CDL Review for

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Table of Contents

Getting Your Permit

Braving the Your Local DPS Office

Passing All SIX of the Required Written Tests

1. Special Requirements
2. General Knowledge
3. Air Brake Systems
4. Transporting Passengers
5. School Buses
6. Pre-Trip Inspection

- CDL Manual Notes
- Practice Quizzes

Training – This includes watching about 8 hours of video and 20 hours behind the wheel.

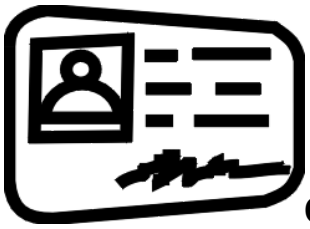
- Video Notes

Scheduling Your Driving Test

Initial Certification

If you have any additional questions you can e-mail me at Lorelei.Clark@fortbend.k12.tx.us or Lorelei_Clark@Hotmail.com

Curtis Carlson (Curtis.Carlson@fortbend.k12.tx.us - Road and Safety Supervisor, 281-634-1977) is also an excellent source of information and can help you out with physicals, getting you set up with a trainer, etc. He immediately and patiently answered the dozens of e-mails I sent him and I couldn't have gotten through the process without his assistance.



Getting Your Permit

What you need to study to pass the tests:

Yellow Texas Drivers Handbook
http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/driverlicense/documents/dl-7.pdf

Chapter 15 – Special Requirements for Commercial Motor Vehicles

White Texas Commercial Motor Vehicle Driver Handbook (August, 2010)

General Knowledge – Part One: Sections 1 and 2

Transporting Passengers – Part Two: Section 4

Air Brakes – Part Two: Section 5

School Buses - Part Two: Section 10

Pre-Trip Inspection - Part Three: Section 11

Special Requirements – Part Three: Section 14

They will also give you all the needed paperwork to bring in when you take the written tests. Also be aware that there will be an $11 charge for the permit and a $61 charge for the CDL license. This is an out of pocket expense and in my experience not reimbursable.

After successful completion of the written tests, your terminal will set you up with a physical and drug test.

You can go to one of three clinics and this will be paid for by the district.

Braeswood Occupational Clinic – 7555 S. Braeswood, Houston 77071

Rosenberg Occupational Clinic – 117 Lane Drive #2, Rosenberg 77471

Pasadena Occupational Clinic – 3122 Spencer Highway, Pasadena 77504

The Safety Supervisor from your training terminal with need to send paperwork to the clinic prior to going. They will need your Social Security Number and date of birth.

TEXAS
COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE
DRIVER HANDBOOK

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Steven McCraw, Director
Revised August, 2010

NOTES

General Knowledge Notes from the CDL Handbook

What is the most important reason for doing a vehicle inspection?

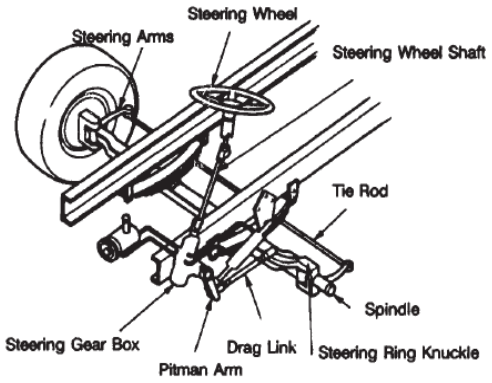
Safety is the most important reason you inspect your vehicle. **Safety for yourself and for other road users.**

What things should you check during a trip?

Watch gauges for signs of trouble.

- Use your senses — look, listen, smell, feel — to check for problems. When stopped, critical items to check are:

-Tires, wheels and rims.
-Brakes.
-Lights and reflectors.
-Brake and electrical connections to trailer.
-Trailer coupling devices.
-Cargo securement devices.



Name some key steering system parts.

Steering wheel, steering gear box, tie rod, spindle, drag link, steering ring knuckle, steering arm. Steering wheel shaft.

Name some suspension system defects.

- Spring hangers that allow movement of axle from proper position.
- Cracked or broken spring hangers.
- Missing or broken leaves in any leaf spring. If one-fourth or more are missing, it will put the vehicle "out of service" but any defect could be dangerous.
- Broken leaves in a multi-leaf spring or leaves that have shifted so that they might hit a tire or other part.
- Leaking shock absorbers.
- Torque rod or arm, u-bolts, spring hangers, or other axle position parts that are cracked, damaged, or missing
- Air suspension systems that are damaged and/or leaking.
- Any loose, cracked, broken, or missing frame members.

What three kinds of emergency equipment must you have?

- Fire extinguisher(s).

- Spare electrical fuses (unless equipped with circuit breakers).

- Warning devices for parked vehicles (for example, three reflective warning triangles).

What is the minimum tread depth for front tires?

You need at least 4/32 inch tread depth in every major groove on front tires. No fabric should show through the tread or sidewall.

For other tires? You need 2/32 inch on other tires. No fabric should show through the tread or sidewall.

Name some things you should check on the front of your vehicle during the walk-around inspection.

Condition of front axle.

Condition of steering system.

- No loose, worn, bent, or damaged or missing parts.
- Must grab steering mechanism to test for looseness.

Condition of windshield.

-Check for damage and clean if dirty.
-Check windshield wiper arms for proper spring tension.
-Check wiper blades for damage, "stiff" rubber, and securement.

Lights and reflectors.

-Parking, clearance, and identification lights clean, operating, and proper color (amber at front).
-Right front turn signal light clean, operating, and proper color (amber or white on signals facing forward).

What should wheel bearing seals be checked for? That they are not leaking.

How many red reflective triangles should you carry? Three

How do you test hydraulic brakes for leaks?

Pump the brake pedal three times. Then apply firm pressure to the pedal and hold for five seconds. The pedal should not move. If it does, there may be a leak or other problem. Get it fixed before driving.

Why put the starter switch key in your pocket during the pre-trip inspection? Always put the key in your pocket because someone might move the vehicle while you are checking underneath it.

Why should you back toward the driver's side?

Back toward the driver's side so you can see better. If you back and turn toward the driver's side, you can watch the rear of your vehicle by looking out the side window. Use driver's side backing even if it means going around the block to put your vehicle in this position. The added safety is worth it.

What is a pull-up? Pulling your vehicle forward when backing a trailer in order to reposition it as needed.

If stopped on a hill, how can you start moving without rolling back?

By partly engaging the clutch before you take your right foot off the brake. You can also engage the parking brake. If you do so, only release the parking brake when you have applied enough engine power to keep from rolling back. On a tractor-trailer equipped with a trailer brake hand valve, the hand valve can be applied to keep from rolling back.

When backing, why is it important to use a helper? Because there are spots you can't see.

What's the most important hand signal that you and the helper should agree on? Agree on a signal for "stop."

What are the two special conditions where you should downshift? Before starting down a hill and before entering a curve.

When should you downshift automatic transmissions? You can select a low range to get greater engine braking when going down grades.

Retarders keep you from skidding when the road is slippery. True or False?

False. Retarders help slow a vehicle, reducing the need for using your brakes. When your drive wheels have poor traction, the retarder may cause them to skid. Therefore, you should turn the retarder off whenever the road is wet, icy, or snow covered.

