

State Truck Driving Championship Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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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. 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.

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. 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!

Questions

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- 1. Which of the following is NOT a consequence of neglecting regular maintenance?**
 - A. Increased chance of accidents**
 - B. Higher likelihood of vehicle breakdowns**
 - C. Improved engine longevity**
 - D. Greater repair costs**
- 2. According to FMCSA rules, how often must a driver renew their hazardous materials endorsement?**
 - A. Every 2 years**
 - B. Every 3 years**
 - C. Every 5 years**
 - D. Every 10 years**
- 3. What rating of fire extinguisher must a power unit used to transport hazardous materials have, according to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations?**
 - A. 5 BC**
 - B. 10 BC**
 - C. 15 BC**
 - D. 20 BC**
- 4. Which type of burn typically causes damage to all layers of skin and requires advanced medical attention?**
 - A. First degree**
 - B. Second degree**
 - C. Third degree**
 - D. Electrical burn**
- 5. How can a driver enhance their awareness on the road?**
 - A. By using only mirrors**
 - B. By constantly adjusting the radio**
 - C. By actively scanning the environment**
 - D. By driving with one hand always on the wheel**

6. Which year did Congress pass the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act?

- A. 1986**
- B. 1996**
- C. 2006**
- D. 2016**

7. What should a driver do if they experience brake failure while driving?

- A. Accelerate to maintain momentum**
- B. Shift to a lower gear and coast to a stop**
- C. Use the emergency brake immediately**
- D. Call for roadside assistance while driving**

8. What is a key indicator of a truck's weight when fully loaded?

- A. Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR)**
- B. Curb Weight**
- C. Payload Capacity**
- D. Net Weight**

9. What should drivers do when approaching a work zone?

- A. Maintain high speed to get through quickly**
- B. Reduce speed and be prepared to stop**
- C. Change lanes frequently without signaling**
- D. Continue driving normally without any changes**

10. What should a driver do if they experience a breakdown?

- A. Attempt to fix the truck immediately**
- B. Pull over to a safe area and call for assistance**
- C. Leave the vehicle and walk for help**
- D. Continue driving until the destination is reached**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which of the following is NOT a consequence of neglecting regular maintenance?

- A. Increased chance of accidents**
- B. Higher likelihood of vehicle breakdowns**
- C. Improved engine longevity**
- D. Greater repair costs**

Regular maintenance is crucial for ensuring a vehicle operates safely and efficiently. Neglecting it can lead to several negative outcomes. Improved engine longevity is not a consequence of ignoring regular maintenance. In fact, appropriate maintenance, which includes oil changes, filter replacements, and regular inspections, plays a significant role in extending engine life. Routine servicing helps prevent wear and tear, diminishes the chances of significant failures, and promotes overall engine health. On the other hand, failing to maintain a vehicle typically increases the likelihood of accidents, because issues like poor brake performance or malfunctioning lights can arise. It can also lead to a higher risk of breakdowns while driving, as essential components may wear out or fail without timely service. Lastly, neglecting regular care generally results in greater repair costs down the line due to minor issues developing into major problems that require expensive fixes. Therefore, the option indicating an improvement in engine longevity contrasts sharply with the consequences of neglecting maintenance.

2. According to FMCSA rules, how often must a driver renew their hazardous materials endorsement?

- A. Every 2 years**
- B. Every 3 years**
- C. Every 5 years**
- D. Every 10 years**

The correct answer reflects the requirement set by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) regarding the renewal of a hazardous materials endorsement. Drivers who hold a hazardous materials endorsement must renew it every five years. This regulation ensures that drivers remain current with the safety protocols, regulations, and procedures associated with transporting hazardous materials, which are critical for public safety and environmental protection. The five-year renewal cycle allows for the update of pertinent information and training that reflects any changes in laws or best practices for handling hazardous materials. This time frame strikes a balance, permitting drivers enough time to maintain their knowledge while ensuring that the regulatory requirements keep pace with industry standards. This is particularly important because hazardous materials can pose significant risks if not handled properly. Understanding this renewal period is essential for drivers to maintain their legal qualifications and ensure the safe transportation of hazardous goods.

