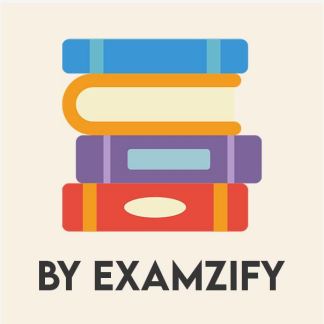
Smog Check Inspector Training Level 2 Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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Questions

1. What determines if a vehicle passes the Smog Check?

- **A. The age of the vehicle**
- **B. The mechanical condition of the vehicle**
- **C. The vehicle's emissions output is within the regulated standards**
- **D. The price of the vehicle**

2. Which test is not performed on a 2003 Honda hybrid during an OIS inspection?

- **A. Aftermarket parts**
- **B. Visible smoke tests**
- **C. Malfunction indicator lamp**
- **D. OBD II**

3. If any smoke is seen during snap throttle events in the gasoline visible smoke inspection, what is the outcome?

- **A. The vehicle passes**
- **B. The vehicle fails**
- **C. Further tests are required**
- **D. Additional time is given**

4. What is "visual tampering"?

- **A. Visible signs of improper tire alignment**
- **B. Unauthorized modifications or removals of emissions control devices**
- **C. Damage to the vehicle's chassis**
- **D. Loosening of engine bolts**

5. What should an inspector do if they encounter an unfamiliar system during an inspection?

- **A. Attempt to modify the system on the spot**
- **B. Consult a colleague for assistance**
- **C. Refer to technical resources or manufacturer documentation for guidance**
- **D. Ignore it and continue the inspection**

6. Technician A claims a biennial certificate of compliance is not required for a government fleet vehicle. Technician B states a government agency can request such a certificate for title transfer. Who is correct?

A. Tech A

B. Tech B

C. Both techs

D. Neither tech

7. In what situation would a Smog Check be considered a "fail"?

A. If the vehicle is of older model year

B. If any required emissions control component is missing, modified, or not functioning

C. If the inspection occurs during peak hours

D. If the vehicle fails to meet noise regulations

8. During a visual inspection, which of the following is NOT a cause for a vehicle to fail a smog check?

A. Oil seeping from the oil filter canister

B. Excessive crankcase smoke

C. Properly functioning exhaust system

D. Oil seeping from the valve cover gasket

9. If applying vacuum to the EGR valve causes the engine to stall, how should the technician record the result?

A. Pass. The valve is responding to vacuum

B. Fail. The vehicle is not supposed to stall while applying vacuum to the EGR

C. The technician cannot make an entry at this point as the test is not finished

D. None of the above

10. A typical PCV system will incorporate which of the following components?

A. Oil filler cap, dipstick, and PCV valve

B. Oil filler cap, gas cap, and PCV valve

C. Oil filler cap, dipstick, and breather hose

D. Oil filler cap, dipstick, PCV valve, and breather hose

Answers

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

Explanations

1. What determines if a vehicle passes the Smog Check?

A. The age of the vehicle

B. The mechanical condition of the vehicle

C. The vehicle's emissions output is within the regulated standards

D. The price of the vehicle

The vehicle's emissions output being within the regulated standards is the critical determining factor for passing a Smog Check. This check measures the concentration of pollutants released by the vehicle's exhaust system and compares these emissions against state and federal guidelines. Each vehicle is subject to specific emission standards based on factors such as its make, model, and year of manufacture. If the emissions exceed the allowable limits, the vehicle will fail the Smog Check, regardless of its age, mechanical condition, or purchase price. These regulated standards are established to ensure that vehicles do not contribute excessive pollutants to the environment, helping to maintain air quality and public health. The focus on emissions levels highlights the importance of monitoring and controlling environmental impact from motor vehicles.

2. Which test is not performed on a 2003 Honda hybrid during an OIS inspection?

A. Aftermarket parts

B. Visible smoke tests

C. Malfunction indicator lamp

D. OBD II

During an On-Board Diagnostics (OIS) inspection for a 2003 Honda hybrid, the visible smoke test is not performed because this test is primarily intended for assessing exhaust emissions for traditional gasoline-powered vehicles. The focus of the visible smoke test is to identify any visible emissions that may indicate combustion issues or exhaust leaks, which are less relevant for hybrid vehicles that operate with both gasoline engines and electric motors. For the hybrid, the OBD II (On-Board Diagnostics II) check is essential as it helps in diagnosing the vehicle's emission control system, reading diagnostic trouble codes, and ensuring that the various components of the vehicle are functioning correctly. Similarly, the malfunction indicator lamp check is crucial for confirming whether the vehicle's onboard systems are detecting issues. Aftermarket parts checks are relevant as well to ensure that any modifications meet the emission regulations. Therefore, since hybrid models do not require visible smoke assessments due to their specific emissions control technology, this makes the visible smoke test the correct answer in this context.

