UK Driving Theory Practice Exam (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. 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!

Questions

1. How long does SORN (Statutory Off Road Notification) last?

A. 6 months

B. 9 months

C. 12 months

D. Indefinitely

2. What is the braking distance for a vehicle traveling at 50 mph?

A. 100 ft

B. 125 ft

C. 175 ft

D. 200 ft

3. How far should warning triangles be placed from an obstruction?

A. 15m (49 ft)

B. 30m (98 ft)

C. 45m (147 ft)

D. 60m (197 ft)

4. If you are parking facing uphill, what should you do with your steering wheel?

A. Turn the steering wheel to the right

B. Turn the steering wheel to the left

C. Leave the steering wheel in a neutral position

D. Lock the steering wheel in place

5. Which features signify an area reserved for trams?

A. Traffic lights with tram symbols

B. White line markings and a different surface colour or texture

C. Signposts indicating tram routes

D. Speed bumps only

6. How far can you park from a junction?

A. No closer than 5m (16ft) from a junction

B. No closer than 10m (32ft) from a junction

C. No closer than 15m (49ft) from a junction

D. No closer than 20m (66ft) from a junction

7. What can result from underinflated tyres?

A. Increased fuel consumption and affects braking

B. Higher safety ratings

C. Decreased grip on the road

D. Added weight to the vehicle

8. Generally, which lane should you be in if you are planning to leave the motorway?

A. The left-hand lane

B. The middle lane

C. The right-hand lane

D. The hard shoulder

9. What do green lights mean?

A. You must stop immediately

B. You can only go straight

C. You may proceed if your exit is not blocked

D. You can turn left only

10. What is the duration of a standard MOT?

A. 6 months

B. 1 year

C. 2 years

D. 3 years

Answers

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

Explanations

1. How long does SORN (Statutory Off Road Notification) last?

A. 6 months

B. 9 months

C. 12 months

D. Indefinitely

The correct response is that SORN (Statutory Off Road Notification) lasts for 12 months. SORN is a declaration made by a vehicle owner to inform the DVLA that the vehicle is not being used on public roads and is therefore exempt from paying vehicle tax. This declaration is valid for a year, after which it must be renewed if the vehicle remains off the road. This duration of 12 months is established to provide vehicle owners with a clear timeframe for their off-road status, ensuring they are compliant without having to file frequent notifications. Remember to renew SORN if necessary, as failing to do so may lead to penalties and the obligation to pay taxes on the vehicle. Other mentioned durations, such as 6 months, 9 months, or indefinitely, do not apply to SORN. A 6-month or 9-month period doesn't align with the standard regulatory framework, and the concept of an indefinite status contradicts the requirement for regular compliance updates to the DVLA.

2. What is the braking distance for a vehicle traveling at 50 mph?

A. 100 ft

B. 125 ft

C. 175 ft

D. 200 ft

The correct answer regarding the braking distance for a vehicle traveling at 50 mph is 125 feet. At this speed, the braking distance can be derived using a general rule of thumb used in driving theory: the braking distance (in feet) can be estimated as the square of the speed (in mph) divided by 20. Therefore, for a vehicle traveling at 50 mph, you would calculate it as follows: Braking distance = (Speed in mph)² / 20 Braking distance = (50)² / 20 = 2500 / 20 = 125 feet. This calculation illustrates that when traveling at 50 mph, it takes approximately 125 feet for a vehicle to stop under typical conditions. This distance can be influenced by various factors such as road conditions, vehicle type, braking efficiency, and the driver's reaction time, but 125 feet serves as a standard reference point for braking distance at this speed. The other options represent distances that are either too short or too long for the braking performance expected at this mph, emphasizing the importance of understanding braking distances for safe driving practices.

3. How far should warning triangles be placed from an obstruction?

A. 15m (49 ft)

B. 30m (98 ft)

C. 45m (147 ft)

D. 60m (197 ft)

The correct distance for placing warning triangles from an obstruction is 45 meters (147 feet). This distance is based on regulations that aim to maximize visibility and ensure safety for both the driver setting up the warning triangle and approaching traffic. When placing a warning triangle, it should be far enough away to alert oncoming vehicles of potential hazards without putting the person setting it up in danger. A distance of 45 meters provides a clear line of sight for drivers to see the triangle from a distance, allowing them to react appropriately and safely navigate around the obstruction. While placing the triangle too close, like at 15 or 30 meters, might not give drivers sufficient warning time, placing it further than 45 meters may lead to confusion or reduced effectiveness as the triangle could be less visible or out of context for the situation. Therefore, adhering to the 45-meter guideline strikes a balance between visibility and safety, making it the most appropriate choice.

4. If you are parking facing uphill, what should you do with your steering wheel?

A. Turn the steering wheel to the right

B. Turn the steering wheel to the left

C. Leave the steering wheel in a neutral position

D. Lock the steering wheel in place

When parking uphill, turning the steering wheel to the left ensures that if the vehicle were to roll backwards, it would roll towards the kerb rather than into the road. This method provides an additional safety measure by preventing potential accidents or hazards caused by a vehicle rolling freely downhill. The left turn directs the wheels away from the road, increasing the likelihood that the car will hit the kerb instead, thus stopping it from rolling into traffic. In contrast, other options do not provide the same level of safety. Leaving the steering wheel in a neutral position or locking it in place does not offer any protection against rolling, as the tires would still turn freely down the slope. Turning the steering wheel to the right would cause the vehicle to roll into the road rather than towards the kerb, which is unsafe.