3. What rating of fire extinguisher must a power unit used to transport hazardous materials have, according to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations?

- A. 5 BC**
- B. 10 BC**
- C. 15 BC**
- D. 20 BC**

A power unit used for transporting hazardous materials is required to have a fire extinguisher rated at a minimum of 10 BC according to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations. This rating indicates the effectiveness of the extinguisher for fighting fires involving flammable liquids and electrical equipment, which are critical considerations when dealing with hazardous materials. The "B" rating refers specifically to flammable liquids, while the "C" rating refers to live electrical equipment. Therefore, a 10 BC rating signifies that the fire extinguisher is effective for certain sizes of fires involving both types of hazards. This requirement ensures that drivers have the proper equipment to respond to potential fire hazards that may arise during transport, thereby enhancing the overall safety of operations involving hazardous materials.

4. Which type of burn typically causes damage to all layers of skin and requires advanced medical attention?

- A. First degree**
- B. Second degree**
- C. Third degree**
- D. Electrical burn**

A third-degree burn is characterized by damage that penetrates through all layers of the skin, which includes the epidermis, dermis, and subcutaneous tissue. This type of burn can often result in charring or a leathery texture, as it affects not only the skin but can also damage underlying tissues, blood vessels, and nerves. Because of the severity of the injury, third-degree burns typically require advanced medical attention for treatment. These burns can lead to serious complications such as infections, fluid loss, and require interventions such as surgery, skin grafts, and extensive wound care to promote healing and minimize scarring. The need for such advanced medical care differentiates third-degree burns from first and second-degree burns, which typically involve less damage and may not necessitate specialized treatment. Electrical burns, while potentially severe, are classified based on their cause rather than the depth of the burn, and can also vary widely in their severity. Thus, the specific classification of third-degree burns as requiring advanced medical attention sets it apart as a distinct and critical type of burn injury.

5. How can a driver enhance their awareness on the road?

- A. By using only mirrors
- B. By constantly adjusting the radio
- C. By actively scanning the environment**
- D. By driving with one hand always on the wheel

Enhancing awareness on the road is crucial for a driver's safety and the safety of others. Actively scanning the environment allows a driver to be more vigilant about potential hazards, other vehicles, pedestrians, road signs, and changes in traffic conditions. This approach involves not just looking at the road directly ahead but also checking mirrors regularly, observing surroundings for any movement, and being aware of blind spots. The process of scanning helps drivers anticipate potential issues well in advance, giving them the time to react appropriately. Other methods, such as relying solely on mirrors, may limit a driver's perspective or fail to account for situations occurring outside their line of sight. Similarly, constantly adjusting the radio can distract from focusing on the road, while driving with one hand limits control of the vehicle and reduces the ability to react quickly if needed. Therefore, actively scanning the environment is the most effective strategy for maintaining high awareness while driving.

6. Which year did Congress pass the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act?

- A. 1986**
- B. 1996
- C. 2006
- D. 2016

The Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act was passed by Congress in 1986, marking a significant step in the effort to improve the safety of commercial motor vehicle operations in the United States. This legislation aimed to establish a national standard for the licensing of commercial drivers, enhancing accountability and safety measures across the trucking industry. By setting a unified framework for obtaining a Commercial Driver's License (CDL), the Act helped ensure that drivers are properly qualified and trained to operate larger vehicles safely. This development was essential in addressing the increasing prevalence of commercial vehicles on the roads and the associated safety concerns. Other years mentioned do not relate to this specific legislation. The 1996 and subsequent years represent later developments in transportation safety regulation, but they do not pertain to the introduction of the rights and requirements established under the 1986 Act. Thus, the correct year that Congress passed the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act is indeed 1986.