3. If any smoke is seen during snap throttle events in the gasoline visible smoke inspection, what is the outcome?

A. The vehicle passes

B. The vehicle fails

C. Further tests are required

D. Additional time is given

When visible smoke is observed during snap throttle events in the gasoline visible smoke inspection, the outcome is a failure of the vehicle. This is because the presence of excess visible smoke indicates that the engine is burning fuel inefficiently, which can contribute to greater emissions. Failure in this context means that the vehicle does not meet the necessary emissions standards required for passing the smog check. The purpose of the snap throttle test is to check for short bursts of excessive exhaust emissions—indicative of engine problems such as improper fuel-to-air ratio, incomplete combustion, or malfunctioning engine components. When smoke appears, it signifies that there is a significant issue that needs to be addressed to reduce emissions and improve engine performance. Therefore, the immediate outcome of visible smoke during this inspection is a failure, necessitating repairs before the vehicle can be retested and potential passing of the inspection.

4. What is "visual tampering"?

A. Visible signs of improper tire alignment

B. Unauthorized modifications or removals of emissions control devices

C. Damage to the vehicle's chassis

D. Loosening of engine bolts

Visual tampering refers to the unauthorized modifications or removals of emissions control devices that are designed to reduce harmful emissions from vehicles. This action can involve removing, altering, or bypassing crucial components such as catalytic converters, oxygen sensors, or other essential parts of the emission system. Detecting such tampering is crucial during a smog check inspection because these devices are critical for ensuring that vehicles adhere to environmental regulations and standards aimed at reducing air pollution. The presence of visual tampering can often be seen as discrepancies in the vehicle's exhaust system, which may indicate that the owner has attempted to circumvent emissions controls. This can lead to a significant increase in smog-forming pollutants being released into the environment. Identifying visual tampering is an important responsibility of the smog check inspector, as it helps maintain the integrity of emission control practices and promotes compliance with environmental laws. Given the importance of emissions control devices in maintaining vehicle compliance and protecting air quality, recognizing visual tampering becomes essential for both regulatory compliance and environmental protection.

5. What should an inspector do if they encounter an unfamiliar system during an inspection?

A. Attempt to modify the system on the spot

B. Consult a colleague for assistance

C. Refer to technical resources or manufacturer documentation for guidance

D. Ignore it and continue the inspection

When an inspector encounters an unfamiliar system during an inspection, referring to technical resources or manufacturer documentation for guidance is the best approach. This option ensures that the inspector obtains accurate and detailed information specific to the system in question. Technical resources and manufacturer manuals are designed to provide comprehensive insights into system specifications, operational protocols, and troubleshooting steps. By consulting these resources, the inspector can avoid making assumptions that could lead to errors in the inspection process. This method not only enhances the accuracy of the inspection but also adheres to professional standards and safety protocols. It reflects a responsible approach to inspection practices, emphasizing the importance of being well-informed about the systems being evaluated. Engaging in on-the-spot modifications can potentially lead to unsafe conditions and further complicate the inspection, while consulting a colleague may not guarantee the necessary expertise specifically related to the unfamiliar system. Ignoring the unfamiliarity could lead to significant oversights that compromise the quality of the inspection. Therefore, turning to detailed technical resources provides the most appropriate response.

6. Technician A claims a biennial certificate of compliance is not required for a government fleet vehicle. Technician B states a government agency can request such a certificate for title transfer. Who is correct?

A. Tech A

B. Tech B

C. Both techs

D. Neither tech

In this scenario, Technician B is correct because government agencies can indeed request a biennial certificate of compliance for a title transfer, which can apply to government fleet vehicles as well. Although it is common practice to have exemptions for some government fleet vehicles regarding emissions certification, this does not mean that they are entirely exempt from needing a certificate when it comes to transferring a title. Technician A's assertion that a biennial certificate is not needed for government fleet vehicles overlooks the possibility that a certificate may still be necessary in specific situations, such as title transfers. Therefore, while government fleet vehicles may have certain exemptions, it is possible for a compliance certificate to still be mandated under certain regulations or circumstances. Thus, recognizing that there can be scenarios where both technicians are addressing valid points, the most accurate conclusion is that both technicians are correct. This reflects the complexity of regulations and exceptions surrounding emissions compliance for government vehicles, highlighting the importance of understanding both sides of the issue.