What are the two ways to know when to shift?

Use engine speed. Watch your tachometer, and shift up when your engine reaches the top of the range for your engine.

Use road speed. Learn what speeds each gear is good for. Then by using the speedometer, you'll know when to shift up.

How far ahead does the manual say you should look? 12 to 15 seconds ahead, which means the distance you would travel in 12 to 15 seconds. At slower speeds, that's about a block. At highway speeds it's about a quarter of a mile.

What are two main things to look for ahead?

Look for traffic: Vehicles coming onto the highway, into our lane, or turning. Watch for break lights from slowing vehicles.

Look for road conditions. Look for hills and curves — anything you'll have to slow or change lanes for. Pay attention to traffic signals and signs. Watch for stale green lights that may change before you get there.

What does "communicating" mean in safe driving? Signaling what you intend to do.

Where should your reflectors be placed when stopped on a divided highway?

10 feet, 100 feet, and 200 feet toward the approaching traffic.

What three things add up to total stopping distance?

Perception Distance
+ Reaction Distance
+ Braking Distance

= Total stopping distance.

If you go twice as fast, will your stopping distance increase by twice or four times?

Whenever you double your speed, it takes about four times as much distance to stop and your vehicle has about four times the destructive power if it crashes.

Empty trucks have the best braking. True or False?

False. Empty trucks require greater stopping distances, because an empty vehicle has less traction. It can bounce and lock up its wheels, giving much poorer braking.

What is hydroplaning? Hydroplaning — which is comparable to your tires water skiing — happens when the tires lose their contact with the road and have little or no traction. You can regain control by releasing the accelerator and pushing in the clutch.

What is black ice? Black ice is a thin layer of ice that is clear enough that you can see the road under it. It makes the road look wet. Any time the temperature is below freezing and the road looks wet, watch out for black ice.

How do you find out how many seconds of following distance space you have?

To know how much space you have, wait until the vehicle ahead passes a shadow on the road, a pavement marking, or some other clear landmark. Then count off the seconds like this "one thousand-and-one, one thousand-and-two" and so on, until you reach the same spot. Keep at least four seconds for 40-foot truck and five seconds if you are going over 40 mph.

If you are driving a 30-foot vehicle at 55 mph, how many seconds of following distance should you allow?

You should allow at least 4 seconds: one second for each 10 feet of vehicle length at speeds under 40 mph, plus one second for safety when exceeding 40 mph.

You should decrease your following distance if somebody is following you too closely. True or False?

False. Increase your following distance. Opening up room in front of you will help you to avoid having to make sudden speed or direction changes. It also makes it easier for the tailgater to get around you.

If you swing wide to the left before turning right, another driver may try to pass you on the right. True or false?

True.

You should use low beams whenever you can. True or False?

False. Some drivers make the mistake of always using low beams. This seriously cuts down on their ability to see ahead. Use high beams when it is safe and legal to do so. use them when you are not within 500 feet of an approaching vehicle.

What should you do before you drive if you are drowsy?

Get some sleep. If you are sleepy, the only safe cure is to get off the road and get some sleep.

What effects can wet brakes cause? How can you avoid these problems?

Water in the brakes can cause brakes to be weak, to apply unevenly, or to grab. Avoid driving through deep puddles or flowing water if possible. if not, you should:

- Slow down.
- Place transmission in a low gear.
- Gently put on the brakes. This presses lining against brake drums or discs and keeps mud, silt, sand, and water from getting in.
- Increase engine rpm and cross the water while keeping light pressure on the brakes.
- When out of the water, maintain light pressure on the brakes for a short distance to heat them up and dry them out.
- Make a test stop when safe to do so.

You should let air out of hot tires so the pressure goes back to normal. True or False?

False. Do not let air out or the pressure will be too low when the tires cool off. If a tire is too hot to touch, remain stopped until the tire cools off. Otherwise the tire may blow out or catch fire.

You can safely remove the radiator cap as long as the engine isn't overheated. True or False?

False. Never remove the radiator cap or any part of the pressurized system until the system has cooled. If you can touch the radiator cap with your bare hand, it is probably cool enough to open.

What factors determine your selection of a "safe" speed when going down a long, steep downgrade?

- Total weight of vehicle and cargo.
- Length of grade.
- Steepness of grade.
- Road conditions.
- Weather.

Why should you be in the proper gear before starting down a hill?

Do not try to downshift after your speed has already built up due to the hill. You will not be able to shift into a lower gear. You may not even be able to get back into any gear and all engine braking effect will be lost. Forcing an automatic transmission into a lower gear at high speed could damage the transmission and also lead to loss of all engine braking effect.

Describe the proper braking technique when going down a long, steep downgrade.

1. Apply the brakes just hard enough to feel a definite slowdown.

2. When your speed has been reduced to approximately five mph below your "safe" speed, release the brakes. [This brake application should last for about three seconds.]

When your speed has increased to your "safe" speed, repeat steps 1 and 2.

What is a hazard? A hazard is any road condition or other road user (driver, bicyclist, pedestrian) that is a possible danger.

Why make emergency plans when you see a hazard?

So that you are always prepared to take action based on your plans. In this way you will be a prepared defensive driver who will improve not only your own safety but the safety of all road users.

Stopping is not always the safest thing to do in an emergency. True or False?

True. Stopping is not always the safest thing to do in an emergency. When you don't have enough room to stop, you may have to steer away from what's ahead. Remember, you can almost always turn to miss an obstacle more quickly than you can stop. However, top-heavy vehicles and tractors with multiple trailers may flip over.

What are some advantages of going right instead of left around an obstacle?

If the shoulder is clear, going right may be best. No one is likely to be driving on the shoulder but someone may be passing you on the left. You will know if you have been using your mirrors. Also, if you are blocked on both sides, a move to the right may be best. At least you won't force anyone into an opposing traffic lane and a possible head-on collision.

What **is an "escape ramp?"** Off ramps built on steep downgrades that use soft gravel that resists the motion of the vehicle and brings it to a stop, or an off ramp that turns uphill, using the hill to stop the vehicle and soft gravel to hold it in place.

If a tire blows out, you should put the brakes on hard to stop quickly. True or False?

False. Unless you're about to run into something, stay off the brake until the vehicle has slowed down. Then brake very gently, pull off the road and stop.

What are some things to do at an accident scene to prevent another accident?

- If your vehicle is involved in the accident, try to get it to the side of the road. This will help prevent another accident and allow traffic to move.
- If you're stopping to help, park away from the accident. The area immediately around the accident will be needed for emergency vehicles.
- Put on your flashers.
- Set out reflective triangles to warn other traffic. Make sure they can be seen by other drivers in time for them to avoid the accident.

Name two causes of tire fires. Tires that are under-inflated or duals that touch.

What kinds of fires is a B:C extinguisher not good for?

Burning wood, paper and cloth.

When using your extinguisher, should you get as close as possible to the fire?

No. Stay as far away from the fire as possible.

Name some causes of vehicle fires.

Spilled fuel after an accident, improper use of flares. Electrical system shorts due to damaged insulation or loose connections. Driver smoking while fueling, improper fueling, and loose fuel connections. Cargo that is flammable, improperly sealed or loaded, and poor ventilation of cargo.