5. Which features signify an area reserved for trams?

A. Traffic lights with tram symbols

B. White line markings and a different surface colour or texture

C. Signposts indicating tram routes

D. Speed bumps only

An area reserved for trams is often indicated by specific visual cues that help both drivers and pedestrians identify these zones. One of the primary features is the use of white line markings, which delineate the tram tracks and ensure that other vehicles maintain a safe distance. Along with the line markings, the surface may also have a different colour or texture, making it visually distinct from regular roadways. This differentiation is crucial for safety, as it alerts all road users to exercise caution and awareness when navigating through areas where trams operate. While traffic lights with tram symbols, signposts indicating tram routes, and speed bumps may also play a role in tram-related traffic management and safety, these features alone do not specifically signify the boundaries of the tram areas. The white line markings and distinct surface characteristics are the most immediate indicators that such a zone is meant exclusively for tram use, highlighting the importance of these features for maintaining a safe sharing of the road.

6. How far can you park from a junction?

A. No closer than 5m (16ft) from a junction

B. No closer than 10m (32ft) from a junction

C. No closer than 15m (49ft) from a junction

D. No closer than 20m (66ft) from a junction

When it comes to parking near junctions, it is typically advised to park no closer than 10 meters from the junction. This distance helps ensure that your vehicle does not obstruct visibility for incoming traffic, allowing drivers to see pedestrians and other vehicles clearly when they are approaching or leaving the junction. Maintaining this distance also helps in ensuring that turning vehicles have adequate space to maneuver without being hindered by parked cars, creating a safer environment for all road users. It's essential for complying with local regulations and guidelines regarding parking, as well as for promoting safe driving practices.

7. What can result from underinflated tyres?

A. Increased fuel consumption and affects braking

B. Higher safety ratings

C. Decreased grip on the road

D. Added weight to the vehicle

Underinflated tyres can significantly impact a vehicle's performance and safety. When tyres are not properly inflated, the contact area with the road increases, leading to greater rolling resistance. This increased friction requires more energy to maintain speed, which in turn leads to higher fuel consumption. Additionally, underinflation affects braking efficiency. With a larger contact patch, the tyres may not respond optimally when you brake, increasing stopping distances and potentially leading to unsafe driving conditions. While other factors like potential loss of grip or other issues may arise from underinflated tyres, the primary and most direct consequences are the increased fuel consumption and the detrimental effects on braking performance, making the association with fuel efficiency and braking critical for drivers to understand.

8. Generally, which lane should you be in if you are planning to leave the motorway?

A. The left-hand lane

B. The middle lane

C. The right-hand lane

D. The hard shoulder

When planning to leave the motorway, the left-hand lane is the appropriate choice as it is designated for vehicles preparing to exit. Motorways are designed with multiple lanes for different types of traffic flow, and the left-hand lane is typically where slower-moving traffic and vehicles exiting the motorway should be positioned. This practice helps maintain a smooth flow of traffic and provides an orderly way for drivers to enter and exit the motorway system. Using the left-hand lane to exit helps to avoid unnecessary congestion and the risk of potential accidents that may occur if vehicles in the right or middle lanes suddenly change lanes without warning. Additionally, remaining in the right-hand lane for an exit can lead to late maneuvers, causing stress for both the driver attempting to exit and for other motorists who might be traveling at higher speeds.

9. What do green lights mean?

A. You must stop immediately

B. You can only go straight

C. You may proceed if your exit is not blocked

D. You can turn left only

Green lights indicate that you may proceed through the intersection or into the area controlled by the traffic light, provided that it is safe to do so. This means checking that your intended path is clear of obstacles, such as vehicles or pedestrians, and that your exit is not blocked. It allows for flexibility in movement, which includes turning right, going straight, or even turning left, as long as those movements are safe and comply with any other road signs present. The interpretation of green lights is crucial for maintaining the flow of traffic and ensuring that drivers can navigate safely through intersections. Being aware of your surroundings and understanding that a green light does not guarantee an unobstructed path is essential for safe driving.

10. What is the duration of a standard MOT?

A. 6 months

B. 1 year

C. 2 years

D. 3 years

A standard MOT (Ministry of Transport test) lasts for 1 year. This annual test is crucial as it ensures that vehicles meet the necessary safety and environmental standards. After a car passes its MOT, it is valid for a whole year from the date of the test. Most vehicles over three years old are legally required to undergo this test annually to ensure they remain roadworthy and comply with regulations. The durations of 6 months, 2 years, and 3 years mentioned in the other choices do not align with the established regulations regarding the MOT frequency. Therefore, it is essential for vehicle owners to remember that they must renew their MOT every year to avoid penalties and ensure their vehicle is safe to drive.

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://ukdrivingtheorypermit.examzify.com

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