

North Carolina Traffic Law Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of questions,

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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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.

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.

7. Use Other Tools

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!

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Questions

- 1. How far should you signal before making a turn?**
 - A. At least 10 feet before the turn**
 - B. At least 50 feet before the turn**
 - C. At least 100 feet before the turn**
 - D. As soon as you initiate the turn**
- 2. Which of the cars below can pass safely?**
 - A. Car A**
 - B. Car B**
 - C. Car C**
 - D. Car D**
- 3. When taking a long trip on an interstate highway, what should you plan on doing?**
 - A. Stopping every 100 miles at a rest area**
 - B. Scheduling some hours of night driving to avoid heavy traffic**
 - C. Both of the above**
 - D. Neither of the above**
- 4. What is one important thing to do when approaching a busy intersection?**
 - A. Speed up to avoid waiting**
 - B. Prepare to yield if necessary**
 - C. Ignore pedestrians**
 - D. Follow closely behind other vehicles**
- 5. Why should a leaky exhaust system be repaired?**
 - A. It wastes gas and oil**
 - B. It causes the engine to run hot**
 - C. It may allow dangerous fumes to enter the car**
 - D. It makes the engine hard to start**

- 6. What should you do if you are involved in a minor accident with no injuries?**
- A. Leave the scene immediately**
 - B. Exchange information with the other driver**
 - C. Call the police for assistance**
 - D. Attempt to settle the matter privately**
- 7. The percentage of highway deaths caused by drunken persons in NC according to MADD is:**
- A. 25%**
 - B. 36%**
 - C. 55%**
 - D. 60%**
- 8. If you come to an unmarked intersection where visibility is limited, what should you do?**
- A. Drive at the posted speed limit.**
 - B. Stop near the center of the intersection and continue if it is safe.**
 - C. Slow down and sound your horn to warn drivers who cannot see you.**
 - D. Stop at the intersection and move forward slowly.**
- 9. When driving on a highway at night, you should never use your high-beam headlights if you are:**
- A. Slowing down for a turn.**
 - B. Traveling on a road with no median.**
 - C. Going downhill.**
 - D. Following another car.**
- 10. How should you approach an intersection with a malfunctioning traffic signal?**
- A. Treat it as a four-way stop intersection; yield and proceed with caution**
 - B. Continue through without stopping**
 - C. Accelerate to get through quickly**
 - D. Turn around and seek an alternate route**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. How far should you signal before making a turn?

- A. At least 10 feet before the turn
- B. At least 50 feet before the turn
- C. At least 100 feet before the turn**
- D. As soon as you initiate the turn

Signaling before making a turn is crucial for ensuring the safety of all road users, including other drivers and pedestrians. In North Carolina, drivers are required to signal at least 100 feet before making a turn. This distance allows sufficient time for other road users to be aware of the impending maneuver, thus reducing the risk of accidents. When you signal well in advance, it not only informs vehicles following you but also gives pedestrians and cyclists enough time to react and take appropriate action. Additionally, signaling too close to the turn could lead to confusion among other drivers, potentially leading to misjudgments about your intentions. By adhering to the 100-foot guideline, you demonstrate responsible driving behavior and contribute to safer road conditions overall. This practice aligns with the principle of providing clear communication while navigating the roadways.

2. Which of the cars below can pass safely?

- A. Car A
- B. Car B
- C. Car C
- D. Car D**

When considering which car can pass safely, several factors must be taken into account, including the positioning of the vehicles, road conditions, traffic regulations, and visibility. In this scenario, Car D is determined to be the only vehicle that can pass safely, indicating that it likely has a clear path and meets all necessary conditions for passing. This could mean that Car D is in a position on the road that allows for unobstructed visibility and is moving at a speed that balances the safe execution of the pass without endangering itself or others on the roadway. Factors such as oncoming traffic, lane markings, and distance from other vehicles play crucial roles in determining the feasibility of passing safely. If Car D is positioned in a lane designated for overtaking or if there are no visibility obstructions, it suggests an appropriate time and place to pass without risking collisions or violating traffic laws. In contrast, the other cars—A, B, and C—likely would have impediments that prevent a safe pass, such as being directly in front of other vehicles, navigating curves or intersections, or encountering unfavorable road conditions. Recognizing when it is safe to pass extends beyond signaling and acceleration; it involves an assessment of the entire traffic scenario.

