

# Ontario Bus Driver Knowledge Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



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**SAMPLE**

## **Questions**

- 1. What is the minimum licence suspension period for first-time driving offenders under the Ontario Criminal Code?**
  - A. Six months**
  - B. One year**
  - C. Three months**
  - D. Two years**
- 2. If you see red or red/blue flashing lights or hear the bells or sirens of an emergency vehicle, you must...?**
  - A. Increase your speed**
  - B. Continue driving normally**
  - C. Slow down, pull to the right and stop**
  - D. Signal and turn left**
- 3. What is the term used for operating a bus that is out of service?**
  - A. Null operation**
  - B. Deadheading**
  - C. Inactive driving**
  - D. Service unavailability**
- 4. If you fail to stop at an unprotected railway crossing when driving a bus, how many demerit points will you receive?**
  - A. Two**
  - B. Three**
  - C. Five**
  - D. Seven**
- 5. At a railway crossing with a train coming, you should stop at least how far from the nearest rail?**
  - A. 3 metres**
  - B. 5 metres**
  - C. 2 metres**
  - D. 10 metres**

- 6. What should a bus driver do if there is a sudden road closure?**
- A. Continue along the original route to maintain schedule**
  - B. Immediately pull over and inform passengers**
  - C. Look for an alternative route and inform passengers**
  - D. Call the passengers to inform them personally**
- 7. When you have right-of-way, you should?**
- A. Give it up if it will avoid possible danger**
  - B. Always insist on your right**
  - C. Speed up to prevent others from taking it**
  - D. Ignore other drivers**
- 8. What is the role of pre-trip inspections for a bus driver?**
- A. To impress passengers with their thoroughness**
  - B. To ensure the bus is safe and functional before departure**
  - C. To eliminate the need for maintenance checks**
  - D. To familiarize themselves with the route**
- 9. What does a bus's "stop" sign indicate to other drivers?**
- A. That they can pass slowly**
  - B. That they must stop for loading and unloading passengers**
  - C. That they should reduce speed**
  - D. That they need to yield**
- 10. When reversing your bus, you should use?**
- A. All of your mirrors**
  - B. Only the rearview mirror**
  - C. Only the left outside mirror**
  - D. Only the right outside mirror**

## **Answers**

SAMPLE

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What is the minimum licence suspension period for first-time driving offenders under the Ontario Criminal Code?**

- A. Six months**
- B. One year**
- C. Three months**
- D. Two years**

The minimum licence suspension period for first-time driving offenders, under the Ontario Criminal Code, is one year. All other options are incorrect because they either exceed the minimum suspension period (such as two years) or fall short of it (such as three months and six months). Therefore, the one-year option is the closest to the minimum suspension period stated in the question.

**2. If you see red or red/blue flashing lights or hear the bells or sirens of an emergency vehicle, you must...?**

- A. Increase your speed**
- B. Continue driving normally**
- C. Slow down, pull to the right and stop**
- D. Signal and turn left**

When encountering an emergency vehicle with flashing lights, sirens, or bells, it is important to pull over to the right side of the road and stop. This allows the emergency vehicle to safely and quickly pass by, preventing any delays in their response to an emergency. Choosing the wrong answer, such as increasing speed or continuing to drive normally, may put you and others in danger and hinder the emergency vehicle's ability to reach their destination in a timely manner. Similarly, signaling and turning left would not allow the emergency vehicle to pass safely on the right side of the road. Always prioritize the safety and quick response of emergency vehicles by pulling over and stopping when necessary.

**3. What is the term used for operating a bus that is out of service?**

- A. Null operation**
- B. Deadheading**
- C. Inactive driving**
- D. Service unavailability**

The term used for operating a bus that is out of service is "deadheading." This refers to the practice of moving a transit vehicle without any passengers on board, typically for the purpose of transporting it to the depot, positioning it for the next route, or returning it after the completion of its service. It is a necessary operational practice that ensures buses are in the right place when needed, despite not providing passenger service during those moves. Deadheading is important for maintaining the efficiency and scheduling of public transit systems. When a bus is out of service, it needs to be repositioned without passengers for various logistical reasons, which is accurately captured by the term "deadheading." Other terms in the choices do not accurately reflect this specific operation or are not commonly recognized in the context of public transportation.

**4. If you fail to stop at an unprotected railway crossing when driving a bus, how many demerit points will you receive?**

- A. Two**
- B. Three**
- C. Five**
- D. Seven**

If you fail to stop at an unprotected railway crossing when driving a bus, you will receive 5 demerit points. This is because driving too close to a railway crossing increases the risk of collision and can result in serious consequences. Option A (Two) is incorrect because that is the number of demerit points received for minor infractions. Option B (Three) is incorrect because that is the number of points received for failing to stop when approaching an emergency vehicle. Option D (Seven) is incorrect because that is the number of points received for aggressive or reckless driving behavior. Therefore, option C (Five) is the most appropriate answer in this scenario.

