speed limits; it encompasses a wide range of important traffic regulations and navigational aids.