3. When taking a long trip on an interstate highway, what should you plan on doing?

- A. Stopping every 100 miles at a rest area**
- B. Scheduling some hours of night driving to avoid heavy traffic**
- C. Both of the above**
- D. Neither of the above**

Planning to stop every 100 miles at a rest area is a wise strategy for a long trip on an interstate highway. This approach is grounded in the importance of driver fatigue management and overall safety. Long driving stretches can lead to decreased alertness, increased risk of accidents, and physical discomfort. By taking regular breaks, you allow yourself to rest, stretch, and refresh, which can significantly enhance your focus and response time while driving. Incorporating rest stops also allows you to hydrate, eat a snack, and use restroom facilities, further promoting your well-being on the road. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration emphasizes that taking breaks can mitigate the risks associated with long driving periods, ultimately leading to a safer journey. While scheduling night driving to avoid traffic may work for some, it poses challenges such as reduced visibility and increased fatigue, which can counteract the benefits of avoiding congestion. Therefore, planning regular stops is a more universally applicable and safer practice for long-distance travel.

4. What is one important thing to do when approaching a busy intersection?

- A. Speed up to avoid waiting**
- B. Prepare to yield if necessary**
- C. Ignore pedestrians**
- D. Follow closely behind other vehicles**

When approaching a busy intersection, it is crucial to prepare to yield if necessary. This means being aware of any traffic signals, signs, and the actions of other road users, including vehicles and pedestrians. Yielding ensures that you give the right-of-way to those entitled to it, which is vital for maintaining safety and preventing accidents. In many situations at intersections, other vehicles may have the right to proceed before you, and pedestrians may be crossing, which requires your attention and potential yielding. This practice helps create a smoother flow of traffic and enhances overall safety for everyone on the road. Safe driving requires an understanding of traffic laws and the appropriate responses to various scenarios, making yield preparation an essential aspect of responsible driving behavior at intersections, especially when they are busy and congested.

5. Why should a leaky exhaust system be repaired?

- A. It wastes gas and oil
- B. It causes the engine to run hot
- C. It may allow dangerous fumes to enter the car**
- D. It makes the engine hard to start

A leaky exhaust system should be repaired primarily because it can allow dangerous fumes, such as carbon monoxide, to enter the vehicle's cabin. Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas that can have serious health implications, including headaches, dizziness, and even life-threatening conditions in high concentrations. The exhaust system is designed to safely channel harmful gases away from the engine and out of the vehicle; any leaks compromise this function, exposing occupants to these toxic substances. While other issues such as wasting fuel, causing the engine to overheat, or making the engine difficult to start may be related to exhaust system problems, they do not pose the same immediate health risks associated with inhaling toxic gases. Thus, the top priority in addressing a leaky exhaust system is to ensure passenger safety by preventing the entry of harmful fumes into the car.

6. What should you do if you are involved in a minor accident with no injuries?

- A. Leave the scene immediately
- B. Exchange information with the other driver**
- C. Call the police for assistance
- D. Attempt to settle the matter privately

When involved in a minor accident with no injuries, it is essential to exchange information with the other driver. This process involves sharing details such as names, contact information, insurance policy numbers, and vehicle registration information. This exchange is crucial for several reasons. First and foremost, it establishes a record of the incident, which can be vital for insurance claims or potential future disputes regarding the accident. Moreover, having accurate information from the other party allows you to report the accident to your insurance company and aids in the claims process. Proper documentation helps to ensure that each driver is held accountable for their actions and can effectively address any damages or liability issues that arise from the accident later on. While calling the police can be beneficial in certain circumstances, particularly if there is any dispute or significant damage, it is not a requirement in every minor accident where no injuries occur. Leaving the scene without exchanging information or attempting to settle matters privately can lead to complications, as they could be seen as irresponsible actions that may have repercussions legally or with insurance matters. Therefore, exchanging information remains the most appropriate course of action in this scenario.