Common medicines for colds can make you sleepy. True or False.

True. Many medications can make you sleepy. The most common medicine of this type is an ordinary cold pill. If you have to drive with a cold, you are better off suffering from the cold than from the effects of the medicine.

What should you do if you do become sleepy while driving? Stop to sleep. When your body needs sleep, sleep is the only thing that will work. Take a nap. If you can't stop for the night, at least pull off at a safe place, such as a rest area or truck stop, and take a nap. A nap as short as a half-hour will do more to overcome fatigue than a half-hour coffee stop.

Coffee and a little fresh air will help a drinker sober up. True or False

False. Only time will help a drinker sober up — other methods just don't work.

What is a hazardous material placard? Placards are signs put on the outside of a vehicle which identify the hazard class of the cargo.

Why are placards used?

Placards are used to warn others of hazardous materials.

Transporting Passengers Notes from the CDL Handbook

Bus drivers MUST have a commercial driver's license if they drive a vehicle designed to seat more than 15 persons, including the driver.

Pre-Trip Inspection:

Vehicle Systems

Service brakes, parking brake, steering mechanism, lights and reflectors, tires, horn windshield wipers , mirrors, wheels and rims and emergency equipment.

Access Doors and Panels

As you check the outside of the bus, close any open emergency exits and any other open access panels. (baggage, engine, etc.)

Name some things to check in the interior of a bus during a pre-trip inspection.

Each handhold and railing. Floor covering. Signaling devices, including the restroom emergency buzzer, if the bus has a restroom. And emergency exit handles.

Aisles should ALWAYS be clear.

All seats must be safe for riders and securely fastened to the bus.

Roof Hatches

You may lock some emergency roof hatches in a partly open position for fresh air, but do not leave them open as a regular practice. Don't forget the bus's higher clearance when driving with them open.

Loading and Trip Start

DO NOT allow riders to leave carry-on baggage in a doorway or aisle.

Allows the driver to move easily, allows riders to exit by an window or door in an emergency and protects riders from injury if carry-ons fall or shift.

What are some hazardous materials you can transport by bus? Buses may carry small-arms ammunition labeled ORM-D, emergency hospital supplies, and drugs.

What are some hazardous materials you can't transport by bus?

- Class 2 poison, liquid Class 6 poison, tear gas, irritating material.
- More than 100 pounds of solid Class 6 poisons.

- Explosives in the space occupied by people, except small arms ammunition.
- Labeled radioactive materials in the space occupied by people.
- More than 500 pounds total of allowed hazardous material, and no more than 100 pounds of any one class.

DO NOT allow riders to carry on common hazards such as **car batteries or gasoline**.

What is a standee line? A 2-inch line on the floor of the bus, or some other means, showing riders where they cannot stand. All standing riders must stay behind this line. No rider may stand forward of the rear of the driver's seat.

Passenger Supervision

While driving, scan the interior of your bus, as well as the road ahead, to the sides, and to the rear.

Starting and stopping should be as smooth as possible to avoid rider injury.

Does it matter where you make a disruptive passenger get off the bus?

Yes, Don't discharge such riders where it would be unsafe for them. It may be safer at the next scheduled stop or a well-lighted area where there are other people. Many carriers have guidelines for handling disruptive riders.

Common Accidents

Bus crashes often happen at intersections.

Know the size of the gap your bus needs to accelerate and merge with traffic.

Speed on curves – with good traction the bus may roll over if going too fast and with poor traction it might slide off the curve. Reduce speed on curves. If your bus leans toward the outside on a banked curve, you are driving too fast.

How far from a railroad crossing should you stop?

Between 15 and 50 feet before railroad crossings. Listen and look in both directions for trains. You should open your forward door if it improves your ability to see or hear an approaching train. Before crossing after a train has passed, make sure there isn't another train coming in the other direction on other tracks. **If your bus has a manual transmission, never change gears while crossing the tracks.**

You DO NOT have to stop, but must slow down and carefully check for other vehicles:

- At street car crossings.
- At railroad tracks used only for industrial switching within a business district.
- Where a policeman or flagman is directing traffic.
- If a traffic signal shows green.
- At crossing marked as exempt or abandoned.

When must you stop before crossing a drawbridge? When there is no signal light or traffic control attendant. Stop at least 50 feet before the draw of the bridge. Look to make sure the draw is completely closed before crossing.

After-Trip Vehicle Inspection

Describe from memory the "prohibited practices" when transporting passengers.

Avoid fueling your bus with riders on board unless absolutely necessary. Never refuel in a closed building with riders on board.

Don't talk with riders, or engage in any other distracting activity, while driving.

Do not tow or push a disabled bus with riders aboard the vehicle, unless getting off would be unsafe. Only tow or push the bus to the nearest safe spot to discharge passengers. Follow your employer's guidelines on towing or pushing disabled buses.

The rear door of a transit bus has to be open to put on the parking brake. True or False?

False. The rear door must be open to engage the brake and accelerator interlock system not the parking brake. The rear door closing releases these interlock systems not the parking brake. Do not use the brake-door interlocks in place of the parking brake.

Air Brakes Notes from the CDL Handbook

Why must air brakes be drained? To drain the water and compressor oil that collects in the bottom of the air tank. These substances are bad for the brake system because they could freeze in cold weather.

What is a supply pressure gauge used for?

These gauges tell you how much pressure is in the air tanks. All air-braked vehicles have a pressure gauge connected to the air tank. If the vehicle has a dual air brake system, there will either be a gauge for each half of the system or a single gauge with two needles.

Are all vehicles with air brakes required to have a low air pressure warning signal?

True. A low pressure warning signal is required on vehicles with air brakes. A warning signal you can see must come on before the air pressure in the tanks falls below 60 psi. (Or one half the compressor governor cutout pressure on older vehicles.) The warning is usually a red light. A buzzer may also come on.

What are spring brakes?

They are emergency brakes and parking brakes that are held on by mechanical force because to if air was used, the air pressure could eventually leak away. These brakes are applied when either the driver engages the parking break control in the cab or if there is a leak in the air brake system. Tractor and straight truck spring brakes will come fully on when the air pressure drops to a range of 20 - 45 psi (typically 20 to 30 psi).

Front wheel brakes are good under all conditions. True or False? True. Tests have shown front wheel skids from braking are not likely even on ice.

What is a dual air brake system?

A dual air brake system has two separate air brake systems which use a single set of brake controls. Each system has its own air tanks, hoses, lines, etc. One system typically operates the regular brakes on the rear axle or axles. The other system operates the regular brakes on the front axle (and possibly one rear axle). Both systems supply air to the trailer (if there is one). The first system is called the "primary" system. The other is called the "secondary" system.

How can you check slack adjusters?

Park on level ground and chock the wheels to prevent the vehicle from moving. Turn off the parking brakes so you can move the slack adjusters. Use gloves and pull hard on each slack adjuster that you can get to. If a slack adjuster moves more than about one inch where the push rod attaches to it, it probably needs adjustment. Adjust it or have it adjusted. Vehicles with too much brake slack can be very hard to stop. Out-of-adjustment brakes are the most common problem found in roadside inspection. Be safe. Check the slack adjusters.