7. In what situation would a Smog Check be considered a "fail"?

A. If the vehicle is of older model year

B. If any required emissions control component is missing, modified, or not functioning

C. If the inspection occurs during peak hours

D. If the vehicle fails to meet noise regulations

A Smog Check would be considered a "fail" when any required emissions control component is missing, modified, or not functioning. This is critical because the primary purpose of the Smog Check is to ensure that vehicles meet emissions standards set by regulatory authorities to help protect air quality. If essential components, such as catalytic converters, oxygen sensors, or EGR valves, are absent or not working correctly, the vehicle cannot regulate emissions as intended. This situation leads to increased pollutants being released into the atmosphere, which can significantly impact environmental health and public safety. Consequently, the inspection process specifically flags these deficiencies to ensure compliance with emissions laws, directly correlating to the goal of reducing harmful emissions from vehicles on the road.

8. During a visual inspection, which of the following is NOT a cause for a vehicle to fail a smog check?

A. Oil seeping from the oil filter canister

B. Excessive crankcase smoke

C. Properly functioning exhaust system

D. Oil seeping from the valve cover gasket

A properly functioning exhaust system is considered a critical component during a smog check because it plays a vital role in controlling emissions. If the exhaust system is in good condition and functioning as designed, it should effectively manage and reduce harmful pollutants that the vehicle may emit. Therefore, it does not present any issues that would cause the vehicle to fail the smog check. In contrast, oil seeping from the oil filter canister or the valve cover gasket and excessive crankcase smoke can indicate leaks or improper combustion processes, both of which are concerns for emissions compliance. These issues can lead to increased hydrocarbon emissions and could result in a vehicle failing a smog check.

9. If applying vacuum to the EGR valve causes the engine to stall, how should the technician record the result?

A. Pass. The valve is responding to vacuum

B. Fail. The vehicle is not supposed to stall while applying vacuum to the EGR

C. The technician cannot make an entry at this point as the test is not finished

D. None of the above

The correct response in this scenario is that the technician should record a pass because the EGR valve is responding as intended to the application of vacuum. An EGR (Exhaust Gas Recirculation) valve's primary function is to recirculate a portion of exhaust gas back into the intake manifold, which helps reduce nitrogen oxide emissions. When vacuum is applied, the valve should open and allow for the recirculation to occur. If the engine stalls upon applying vacuum, it indicates that the EGR valve is functioning as it is designed to: it opens in response to vacuum. The stalling may be due to the engine receiving too much exhaust gas, which is part of the normal operation of the EGR system when it is activated. Therefore, the appropriate conclusion is that the EGR valve is indeed responding to the vacuum signal, validating the operation of the valve itself, even though it may not be the normal operating condition for the vehicle's engine. In this situation, the other choices do not accurately reflect the function of the EGR valve. The assessment of the test result must focus on whether the valve responds as designed, rather than the immediate effect on engine performance, which can vary based on the vehicle's condition and other factors.

10. A typical PCV system will incorporate which of the following components?

A. Oil filler cap, dipstick, and PCV valve

B. Oil filler cap, gas cap, and PCV valve

C. Oil filler cap, dipstick, and breather hose

D. Oil filler cap, dipstick, PCV valve, and breather hose

The correct answer identifies a typical Positive Crankcase Ventilation (PCV) system and includes the essential components that function together to manage the engine's crankcase pressure and emissions. In a properly functioning PCV system, the oil filler cap allows for venting and access for oil, while the dipstick is critical for checking oil levels to ensure the engine runs effectively. The PCV valve plays a crucial role in regulating the flow of gases from the crankcase to the intake manifold, helping to reduce harmful emissions. Additionally, the breather hose connects various parts of the system, allowing for the circulation of air and the evacuation of gases. Collectively, these components ensure that the engine operates efficiently, minimizing pollutant emissions and maintaining the engine's integrity. This integration of parts contributes to the overall performance and environmental compliance of the vehicle.