7. What should a driver do if they experience brake failure while driving?

- A. Accelerate to maintain momentum**
- B. Shift to a lower gear and coast to a stop**
- C. Use the emergency brake immediately**
- D. Call for roadside assistance while driving**

In the situation of brake failure, the most appropriate action for a driver to take is to utilize the emergency brake as a way to regain control of the vehicle and slow down. The emergency brake, or handbrake, is designed as a backup system to help bring the vehicle to a stop in situations where the regular brakes are compromised. By engaging the emergency brake, the driver can apply more gradual force to the brake system compared to an immediate full application of brakes, which could lead to skidding or loss of control. Effectively, the emergency brake operates independently of the primary braking system, making it a crucial tool during brake failure scenarios. By using it appropriately, the driver increases their chances of safely bringing the vehicle to a stop without further endangering themselves or others on the road. When considering the other options, accelerating to maintain momentum would be exceedingly dangerous because it would increase speed and reduce control during a critical situation. Shifting to a lower gear may help slow down the vehicle through engine braking, but it is not as effective as immediately engaging the emergency brake. Calling for roadside assistance while driving is not a viable solution as it does not address the immediate need for stopping the vehicle, which is crucial in a brake failure situation.

8. What is a key indicator of a truck's weight when fully loaded?

- A. Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR)**
- B. Curb Weight**
- C. Payload Capacity**
- D. Net Weight**

The Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR) serves as a crucial metric for understanding a truck's maximum weight when fully loaded. It represents the maximum weight that the manufacturer has determined the vehicle can safely carry, which includes the weight of the truck itself along with any cargo, passengers, and additional equipment. Knowing the GVWR is essential for drivers to ensure they do not exceed legal weight limits, which can affect vehicle performance and safety and could lead to violations and penalties. In contrast, curb weight refers to the weight of the vehicle when it is empty but includes all essential fluids, such as oil and a full tank of gas. This measurement doesn't account for any cargo or passengers. Payload capacity indicates the maximum amount of weight that can be safely added to the vehicle, but it doesn't factor in the truck's own weight. Net weight typically reflects the weight of the truck without any cargo or equipment, which is similar to curb weight. Therefore, GVWR is the most comprehensive indicator of the truck's weight capacity when fully loaded.

9. What should drivers do when approaching a work zone?

- A. Maintain high speed to get through quickly
- B. Reduce speed and be prepared to stop**
- C. Change lanes frequently without signaling
- D. Continue driving normally without any changes

When approaching a work zone, the appropriate action for drivers is to reduce speed and be prepared to stop. This is critical for several reasons. Work zones often have unpredictable conditions, which can include workers, equipment, and altered traffic patterns. Slowing down allows drivers more time to react to any sudden changes or hazards in the environment. Additionally, it enhances the safety of both the drivers and the workers present in the zone. Reduced speed can help prevent accidents and ensure that drivers can stop if necessary, minimizing the risk of collisions. Maintaining high speed to get through quickly is dangerous since it increases the likelihood of losing control or not being able to respond effectively to unexpected situations. Changing lanes frequently without signaling can lead to confusion and accidents, as it creates unpredictability in the flow of traffic. Continuing to drive normally without any changes undermines the very goal of work zone regulations, which are designed to protect both drivers and workers by managing traffic through potentially hazardous areas. Thus, reducing speed and being ready to stop is essential for safe navigation through work zones.

10. What should a driver do if they experience a breakdown?

- A. Attempt to fix the truck immediately
- B. Pull over to a safe area and call for assistance**
- C. Leave the vehicle and walk for help
- D. Continue driving until the destination is reached

When a driver experiences a breakdown, prioritizing safety is crucial. Pulling over to a safe area allows the driver to assess the situation without posing additional hazards to themselves or other road users. By calling for assistance, the driver ensures that qualified personnel can handle the repair or towing needs, minimizing the risk of further damage or unsafe conditions. Attempting to fix the truck immediately can be dangerous, especially if it requires working on the roadway. Leaving the vehicle and walking for help can expose the driver to traffic hazards and delays; a vehicle is typically safer to remain in until help arrives. Continuing to drive with a suspected issue could lead to more severe damage to the truck, compromising safety and potentially resulting in accidents. Thus, the best approach is to move the vehicle to safety and seek professional help.

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://statetruckdrivingchampionship.examzify.com>

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

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