

VIRGINIA DRIVER EDUCATION AND TRAFFIC SAFETY (VADETS) PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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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. ABS brakes are designed to prevent what and maintain the ability to do what?**
 - A. The tires from screeching, stop
 - B. Swerving, stay in your lane
 - C. The tires from locking, steer
 - D. The steering wheel from locking, stop smoothly
- 2. Which actions should you take if you see the oil light on the dashboard?**
 - A. Continue driving until the next service.
 - B. Check other warning lights.
 - C. Pull over to check the oil level.
 - D. Ignore it if the car sounds normal.
- 3. When were airbags developed?**
 - A. 1970's
 - B. 1980's
 - C. Early 1990's
 - D. Late 1990's
- 4. Which of the following is not a passive warning for railroad crossings?**
 - A. A) a stop line with a cross buck.
 - B. B) yellow circular advance warning.
 - C. C) railroad gates.
 - D. D) Diamond-shaped parallel track sign.
- 5. What is NOT a recommended action during a tire blowout?**
 - A. Grip the steering wheel firmly.
 - B. Stay off the brake.
 - C. Steer sharply to the left.
 - D. Ease off the accelerator.

- 6. What does it indicate if another driver can see your face in their rearview mirror?**
- A. You are within their line of sight
 - B. They cannot see you
 - C. You are in the blind spot
 - D. They are aware of your presence
- 7. What input does not affect the balance of the vehicle?**
- A. Passengers
 - B. Steering
 - C. Acceleration
 - D. Braking
- 8. If the turn indicators are not functioning, what must be used instead?**
- A. True
 - B. False
- 9. How do airbags reduce the risk of injury in a collision?**
- A. Airbags replace seat belts as the primary restraint system.
 - B. Airbags form a protective barrier between the colliding automobiles.
 - C. Airbags provide oxygen to help the injured person breathe.
 - D. Airbags work together with seat belts to reduce the force of collision.
- 10. Does modified hand to hand steering require the driver to place one hand over the other while turning?**
- A. Does
 - B. Does not
 - C. Only for left turns
 - D. Only for right turns

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. ABS brakes are designed to prevent what and maintain the ability to do what?

- A. The tires from screeching, stop
- B. Swerving, stay in your lane
- C. The tires from locking, steer**
- D. The steering wheel from locking, stop smoothly

The correct answer highlights that ABS (Anti-lock Braking System) brakes are specifically engineered to prevent the tires from locking up during hard braking situations. When tires lock, they lose traction with the road surface, which can lead to a loss of control over the vehicle. This is particularly critical in emergency stops or on slippery surfaces. By preventing the tires from locking, ABS allows the driver to maintain steering control, which is crucial for maneuvering the vehicle in emergency situations. This ability to steer while braking helps drivers avoid obstacles and stay safe on the road, enhancing overall vehicle stability during abrupt stops. This function is central to the design and purpose of ABS, making it a valuable safety feature in modern vehicles.

2. Which actions should you take if you see the oil light on the dashboard?

- A. Continue driving until the next service.
- B. Check other warning lights.
- C. Pull over to check the oil level.**
- D. Ignore it if the car sounds normal.

When the oil light illuminates on your dashboard, it indicates a potential issue with your vehicle's oil pressure or oil level. If you see this warning light, it is crucial to take immediate action. Pulling over to check the oil level is the most appropriate response, as low oil levels can lead to severe engine damage if the vehicle continues to operate under such conditions. Checking the oil level allows you to assess whether the oil is indeed low or if there is a possible leak or another problem affecting the oil pressure. Addressing oil issues promptly can help avoid costly repairs and ensure the engine runs smoothly. While it's common to check other warning lights or consider the overall sounds of the vehicle, these actions do not directly address the potential problem indicated by the oil light. Continuing to drive or ignoring the warning is risky, as it could result in engine failure. Therefore, verifying the oil level when the oil light comes on is the safest and most logical course of action.

3. When were airbags developed?

- A. 1970's
- B. 1980's
- C. Early 1990's**
- D. Late 1990's

Airbags were first developed in the late 1970s and had limited use in the 1980s, but they didn't become widely available and standard in vehicles until the early 1990s. This period marked a significant advancement in automotive safety technology, as it was during this time that manufacturers began to implement airbags extensively in response to safety regulations and consumer demand for safer vehicles. The early 1990s saw the introduction of airbags in many popular car models and the establishment of regulations requiring them in new vehicles, leading to a dramatic increase in their use to help protect occupants during collisions.

4. Which of the following is not a passive warning for railroad crossings?

- A. A) a stop line with a cross buck.
- B. B) yellow circular advance warning.
- C. C) railroad gates.**
- D. D) Diamond-shaped parallel track sign.

The correct answer is that railroad gates are not considered a passive warning for railroad crossings. Instead, they are an active warning system that provides a clear indication of an approaching train. When railroad gates are down, they physically block traffic from entering the crossing, signaling that a train is either approaching or is present. Passive warning systems, on the other hand, are designed to alert drivers to the potential hazard of a railroad crossing without actively controlling access. Features such as a stop line with a cross buck, a yellow circular advance warning sign, and a diamond-shaped parallel track sign provide visual cues about the presence of a railroad crossing but do not physically prevent vehicles from entering the crossing area. These passive warnings rely on drivers to take appropriate actions based on the information presented, rather than actively managing traffic.

