

Virginia I Drive Safely Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of questions,

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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!

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Questions

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- 1. When passing around a rotary traffic island, which direction should you drive?**
 - A. To the left of the rotary traffic island**
 - B. In both directions**
 - C. To the right of the rotary traffic island**
 - D. In reverse if necessary**

- 2. What is a significant risk associated with rural roads?**
 - A. Traffic congestion**
 - B. High speeds and dangerous curves**
 - C. Frequent stoplights**
 - D. Limited speed limit changes**

- 3. What can excessive speeds pose for bicyclists?**
 - A. A safe riding experience**
 - B. Unsafe situations**
 - C. Reduced visibility**
 - D. Increased handling**

- 4. Negative thoughts that occur while driving often manifest as what?**
 - A. Silent reflection**
 - B. Hostile verbal expression**
 - C. Emotional withdrawal**
 - D. Physical distraction**

- 5. How can sudden loss of tire pressure occur?**
 - A. By driving too slowly**
 - B. Due to gradual loss of air**
 - C. By regular maintenance**
 - D. By excessive tire rotation**

6. What is one of the risks when a vehicle has a long and broad hood?

- A. Increased visibility**
- B. Restricted vision up to 20 feet in front**
- C. Enhanced turning radius**
- D. Improved safety features**

7. What class felony is designated for a fourth or subsequent DUI conviction?

- A. Class 1 Felony**
- B. Class 2 Felony**
- C. Class 5 Felony**
- D. Class 6 Felony**

8. During rush hours, what is the function of some traffic signals at expressway entrances?

- A. To provide instructions to pedestrians**
- B. To control vehicle entry into the expressway**
- C. To indicate speed limits on the highway**
- D. To signal when to stop entirely**

9. What is the effect of failing to judge the speed of approaching vehicles when passing?

- A. It increases fuel efficiency**
- B. It leads to unnecessary stops**
- C. It can cause head-on collisions**
- D. It has no effect**

10. How should you adjust your following distance in poor driving conditions?

- A. Maintain a 1-second following distance**
- B. Increase to at least 5 seconds**
- C. Keep a 3-second following distance**
- D. Follow the vehicle closely**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. When passing around a rotary traffic island, which direction should you drive?

- A. To the left of the rotary traffic island**
- B. In both directions**
- C. To the right of the rotary traffic island**
- D. In reverse if necessary**

When navigating a rotary traffic island, driving to the right of the island is essential for maintaining the flow of traffic and ensuring safety. Rotaries, also known as roundabouts, are designed to facilitate efficient vehicle movement by allowing cars to merge smoothly without stopping. In most regions, including Virginia, traffic in a rotary circulates in a counterclockwise direction. By choosing to drive on the right side, vehicles can safely yield to oncoming traffic within the rotary while also allowing others to merge in seamlessly. This practice helps reduce the likelihood of collisions that could occur if drivers were to attempt passing to the left of the island or in both directions, which would create confusion and disarray. Driving in reverse is also not a feasible option since it impedes the flow of traffic and could lead to dangerous situations. Therefore, maintaining the expectation of right-side passage is crucial for safety and compliance with traffic regulations at rotary intersections.

2. What is a significant risk associated with rural roads?

- A. Traffic congestion**
- B. High speeds and dangerous curves**
- C. Frequent stoplights**
- D. Limited speed limit changes**

High speeds and dangerous curves represent a significant risk associated with rural roads due to several factors inherent in these environments. Rural roads often have higher speed limits compared to urban areas, which can lead to more severe accidents if drivers lose control. The presence of curves—often sharper than those found in urban settings—can further complicate safe navigation, especially for drivers who may not be familiar with the terrain. Additionally, rural roads are sometimes less maintained, and the visibility may be reduced due to natural obstacles or lack of artificial lighting, which compounds the risk when driving at high speeds. Therefore, understanding and recognizing these conditions is crucial for safe driving on rural roads.

3. What can excessive speeds pose for bicyclists?

- A. A safe riding experience
- B. Unsafe situations**
- C. Reduced visibility
- D. Increased handling

Excessive speeds can create unsafe situations for bicyclists for several reasons. When a vehicle travels at high speeds, it reduces the driver's ability to react quickly to changing conditions or obstacles on the road. This means that if a cyclist suddenly appears or if there are unexpected obstacles, the driver might not have enough time to slow down or stop, increasing the risk of accidents. Moreover, at higher speeds, the force of impact in a collision between a vehicle and a bicyclist can be significantly greater, potentially leading to more severe injuries or fatalities. Bicyclists are also more vulnerable due to their relatively smaller size and lower visibility compared to motor vehicles, making it harder for drivers to see them, particularly in low-light conditions. Additionally, high speeds can lead to reckless driving behaviors, such as tailgating or aggressive maneuvering around cyclists, which further endangers them. Overall, excessive speeds increase the likelihood of crashes and create environments where bicyclists face a higher risk of harm.

4. Negative thoughts that occur while driving often manifest as what?

- A. Silent reflection
- B. Hostile verbal expression**
- C. Emotional withdrawal
- D. Physical distraction

Negative thoughts while driving can frequently lead to hostile verbal expressions. This response occurs when a driver experiences frustration, anger, or anxiety related to their driving environment or the behaviors of other drivers. When these emotions surface, they can prompt the driver to express their feelings verbally, sometimes in the form of shouting or cursing at other road users, even if they are merely talking to themselves. This reaction is a way of venting frustration and can increase tension, potentially affecting the driver's focus and overall safety on the road. In contrast, silent reflection, emotional withdrawal, and physical distraction represent different states of mind or reactions that may not necessarily involve that burst of emotion. Silent reflection might involve thinking deeply without a vocal expression, emotional withdrawal can signify a detachment from the driving experience, and physical distraction typically involves a detour of attention away from driving activities, such as looking at a phone or adjusting controls. While these responses can also be influenced by negative thoughts, they do not embody the same active, outward expression as hostile verbal communication does.