**5. At a railway crossing with a train coming, you should stop at least how far from the nearest rail?**

- A. 3 metres**
- B. 5 metres**
- C. 2 metres**
- D. 10 metres**

It is important to stop at least 5 meters away from the nearest rail at a railway crossing when a train is approaching. This distance allows for enough room for the train to pass safely without causing any harm to your vehicle or passengers. Stopping at 3 meters, 2 meters, or even 10 meters may not provide enough clearance and could put you in danger. It is always best to err on the side of caution and stop at least 5 meters away from the rail.

**6. What should a bus driver do if there is a sudden road closure?**

- A. Continue along the original route to maintain schedule**
- B. Immediately pull over and inform passengers**
- C. Look for an alternative route and inform passengers**
- D. Call the passengers to inform them personally**

In the event of a sudden road closure, it is crucial for a bus driver to look for an alternative route while also keeping passengers informed. This approach ensures that the bus can proceed safely and efficiently without significantly delaying the journey. Finding an alternative route allows the driver to adapt to changing circumstances, maintaining the bus service's commitment to time and safety. Informing passengers of the situation is also essential, as it helps to manage their expectations and keeps them aware of any changes to their travel plans. Passengers appreciate being kept informed, which enhances their overall experience and trust in the service. In contrast, continuing along the original route is not advisable as it could lead to getting stuck or exacerbating the impact of the closure. Pulling over and informing passengers without seeking an alternative route does not address the need to keep the journey moving. Similarly, simply calling passengers may not be practical or effective within the context of a bus service, as it does not address the immediate need to reroute and can lead to delays. Thus, looking for an alternative route while keeping passengers informed is the best practice in such situations.

**7. When you have right-of-way, you should?**

- A. Give it up if it will avoid possible danger**
- B. Always insist on your right**
- C. Speed up to prevent others from taking it**
- D. Ignore other drivers**

When you have right-of-way, you should always ensure that you prioritize safety on the road. This means giving up your right-of-way if it will help avoid potential danger, as stated in option A. This may include allowing a driver who doesn't seem to be paying attention to safely pass, or letting a pedestrian cross the street first before proceeding. Option B is incorrect because always insisting on your right-of-way may lead to a dangerous situation. Similarly, options C and D are incorrect because speeding up or ignoring other drivers can lead to accidents and isn't considerate of others on the road. It is important to remember that the main goal while driving is to maintain safety for yourself and others.

## 8. What is the role of pre-trip inspections for a bus driver?

- A. To impress passengers with their thoroughness
- B. To ensure the bus is safe and functional before departure**
- C. To eliminate the need for maintenance checks
- D. To familiarize themselves with the route

The role of pre-trip inspections for a bus driver is crucial to ensuring safety and functionality before the vehicle departs. Conducting these inspections allows the driver to assess the condition of the bus, checking for any mechanical issues, safety equipment functionality, and ensuring that all systems such as brakes, lights, and tires are in proper working order. This proactive measure is essential in preventing accidents and ensuring that the bus meets safety standards, which ultimately protects both the passengers and the driver. Pre-trip inspections are not performed to impress passengers; their primary aim is to confirm that the bus is ready for safe operation. Additionally, while thorough inspections can help identify issues early, they do not replace the need for regular maintenance checks, which are necessary for the long-term health of the vehicle. Familiarity with the route is important for a bus driver, but it is not related to the safety assessment performed during pre-trip inspections.

## 9. What does a bus's "stop" sign indicate to other drivers?

- A. That they can pass slowly
- B. That they must stop for loading and unloading passengers**
- C. That they should reduce speed
- D. That they need to yield

The bus's "stop" sign clearly indicates to other drivers that they must come to a complete stop in order to allow for the safe loading and unloading of passengers. This is critical for ensuring the safety of children and other passengers who may be boarding or exiting the bus. The law is designed to protect those who are getting on or off the bus, providing them with a secure environment free from vehicle traffic. Other drivers are expected to remain stopped until the bus's sign is no longer extended, which signals that it's safe to proceed. This law helps to prevent accidents and ensures that everyone using the bus has the safest possible experience. Understanding and adhering to this signal is an essential part of responsible driving around school buses and ensures compliance with traffic regulations designed to prioritize passenger safety.

## 10. When reversing your bus, you should use?

- A. All of your mirrors**
- B. Only the rearview mirror
- C. Only the left outside mirror
- D. Only the right outside mirror

When reversing your bus, it is important to use all of your mirrors to ensure safety and accuracy. Only relying on one mirror, such as the rearview mirror, may result in blind spots and missing potential hazards or obstacles. Similarly, only using one outside mirror, whether it is on the left or right side, may also create blind spots and limit your visibility. By using all of your mirrors, you are able to get a complete and clear view of your surroundings while reversing. This is crucial in avoiding accidents and maneuvering the bus safely.