5. What is NOT a recommended action during a tire blowout?

- A. Grip the steering wheel firmly.
- B. Stay off the brake.
- C. Steer sharply to the left.**
- D. Ease off the accelerator.

During a tire blowout, one of the most crucial actions is to maintain control of the vehicle. Steering sharply to the left can lead to a loss of control, making the situation worse by potentially causing the vehicle to skid or veer off course. Instead, it is recommended to keep the steering wheel steady and grip it firmly to maintain control. In addition, staying off the brake is important because braking suddenly during a blowout can cause the vehicle to lose stability. Likewise, easing off the accelerator allows the vehicle to slow down gradually, helping the driver maintain control while coming to a stop. These actions are crucial for safely handling a tire blowout and minimizing risk during such an event.

6. What does it indicate if another driver can see your face in their rearview mirror?

- A. You are within their line of sight**
- B. They cannot see you
- C. You are in the blind spot
- D. They are aware of your presence

If another driver can see your face in their rearview mirror, it indicates that you are within their line of sight. Being visible in the rearview mirror means that you are in a position where the driver can properly monitor their surroundings, which is essential for maintaining awareness of other vehicles on the road. This visibility suggests that you are at a safe distance, allowing the driver to make informed decisions about lane changes or stops. It is important for drivers to maintain awareness of other vehicles, as this can prevent accidents and improve overall safety. Consequently, understanding the positioning of your vehicle in relation to others is imperative for safe driving. In contrast, the other options imply scenarios where the visibility of the driver is compromised, such as being in a blind spot, which is an area around the vehicle that cannot be seen through the mirrors. If you were in a blind spot or if they could not see you, it would increase the risk of a collision, as the other driver would be unaware of your presence.

7. What input does not affect the balance of the vehicle?

A. Passengers

B. Steering

C. Acceleration

D. Braking

The selection of "passengers" as the input that does not affect the balance of the vehicle is noteworthy because, although the presence of passengers can influence weight distribution, it does not directly impact how the vehicle handles in terms of control inputs like steering, acceleration, or braking. When the vehicle is being driven, steering, acceleration, and braking are actively engaged by the driver to maneuver and control the vehicle's dynamics. Steering affects direction and stability; acceleration affects weight transfer and traction; and braking impacts weight distribution and stability during deceleration. These actions are directly related to how a vehicle responds to driving conditions and helps in maintaining balance. Passenger weight can shift the center of gravity in a vehicle, but it is a passive characteristic and does not involve a driver's input or active decision-making in the moment of driving. The vehicle's inherent design and structural characteristics establish how well it handles various inputs, making those inputs—steering, acceleration, and braking—crucial for maintaining balance during operation. In contrast, the mere presence of passengers does not provide an immediate change to the balance unless the distribution is severely disproportionate, which is not a typical consideration in the context of day-to-day driving.

8. If the turn indicators are not functioning, what must be used instead?

A. True

B. False

The correct answer indicates that if the turn indicators are not functioning, the driver must use hand signals to indicate their intentions to other road users. Hand signals are essential for communicating with other drivers and pedestrians, particularly when turning or changing lanes. This method is a traditional backup that ensures safety on the road when standard signaling devices are compromised. Using hand signals involves extending the arm out of the driver's window at various angles to convey specific actions: an arm extended horizontally for a left turn, an arm bent at a 90-degree angle upward for a right turn, and an arm bent at a 90-degree angle downward for stopping. This practice enhances visibility and understanding among road users, reducing the likelihood of accidents. Understanding the necessity of alternative signaling methods when electronic systems fail is critical to maintaining safety on the road and is a key aspect of responsible driving.

9. How do airbags reduce the risk of injury in a collision?

A. Airbags replace seat belts as the primary restraint system.

B. Airbags form a protective barrier between the colliding automobiles.

C. Airbags provide oxygen to help the injured person breathe.

D. Airbags work together with seat belts to reduce the force of collision.

Airbags are designed to enhance the effectiveness of seat belts, not replace them. In a collision, seat belts hold passengers securely in their seats, while airbags deploy rapidly to cushion and protect the occupants from direct impact. This combination significantly reduces the overall force experienced by the body during a crash. By working in tandem with seat belts, airbags help to distribute the collision forces more evenly across the body, thus minimizing the risk of severe injuries to vital areas such as the head, chest, and neck. The deployment of an airbag can help prevent a passenger's body from hitting hard surfaces within the vehicle, such as the steering wheel or dashboard. This collaborative approach increases the likelihood of survival and reduces the severity of injuries in the event of an accident.

10. Does modified hand to hand steering require the driver to place one hand over the other while turning?

A. Does

B. Does not

C. Only for left turns

D. Only for right turns

Modified hand-to-hand steering, also known as push-pull steering, focuses on maintaining control and stability while navigating turns without crossing your arms. In this technique, the driver positions one hand at the 9 o'clock position on the steering wheel (left side) and the other at the 3 o'clock position (right side). Instead of placing one hand over the other, the driver pushes the wheel with one hand while pulling it down with the other to turn the vehicle smoothly. This method enhances steering control and allows the driver to maintain better visibility and posture by not crossing their arms, which can lead to reduced control during a turn. Additionally, using the push-pull technique ensures that the driver's hands remain in the proper positions on the wheel, ready to react if needed, such as in emergency situations. The steering wheel can also be more easily maneuvered back to the straight-ahead position after completing the turn. Thus, the correct understanding of modified hand-to-hand steering is that it does not require the driver to place one hand over the other while turning.

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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:

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

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