How can you test the low pressure warning signal?

Shut the engine off when you have enough air pressure so that the low pressure warning signal is not on. Disengage the emergency brake, and place your foot on the brake. Turn the electrical power on and step on and off the brake pedal to reduce air tank pressure. The low air pressure warning signal must come on before the pressure drops to less than 60 psi in the air tank (or tank with the lowest air pressure, in dual air systems).

If the warning signal doesn't work, you could lose air pressure and you would not know it.

How can you check to see that the spring brakes come on automatically?

Choc the wheels, release the parking brakes when you have enough air pressure to do it, and shut the engine off. Step on and off the brake pedal to reduce the air tank pressure. The "parking brake" knob should pop out when the air pressure falls to the manufacture's specification (usually in a range between 20 - 40 psi). This causes the spring brakes to come on.

What are the maximum leakage rates?

With a fully-charged air system (typically 125 psi), turn off the engine, release the service brake, and time the air pressure drop. The loss rate should be less than two psi in one minute for single vehicles and less than three psi in one minute for combination vehicles. Then apply 90 psi or more with the brake pedal. After the initial pressure drop, if the air pressure falls more than three psi in one minute for single vehicles or more than four psi for combination vehicles, the air loss rate is too much. Check for air leaks and fix before driving the vehicle. Otherwise, you could lose your brakes while driving.

Why should you be in the proper gear before starting down a hill? Brakes can fade or fail from excessive heat caused by using them too much and not relying on the engine braking effect.

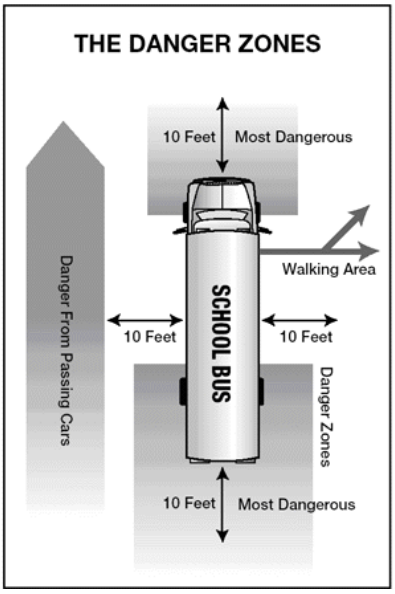
What factors can cause brakes to fade or fail? Brakes can fade or fail from excessive heat caused by using them too much and not relying on the engine braking effect. Brake fade results from excessive heat causing chemical changes in the brake lining which reduce friction and also causes expansion of the brake drums. As the overheated drums expand, the brake shoes and linings have to move farther to contact the drums, and the force of this contact is also reduced. Continued overuse may increase brake fade until the vehicle cannot be slowed down or stopped at all.

If you are away from your vehicle only a short time, you don't need to use the parking brake. True or False? False. Never leave your vehicle unattended without applying the parking brakes or chocking the wheels. Your vehicle might roll away and cause injury and damage.

How often should you drain air tanks?

If your vehicle does not have automatic air tank drains, drain your air tanks at the end of each working day to remove moisture and oil. Otherwise the brakes could fail.

School Bus Notes from the CDL Handbook



Anywhere outside of the bus where children are in the most danger of being hit, either by another vehicle or their own bus.

How far does the DANGER ZONE extend around the bus?

Extend as much as 30 feet from the front bumper, 10 feet from the left and right sides of the school bus and 10 feet behind the rear bumper of the school bus.

Use of Mirrors

Check each mirror before operating the school bus.

Outside Left, and Right Side Flat Mirrors – are used to monitor traffic, check clearances and students on the sides and to the rear of the bus.

There is a BLIND SPOT immediately below and in front of each mirror and directly in bank of the rear bumper. The blind spot behind the bus could extend up to 400 feet depending on the width of the bus.

Ensure that mirrors are properly adjusted so you can see:

200 feet or 4 bus lengths behind the bus

Along the sides of the bus

The rear tires touching the ground

Convex Mirrors – Located below the outside flat mirrors and they are used to monitor the left and right sides at a wide angle. They provide a view of traffic, clearances, and students at the side of the bus.

DO NOT present a view that accurately reflects the size and distance of people and objects from the bus.

Cross View Mirrors – mounted on the left and right front corners of the bus. They are used to see the danger zone area directly in front of the bus that is not visible by direct vision, and to view the danger zone areas to the left side and right side of the bus, including the service door and front wheel areas.

Overhead Inside Rearview Mirror – is mounted directly above the windshield on the driver's side area of the bus. This mirror is used to monitor passenger activity INSIDE the bus.

Ensure that this mirror is adjusted so you can see the top of the rear window in the top of the mirror and all of the students, including the heads of the students right behind you.

Loading and Unloading

Approaching the stop

Approach cautiously at a slow rate of speed

Look for pedestrians, traffic or other objects before, during and after coming to a stop

Continuously check ALL mirrors

When should you activate your alternating flashing amber warning lamps?

Activate alternating flashing amber warning lamps before the school bus stop

Move as far as possible to the right on the traveled portion of the roadway.

Bring the bus to a complete stop with the front bumper at least 10 feet away from students at the designated stop.

This forces the students to walk to the bus so you have a better view of their movements

Place transmission is PARK and set the parking brake at each stop.

Open the service door enough to activate alternating red lamps when traffic is a safe distance from the school bus.

Make a final check to see that ALL TRAFFIC has stopped before completely opening the door and signaling the students to approach.

Loading Procedures

Perform a safe stop.

Students should wait in a specified location facing the bus.

Students board the bus only when signaled by the driver to do so.

Monitor all mirrors continuously.

Count the number of students at the bus stop and be sure all board the bus.

Students should board the bus slowly, in single file, using the handrail. Put the dome light on if it is dark.

Wait until all students are seated and facing forward before moving the bus.

What do you do if a student has gone missing?

Secure the bus, take the key, and check around and underneath the bus.

When all students are accounted for: close the door, engage the transmission, release the parking brake, turn of the alternating flashing red lamps, turn on the left turn signal, wait for a big enough gap to enter the roadway.

Unloading Procedures along the Route

Tell students to exit the bus and walk AT LEAST 10 feet away from the side of the bus to a position where the driver can plainly see ALL students.

What do you do if you miss a student's stop? DO NOT BACK UP. Be sure to follow local procedures.

After unloading at school, why should you walk through the bus?

To look for articles left on the bus, sleeping students, open windows and doors and any mechanical/operational problems with the bus.

Emergency Exit and Evacuation

If time permits the school bus driver should contact their dispatcher to explain the situation before making a decision to evacuate the bus.

As a general rule, student safety and control is best maintained by keeping students on the bus during an emergency.

Under what conditions must you evacuate the bus?

The bus is on fire or there is a threat of fire.

The bus is stalled on or adjacent to a railroad-highway crossing.

The position of the bus may change and increase the danger.

There is imminent danger of collision.

There is a need to quickly evacuate because of hazardous materials spill.

Describe a safe place for students after a bus evacuation.

Students are at least 100 feet off the road in the direction of oncoming traffic.

Upwind of the bus if fire is present.

300 feet upwind of the bus if there is a risk of hazardous materials.