7. The percentage of highway deaths caused by drunken persons in NC according to MADD is:

- A. 25%
- B. 36%**
- C. 55%
- D. 60%

The percentage of highway deaths caused by individuals driving under the influence of alcohol in North Carolina, as reported by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), is 36%. This statistic underscores the significant impact that impaired driving has on traffic safety in the state. Understanding the percentage helps to highlight the importance of initiatives aimed at reducing drunk driving incidents. It also reinforces the need for effective law enforcement, public awareness campaigns, and policies designed to deter intoxicated driving. By recognizing that a substantial portion of traffic fatalities is linked to alcohol-related incidents, stakeholders can better strategize on preventative measures and legislation aimed at improving road safety. The other options presented may represent perceptions of the issue but do not reflect the specific statistic provided by MADD, which provides a clear and actionable data point for advocacy and education efforts surrounding the dangers of drunk driving in North Carolina.

8. If you come to an unmarked intersection where visibility is limited, what should you do?

- A. Drive at the posted speed limit.
- B. Stop near the center of the intersection and continue if it is safe.
- C. Slow down and sound your horn to warn drivers who cannot see you.
- D. Stop at the intersection and move forward slowly.**

When approaching an unmarked intersection with limited visibility, the most prudent action is to stop at the intersection and proceed forward slowly. This allows the driver to assess the situation more safely and ensures that they can look both ways for oncoming traffic or pedestrians before fully entering the intersection. By stopping first, one is being cautious and reducing the potential for an accident in a scenario where visibility could limit awareness of approaching vehicles or hazards. Moving forward slowly after stopping provides additional safety, as it allows the driver to react to any sudden appearances of vehicles that may not be visible initially. It emphasizes the importance of being cautious in situations where the intersection does not have clear traffic control devices, making it critical to ensure that the way is clear before proceeding.

9. When driving on a highway at night, you should never use your high-beam headlights if you are:

- A. Slowing down for a turn.**
- B. Traveling on a road with no median.**
- C. Going downhill.**
- D. Following another car.**

Using high-beam headlights while driving at night can be extremely disruptive to other drivers. When you are following another vehicle, using high beams can create significant glare in their rearview mirror, impairing their ability to see clearly and safely navigate the road. It is important to maintain a safe and considerate environment for all drivers on the road, and lowering your beams when following another car is crucial for safety. In contrast, slowing down for a turn, traveling on a road with no median, or going downhill may not pose the same level of risk associated with using high beams. It is more about ensuring that your actions as a driver do not compromise the visibility and safety of those around you, particularly when close to another vehicle. Thus, it is advisable to use low beams in these situations to promote safer driving conditions for everyone on the roadway.

10. How should you approach an intersection with a malfunctioning traffic signal?

- A. Treat it as a four-way stop intersection; yield and proceed with caution**
- B. Continue through without stopping**
- C. Accelerate to get through quickly**
- D. Turn around and seek an alternate route**

When approaching an intersection with a malfunctioning traffic signal, treating it as a four-way stop intersection is the correct approach. This means that all vehicles must stop and yield to any vehicles or pedestrians that have already entered the intersection. When drivers encounter a malfunctioning traffic signal, the expectation is to ensure safety by assessing the situation like a stop sign. This procedure is in place to mitigate the risks of accidents that can occur when signals do not convey the right information about who has the right of way. Yielding and proceeding with caution allows drivers to navigate the intersection safely while taking into account the presence of other vehicles and pedestrians. Other choices might lead to dangerous situations; simply continuing through without stopping could cause collisions since other drivers may not be stopping either. Accelerating to get through quickly increases the chance of an accident, as other vehicles may misinterpret the situation and enter the intersection simultaneously. Turning around and seeking an alternate route may not always be practical or safe and could create confusion and hazards for other drivers. Therefore, treating the intersection as a four-way stop is the most responsible and safest action to take.

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://nctrfficlaw.examzify.com>

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