5. How can sudden loss of tire pressure occur?

- A. By driving too slowly
- B. Due to gradual loss of air**
- C. By regular maintenance
- D. By excessive tire rotation

Sudden loss of tire pressure can occur due to various factors, but one significant cause is a rapid and severe puncture or damage to the tire itself. When a tire experiences a puncture, it can lose air quickly, resulting in a sudden drop in pressure. This situation is often exacerbated by driving conditions such as hitting a pothole or a sharp object in the road, leading to immediate deflation. While gradual loss of air can happen over time due to small leaks or normal wear and tear, the correct answer highlights that sudden changes can arise from acute incidents. Regular maintenance, such as checking tire pressure and rotating tires, generally helps prevent issues rather than causing them. Driving too slowly is typically irrelevant to tire pressure loss and can even be beneficial in some contexts. Excessive tire rotation is also not directly linked to sudden loss of tire pressure. Instead, understanding that sudden incidents can lead to immediate air loss gives drivers critical insight into tire maintenance and safety.

6. What is one of the risks when a vehicle has a long and broad hood?

- A. Increased visibility
- B. Restricted vision up to 20 feet in front**
- C. Enhanced turning radius
- D. Improved safety features

When a vehicle has a long and broad hood, it can create blind spots that limit the driver's vision, particularly for objects or pedestrians located close to the front of the vehicle. This restricted vision can extend up to 20 feet in front of the vehicle, making it difficult for the driver to see smaller objects or individuals directly in their path. This aspect poses a safety risk, as it can hinder the driver's ability to accurately assess their surroundings while maneuvering, particularly in tight spaces or during parking situations. By contrast, increased visibility and improved safety features would generally be associated with a design that emphasizes driver awareness and object detection, which is not the case with a long, broad hood. Enhanced turning radius typically relates to vehicle maneuverability, which is generally not influenced directly by hood size.

7. What class felony is designated for a fourth or subsequent DUI conviction?

- A. Class 1 Felony**
- B. Class 2 Felony**
- C. Class 5 Felony**
- D. Class 6 Felony**

A fourth or subsequent DUI conviction is classified as a Class 6 felony in Virginia. This classification reflects the serious nature of repeated offenses and the potential risks posed to public safety due to impaired driving. Class 6 felonies can result in significant legal penalties, including potential prison time, extensive fines, and the possibility of a suspended license for several years. This classification serves to deter individuals from repeat offenses by imposing stricter consequences. The legal system aims to protect the community and reduce instances of dangerous driving related to alcohol or drug use. Understanding this classification also highlights the importance of being aware of the laws surrounding driving under the influence, as engaging in such behavior multiple times significantly escalates the severity of legal repercussions.

8. During rush hours, what is the function of some traffic signals at expressway entrances?

- A. To provide instructions to pedestrians**
- B. To control vehicle entry into the expressway**
- C. To indicate speed limits on the highway**
- D. To signal when to stop entirely**

Traffic signals at expressway entrances during rush hours primarily serve to control vehicle entry into the expressway. This function is crucial for managing traffic flow, especially during peak travel times when the volume of vehicles can exceed the expressway's capacity. By regulating the number of vehicles that enter the expressway, these signals help to prevent congestion, reduce the likelihood of collisions, and improve overall safety on the roadway. The signals may allow vehicles to enter the expressway in a staggered manner, reducing the potential for backups and ensuring a smoother transition from the entrance ramp onto the highway. This method helps maintain efficient traffic flow and minimizes the risk of accidents that can occur when too many vehicles enter at once.

9. What is the effect of failing to judge the speed of approaching vehicles when passing?

- A. It increases fuel efficiency**
- B. It leads to unnecessary stops**
- C. It can cause head-on collisions**
- D. It has no effect**

Failing to accurately judge the speed of approaching vehicles while passing is a critical mistake that can lead to dangerous situations, including head-on collisions. When a driver miscalculates the speed of oncoming traffic, they may enter the passing lane without sufficient time to safely complete the maneuver. This increases the risk of a collision with an approaching vehicle, which could lead to severe accidents and potential fatalities. Responsible passing requires an understanding of both your own vehicle's speed and the speed of the vehicles you are passing. If you underestimate how fast an oncoming vehicle is approaching, you might not have enough time to return to your lane safely, which dramatically heightens the risk of a crash. Thus, accurate judgment of speed is essential for maintaining safety on the road.

10. How should you adjust your following distance in poor driving conditions?

- A. Maintain a 1-second following distance**
- B. Increase to at least 5 seconds**
- C. Keep a 3-second following distance**
- D. Follow the vehicle closely**

In poor driving conditions, such as rain, snow, fog, or other situations that may reduce visibility and road traction, it is crucial to increase your following distance significantly to at least five seconds. This extended distance provides a safer buffer, allowing more time to react to any sudden changes, such as the vehicle in front of you slowing down or stopping unexpectedly. Under normal conditions, a following distance of three seconds is often adequate for most drivers, but adverse weather can dramatically impact a vehicle's stopping distance due to decreased traction. Increasing the following distance to five seconds accounts for these hazards, giving drivers additional time to assess the situation and respond safely. This practice helps mitigate the risk of collisions caused by panic or sudden braking in precarious driving environments. Maintaining a shorter following distance, such as one second or even three seconds, in poor driving conditions would not provide enough time to react safely, whereas following closely can lead to rear-end crashes should the vehicle ahead need to stop suddenly.

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://vaidrivesafely.examzify.com>

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

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