Railroad-Highway Crossings

What is a passive highway-rail crossing?

Passive Crossings – DO NOT have any type of traffic control device. You have to stop, but the decision to proceed rests with you. They have yellow circular advance warnings, pavement markings and crossbucks to assist you in recognizing a crossing.

Approaching the Crossing

Slow down and shift to a lower gear in a manual transmission bus and test your brakes.

Activate hazard lamps approximately 200 feet before the crossing.

Stay to the right of the roadway if possible.

Chose an escape route in case of a brake failure or problems behind you.

At the Crossing

Stop no closer than 15 feet and no farther than 50 feet from the nearest rail, where you have the best view of the tracks.

Open the service door and driver's window. Look and listen for an approaching train.

Crossing the Track

Cross the tracks in a low gear. DO NOT CHANGE GEARS WHILE CROSSING.

What do you do if the bus stalls or you are trapped on the tracks?

Get everyone out of the bus and off the tracks immediately. Move everyone far from the bus at an angle, which is both away from the tracks and toward the train.

Student Management

What do you do if there is a serious behavior problem on the bus?

Wait until the students unloading are safely off the bus and moved away. If necessary pull over to handle the situation.

Never put a student off the bus except at school or at his or her designated school bus stop.

Anti-lock Braking System

The Department of Transportation requires that antilock braking systems be on:

Air brake vehicles built on or after March 1, 1998.

Hydraulically braked trucks and buses with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 lbs or more build on or after March 1, 1999.

ABS helps you avoid wheel lock up and maintain control. You may or may not be able to stop faster, but you should be able to steer around an obstacle while braking, and avoid skids caused by over braking.

How should you use your brakes if your vehicle is equipped with antilock brakes?

Use only the braking force necessary to stop safely and stay in control.

In emergency braking DO NOT pump the brakes.

As you slow down, monitor your bus and back off the brakes (if it is safe

to do so) to stay in control.

THE BUS WILL HAVE A YELLOW ABS MALFUNCTION LAMP ON THE INSTRUMENT PANEL IF IT IS EQUIPPED WITH ABS.

Special Safety Situations

Strobe Lights – Should be used when you have limited visibility.

Driving in High Winds

They can push the bus sideways.

What do you do if you are caught in strong winds?

Keep a strong grip on the wheel and try to anticipate gusts.

Slow down to lessen the effect of the wind, or pull of the roadway and wait.

Contact your dispatcher to get more information on how to proceed.

Tail Swing – A school bus can have up to a THREE-FOOT tail swing. You need to check your mirrors before and during any turning movements to monitor the tail swing.

Mirrors:
(Rear view, Cross-over & Blind spot)
- Must be clean
- Not broken
- Properly adjusted
- Mirrors brackets must be well mounted

Bumper:
- In good condition
- Well mounted to the frame
- No missing parts

Crossing Arm:
- In good condition
- Well mounted to the bumper
- No missing parts
- Working

Registration Plate *(If equipped)*:
- Must be well tight to the bumper
- Clean and visible
- Sticker must be valid

Leaks:
*(The leaks can be two kinds: **Oil** – from transmition and engine and **Fluids** – from power steering system and cooling system – antifreeze leaks)*
- Look for puddles on the ground
- Look for dripping fluids on underside of engine and transmission
- Must be no leaks.

Student Loading and Unloading

STUDENT LOADING

I will turn on my amber lights 200 feet before arriving at the bus stop.

I will come to a complete stop no closer than 10 feet from the student(s).

I will set my parking brake, put the transmission in neutral, and open my door to activate my red loading lights.

When the students are on the bus, I will close the door and observe the students in the overhead mirror to make sure they are properly seated before continuing.

I will then put the transmission in release my parking brake, turn on my left signal, check my mirrors for any oncoming traffic, and when safe, I will proceed to my next stop.

If it is a left-side pick-up I will come to a complete stop, set my parking brake, put the transmission in neutral, and open the door to activate the red loading lights. I will observe all traffic (in both directions) and when I have determined that is it safe for the students to cross the street, I will motion with my hand (form inside the bus) for the students to cross the street.

STUDENT UNLOADING

I will turn on my amber lights 200 feet before arriving at the bus stop.

I will come to a complete stop at the location where is student is to get off the bus.

I will set my parking brake, put the transmission in neutral and open to door to active my read loading lights.

When the students get off the bus, I will leave my door open until the student is safely clear of the bus or across the street before closing the door and continuing.

I will place my transmission in gear, release my parking brake, turn on my left turn signal, check my mirrors for any oncoming traffic, and when safe, I will proceed to my next stop.

Pre-Trip Inspection

Engine Compartment

Leaks and Hoses

Looks for puddles on the ground, dripping fluids on underside of engine and transmission and inspect hoses for condition and leaks.

Oil Level

Indicate where dipstick is located.

Show that oil level is within safe operating range. Level must be ABOVE refill mark.

Coolant Level

Inspect reservoir sight glass or if the engine is not hot, remove the radiator cap and check for visible coolant level.

Power Steering Fluid

Check for adequate power steering fluid level. Level must be ABOVE refill mark.

Engine Compartment Belts

Check the following belts for snugness (up to ¾ inch play at center of the belt), cracks or frays:

Power steering, water pump, alternator, and air compressor belts.

Make sure the components are operating properly, are not damaged or leaking and are mounted securely.

Cab Check/Engine Start

Clutch/Gearshift

Depress Clutch, place gearshift level in neutral or (park, for automatic transmissions) and start engine, then release clutch slowly.

Oil Pressure Gauge

Make sure oil pressure gauge is working.

Check that the gauge shows increasing or normal oil pressure or that the warning light goes off.

Temperature Gauge

Ampmeter/Voltmeter

Check that gauges show alternator and/or generator is charging or that the warning light is off.

Mirrors and Windshield

Mirrors should be adjusted properly from the inside.

Windshield should be clean with no illegal stickers, no obstructions or damage to the glass.

Emergency Equipment

Check for spare electrical fuses, three red reflective triangles, and a properly charged and rated fire extinguisher.

Steering Play

Non-power steering: check for excessive play by turning the steering wheel back and forth. Play should not exceed 10 degrees or about two inches on a 20-inch wheel.

Power steering: with the engine running, check for excessive play by turning the steering wheel back and forth. Play should not exceed 10 degrees or about two inches on a 20-inch wheel before front left wheel barely moves.

Wipers/Washers

Check that wiper arms and blades are secure, not damaged and operate smoothly.

Lighting Indicators

Test that dash indicators work when corresponding lights are turned on: Left and right turn signals, four-way emergency flashers and high beam headlights.

Parking Brake Check

Apply parking brake ONLY and make sure that it will hold the vehicle by shifting into a lower gear and gently pulling against the brake.

Hydraulic Brake Check

Pump the brake pedal three times, then hold it down for five seconds. The brake pedal should not move during the five seconds.

If equipped with a hydraulic back-up system, with the key off, depress the brake pedal and listen for the sound of the reserve system electric motor.

Air Brake Check

FAILURE TO PERFORM AN AIR BRAKE CHECK WILL RESULT IN AN AUTOMATIC FAILURE OF THE VEHICLE INSPECTION TEST!

In areas where an incline is present, you will use wheel chocks during the air break check.

With the engine running build the air pressure to governed cut-out (100-125psi). Shut off the engine, fully apply the foot brake and hold it for one minute. Check the air gauge to see if the air pressure drops more than three pounds in one minute (single vehicle) or four pounds in one minute (combination vehicle).

Begin fanning off the air pressure by rapidly applying and releasing the foot brake. Low air warning devices (buzzer, light, flag) should activate before air pressure drops below 60psi.

Continue to fan off the air pressure. At approximately 40psi the parking brake valve should close (pop out).

EXTERNAL INSPECTION

Steering

Steering Box/Hoses

Steering Linkage

Suspension

Look for missing, shifted, cracked, or broken leaf springs.

Look for broken or distorted coil springs.

If the vehicle is equipped with torsion bars, torque arms, or other types of suspension components, check that they are not damages and are mounted securely.

Air ride suspension should be checked for damage and leaks.

Mounts

Look for cracked or broken spring hangers, missing or damaged bushings, and broken, loose, or missing bolts, u-bolts or other axle mounting parts.

Brakes

Slack Adjusters

Look for broken, loose, or missing parts.

The angle between the push rod and the adjustor arm should be a little over 90 degrees when the brakes are released, and not less than 90 degrees when the brakes are applied.

When pulled by hand, the brake rod should not move more than one inch with the brakes released.

Drum Brake

Check for cracks, dents, or holes or any loose or missing bolts.

Brake linings (where visible) should not be worn dangerously thin.

Brake Linings

On some brakes drums, there are openings where the brake linings can be seen from outside the drum.

Wheels

Rims cannot have welding repairs.

Tires – minimum tread depth (4/32 on steering axle tires, 2/32 on all other tires)

School Bus Only

Emergency Equipment

In addition to having spare electrical fuses, three reflective triangles, and a fire extinguisher buses are required to carry THREE RED-BURNING FLARES AND A NINE-ITEM FIRST AID KIT.

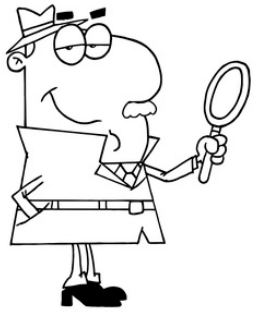
Passenger Entry/Lift

Check that the entry door is not damaged, operates smoothly and closes securely form the INSIDE.

Hand rails are secure and the step light is working, if equipped.

The entry steps must be clear with the treads not loose or worn excessively

If equipped with a handicap lift, look for leaking, damaged, or missing parts and explain how the lift should be checked for correct operation. Lift must be fully retracted and latched securely.



PRETRIP VEHICLE INSPECTION PROCEDURES

Prior to driving any bus, the operator is **required** to perform a thorough pre-trip check. As the person in charge, YOU, the bus driver have the ultimate responsibility to ensure that you are operating a safe, mechanically defect-free vehicle. As a CDL School Bus Driver you are required by District and department policy, *as well as federal regulation* to perform a thorough pre-trip inspection each time *before you drive your bus*.

Pre-Trip Inspection:

As you approach the vehicle, take a good overall look at the bus. Check for oil, fuel, water/antifreeze or transmission fluid leaks.

I. First Inside Bus Check

A. Check Emergency Equipment (any loose equipment should be secured)

1. Reflectors (3)
2. Fire Extinguisher (charged, secure; inspection tag current)
3. Body Spills Cleanup Kit
4. First Aid Kit (check contents at least weekly)

B. Adjust Driver's Seat

The driver must sit comfortably in his/her seat without shifting position to see out of the mirrors. The vehicle seat should permit the driver to sit erect with the mid-back supported and the line of vision well above the steering wheel.

C. Make certain brake is set and bus is in neutral or park

D. Start Engine

1. Look and listen for trouble signs and warning lights
2. Turn on headlights (Lights on For Safety!!), clearance lights and two way communication radio
3. Check gauges

a) Oil pressure – Diesel bus 30 – 60 idling and on road

b) Air pressure – 90-120

c) Temperature – Normal range; 170 –190 after warm-up

d) Voltage – green or normal range

e) Amps – on "0" or "+" side

f) Fuel – Never less than½ tank

E. Check Windshield Area

1. No damage – no obstructions – clean.
2. Inspection sticker current
3. Mirrors – all mirrors clean and adjusted

a) Overhead

b) Left windshield

c) Left fender

d) Cross over

e) Fish eye

f) Right windshield

F. Control Panel Switches (as they appear; could vary with bus model)

1. All heaters (Hi/Lo) Valve for heat
2. All defrosters (Hi/Lo)
3. Master switch/Manual (amber/red loading lights)
4. Dome lights
5. Clearance lights (may be attached to headlights)
6. Windshield wipers/washers (Hi/Lo)
7. Control panel/dash Lights

G. Steering Wheel Area

1. Head lights (Hi beam/Lo beam; also dash indicators)
2. Turn signals (inside and out; also dash indicators)
3. Hazard lights (also dash indicators)
4. Horn
5. Steering play – 2 inches or about 10 degrees maximum before wheels move

II. Outside Bus Check

A. Before going outside the bus:

1. Make sure engine is running, parking brake set.
2. Make sure headlights and clearance lights are on. Confirm proper operation at all locations as you complete the outside bus check.
3. Turn on right turn signal and loading lights. Confirm proper operation as you complete the outside bus check.

B. Front of Bus (Top to Bottom)

1. Antenna
2. Clearance lights, loading lights (Proper color lens cover for position, proper operation)
3. School bus lettering (all letters present and clearly visible)
4. Windshield (any damage, inspection sticker, gasket)
5. Hood area
6. Head lights, hazard/turn signal lights
7. Grill (no obstructions)
8. Bumper, license plate, bus number
9. Tires – inflation, proper tread (4/32-inch minimum), any objects in the tire?

10. Axle seals – not leaking; proper fluid level
11. Leakage under bus
    a) Amber/clear - power steering
    b) Red - transmission
    c) Green – radiator
    d) Brown – oil
    e) Clear – gas, diesel or water

C. Right Side of Bus (look down and then walk along side)

1. Mirror bracket
2. Side marker light
3. Tires – right front
    a) Tread depth 4/32 inches minimum; even wear; no damage to tread or sidewall
    b) Proper inflation – no bulging
    c) Side walls – no bulges/cuts
    d) Rims – not bent; no welds
    e) Lug nuts – no rust, corrosion
    f) Valve stems and caps – present and not damaged
    g) Hub oil seal – not leaking. If sight glass equipped, proper fluid level
4. Frame (not bent or cracked)
5. Spring mounts (bolted to frame)
6. Leaf springs (not broken or missing)
7. Hoses (properly secured; not touching tires or hanging down)
8. Drain fluid from air brakes.
9. Windshield step up secured; Hood latches secured
10. Door – no damage (including glass); opens and closes properly
    a) Entry steps– not loose or broken. Tread on steps not excessively worn.
    b) Handrail secure
    c) Stairwell light working
11. Clearance lights and reflectors – present, proper color for position and working
12. Passenger windows – no breaks/cracks; frames secure
13. Fuel cap – secure; no leakage
14. Under bus
    a) Exhaust pipe and brackets
    b) Check inside of tires front and back
    c) Check fuel tank and bracket

d) Check frame – not bent or cracked.

e) Spring mounts (bolted to frame)

f) Leaf springs (not broken or missing)

A. Rear (Top to Bottom)

1. Lights and Markings

a) Clearance

b) Loading lights and lenses

c) School bus lettering

d) Windows (no breaks, cracks. Gaskets secure. Clean for visibility)

e) Hazard, turn signals brake lights and back up lights (Get assistance to check brake lights and backup lights. If no assistance is available, check operation by reflection)

f) Tail lights

g) License plate and light

2. Tailpipe secure and extends to or slightly past rear bumper

3. Check bumper for damage/secure

4. Open and close rear emergency door. Make sure buzzer is working.

5. Check dual tires (inflation, free of damage, nothing wedged between tires)

6. Check differential – no leaks

B. Left Side of Bus (look down and then walk along side)

1. Clearance lights and reflectors – present, proper color for position and working

2. Tires – left rear

a) Tread depth 2/32 inches minimum; even wear; no damage to tread or sidewall

b) Proper inflation – no bulging

c) Side walls – no bulges/cuts

d) Rims – not bent; no welds

e) Lug nuts – no rust, corrosion

f) Valve stems and caps – present and not damaged

3. Frame (not bent or cracked)

4. Spring mounts (bolted to frame)

5. Leaf springs (not broken or missing)

6. Under the bus:

a) Drive shaft – looks O.K.; not resting on bracket.

b) Fluid pans – no leakage

c) Check muffler and tailpipe – secure; no rusted through spots.

d) Frame – not cracked or bent

7. Battery box – make sure the door is closed securely

8. Passenger windows – no breaks/cracks; frames secure

9. Stop arm – mounted securely, lights working, no damage

10. Driver's side windshield mirror bracket secure and not damaged

11. Windshield step up secured; hood latches secured

12. Tires – left front

a) Tread depth 4/32 inches minimum; even wear; no damage to tread or sidewall

b) Proper inflation – no bulging

c) Side walls – no bulges/cuts

d) Rims – not bent; no welds

e) Lug nuts – no rust, corrosion

f) Valve stems and caps – present and not damaged

g) Hub oil seal – not leaking. If sight glass equipped, proper fluid level

13. Check frame – not bent or cracked.

14. Spring mounts (bolted to frame)

15. Leaf springs (not broken or missing)

16. Driver's side crossover mirror bracket secure and not damaged

III. Second Inside Bus Check

A. Close door – cancel hazard lights

B. Before walking down aisle turn on:

1. Amber loading lights

2. Left turn signal

C. Walk the aisle – shake the seats to ensure they are secured to the floor and frames are not broken. Open back emergency door – door must open from the inside and warning device must work. Check amber loading light and left turn signal. On the way back, check to make sure that each seat bottom is secured to the frame.

D. Check all other emergency exits and warning devices (windows, roof hatches, side doors, etc.) All must open and warning devices must work.

E. Return to driver seat. Check Brake lights, back up lights by reflection, or get another driver to help. Check backup beeper.

F. Double-check for proper air pressure (90 – 120 lbs.) before releasing parking brake.

G. Double check seat for proper adjustment. Make sure seat belt is securely mounted and latches properly. Fasten seat belt and adjust for proper

H. Check brake lights as you exit Transportation.

Special Requirements

All commercial motor vehicles, truck tractors, trailers, or semitrailers must carry _____ on the vehicles while operating on a public highway. These papers shall show the _____.

1) registration papers (receipt for license plates)
2) weight of the vehicle empty and how much it is registered to haul.

If you wish to haul a load or move equipment that is ____ _____ _____ ____ than the law allows, you must obtain a __ __ from the Texas Department of Transportation. A __ will not be granted if the load can reasonably be __.

heavier, longer, wider, or higher
special permit
permit
dismantled

No person shall operate a truck, bus, truck tractor, or any motor vehicle towing a house trailer, upon any highway outside the city limits or upon any divided highway at any time from a half hour after sunset to a half hour before sunrise unless there shall be carried in such vehicle the following:_____ _____ or _____ During times when lighted lamps are not required_____ must be used in place. .....

least three flares, or three red electric lanterns, or three portable red emergency reflectors.
two red flags

Motor vehicles transporting explosives or any cargo tank truck used for the transportation of any flammable liquid or compressed flammable gases, or any motor vehicle using compressed gas as a fuel shall not use ____ _____ ____ D.O.T. approved ___ ___ can be used in lieu of the above equipment.

flares, fusees, or any signals produced by flame.
triangular reflectors

The first thing the driver of a disabled vehicle must do is _____.

put out the proper flares, flags, or reflectors.

When any truck, bus, truck tractor, trailer, semitrailer, or pole trailer _____ or more in width or _____ or more in overall length is stopped upon a roadway or adjacent shoulder, the driver shall immediately. These _____ need not be displayed, however, by a vehicle _____ or _____.

80 inches
30 feet
actuate electric hazard warning signal lights, flashers which flash simultaneously.
lights
legally parked inside the city limits or when stopped to receive or discharge passengers.

All school buses, buses, taxis, and other vehicles hauling passengers for hire or lease, must carry a _____

chemical type fire extinguisher of at least one quart capacity.

Commercial vehicles that are subject to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations must be equipped with a ____ and located so ____. It must be ____ on the vehicle

fire extinguisher that is properly filled
so that it is readily accessible for use
securely mounted

Reflectors must be mounted not less than_____ nor more than ____ in height above the ground on every pole trailer and on trucks, buses, truck tractors, trailers, semitrailers which ____ in width.

24 inches
60 inches
80 or more inches

Under certain conditions,_____ are exempt from lighting requirements. _____ being moved under permit are exempt from lighting and reflector requirements.

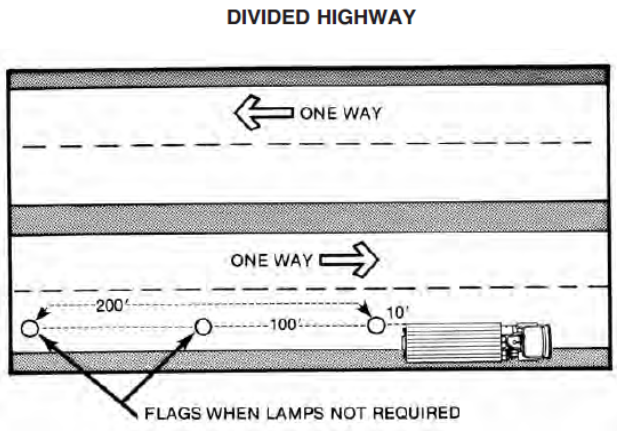
farm, fertilizer, and boat trailers
Mobile homes

If you are broken down on a straight level two way road at night your reflectors should be:

100ft in front, 10ft and 100ft in the rear.

If you are broken down on a straight level divided highway at night your reflectors should be:

10ft, 100ft and 200ft in the rear.



If you are broken down on a two lane vision obscured road at night your reflectors should be:

100ft in front, 10ft and 100ft to 500ft in the rear.

What lights and reflectors are required on a truck or bus less than 80 inches wide:

On each side of the vehicle, headlamps and amber/white turn signals on the front, in the rear one white license plate lamp, two red tail, two red stop, two red reflectors, two turn signals, no side markers required.

What lights and reflectors are required on a truck or bus 80 inches or more wide:

On each side of the vehicle, Headlamps and amber/white turn signals on the front and two amber clearance lamps on the rear one white license plate lamp, two red tail, two red stop, two red reflectors, two turn signals and two red clearance lamps. On the side an amber reflector and amber marker in the front and a red reflector and red marker in the back.

Trailers 80" or over must have what additional markers/lights?

In the middle of the trailer an ambers reflector at the bottom and amber light at the top.

Flashing lights are permitted on ___ ___ ___ These lights are also allowed to be used by tow trucks under the direction of a law enforcement officer at the scene of an accident or while hooking up a disabled vehicle in the roadway.

Emergency vehicles, on snow removal equipment, and on school buses when stopping or stopped for children to board or alight.

When operated on the highway at night all animal drawn vehicles, implements of husbandry, road machinery, road rollers, and farm tractors not otherwise required to have _____

lamps or lighting devices must have a white light on the front visible for 1,000 feet and two red lights on the rear visible for 1,000 feet, or one red light to the rear visible for 1,000 feet and two red reflectors visible for 600 feet.

Trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers with a gross weight of ___ pounds or less are exempt from ____ requirements.

4,500
brake requirements.

Trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers with a gross weight in excess of ____ pounds and which do not exceed ____ pounds and operated at speeds of __ miles per hour are not required to be equipped with brakes.

4,500
15,000
under 30

Trailers, semitrailers, and pole trailers with a gross weight in excess of 4,500 pounds and which do not exceed 15,000 pounds and are operated at speeds in _____ miles per hour must have brakes acting on both wheels of the rear axle.

4,500
15,000
over 30

Every motor vehicle, trailer, semitrailer, pole trailer, and combination of such vehicles equipped with brakes shall have the braking system so arranged that _____.

one control device can be used to operate all brakes.

_____ may be used on trailers and semitrailers with a gross weight of 15,000 pounds or less.

Surge or inertia brake systems

Generally, if the trailer and the combination is __ pounds or less, the combination must be able to stop within __ feet when traveling __ miles per hour; if the trailer and the combination is in excess of __ pounds, the combination must be able to stop within __ feet when traveling __ miles per hour.

3,000 pounds or less
40
20
excess of 3,000 pounds
50
20

All motor vehicles, trailers, semitrailers, or pole trailers except motorcycles and certain trailers shall be __ , except that passenger cars or trucks year model ___ need not be equipped with electrical turn signals unless the body or load of the vehicle or combination of vehicles extends to side more than 24 inches from the center of the top of the steering wheel, or the rear limit of the body or load exceeds more than 14 feet from the center of the top of the steering wheel.

equipped with electrical turn signal lights,
1960

All trucks and trailers with____ on the rear axle must be equipped with safety guards or mud flaps behind the rear wheels. These flaps must reach to within ____ of the surface of the highway and are for the purpose of preventing the slinging of mud and slush. This provision does not apply to pole trailers or to a truck tractor when it is being operated alone and without being in combination with a semitrailer.

four or more tires
8 inches

Every farm tractor and every self-propelled unit of farm equipment or implement of husbandry manufactured or assembled after January 1, ____, shall be equipped with the following lamps and reflectors:

1972
Two head lamps. One taillight mounted as far to left as practicable. Two red reflectors. Vehicular hazard warning lights (flashers) which show white or amber to the front, and red or amber to the rear. These lights must be activated when the vehicle is being operated on any highway.

Slow-Moving Vehicle Emblem. This emblem is now a requirement for all slow-moving vehicles. Slow moving vehicles are those designed to operate at a maximum speed of ___ mph or less, and the term includes all vehicles, farm and other machinery, and road machinery being drawn by animals or by slow-moving motor vehicles.

25

The following do not need the special emblem:
1) A vehicle being used in actual ___ ___ while traveling within the limits of a ___ ___ marked as required by the State Highway Commission;
2) An implement or machinery being towed by a slow-moving vehicle bearing an emblem if this emblem remains visible.

construction work
construction area
implement or machinery

It is unlawful to operate on a highway any vehicle with wheels having _____ on the rim which would damage the road. This does not prevent the use of tire chains for safety.

cleats, lugs, flanges, studs, spikes, or other extensions

Vehicles including loads transported may not exceed ___ inches in width

102

Maximum Length: Single motor vehicle other than a truck tractor is __ feet. A semitrailer may not exceed __ feet when operated in a truck tractor and semitrailer combination.

45
59

A semitrailer or trailer may not exceed a length of ___ feet each when operated in a truck tractor, semitrailer, and trailer combination. No combination of vehicles, other than a truck tractor-trailer combination may exceed feet. (See exceptions.)

28-1/2
65

Vehicle Combinations. No passenger vehicle or other motor vehicle with an unloaded weight of less than ____ pounds may be coupled with more than one other vehicle. Not more than ___ vehicles may be operated in a combination.

2,500
three

The greatest weight allowed for any vehicle or combination of vehicles including the load is _____ pounds.

80,000

If the gross weight of your vehicle is found to exceed the maximum gross weight allowed by law plus a tolerance of __, you may be required to unload to the limit provided by law plus the tolerance, or if the axle weight is found to exceed the maximum allowed, the driver may be required _____ _____ to the limits provided. Trucks carrying live-stock, timber or pulpwood, or agricultural products in their natural state from the place of production to the place of market or first processing shall not be required to unload any portion of the load.

5%
to rearrange the cargo or unload the vehicle

No vehicle, including the load it is hauling, may be more than __ feet in height from ground to the top of the load.

14

No vehicle may carry a load extending more than ___ feet beyond the front nor more than ___ feet beyond the rear, unless a special permit is obtained.

three
four

When any load extends more than four feet beyond the rear, there must be attached on the extreme rear of such extension, _____ at night a _____ visible for _____.

a red flag at least twelve inches square during daylight hours and at night a burning red light visible for 500 feet.

Motor vehicles or combinations thereof used exclusively for the transportation of poles or pipes may exceed the length or extension limits over front and rear of a vehicle, except that such vehicles may not exceed ___ feet in length and may be operated only _____

65
between sunrise and sunset.

When one vehicle is towing another, the drawbar, chain, rope, cable, or other connection must not be longer than ___ feet from one vehicle to the other. When a chain, rope, or cable is used as a connection, a _____ must be attached to it.

fifteen
white flag not less than twelve inches square

Vehicles, trailers, etc., weighing ____ pounds or more, with metal tires, may not be operated on a highway without a special permit.

5,000

A single motor vehicle used only to transport seed cotton modules, cotton, or equipment used in transporting or processing of cotton may operate up to ___ inches in width provided the vehicle is registered with a “Cotton Vehicle” license plate. Vehicles carrying cylindrically shaped bales of hay may not exceed ___ inches in width.

120
144

Motor buses with air brakes that have three or more axles or four tires on the rear axle may be __ feet long; otherwise __ feet.

45
35

The length requirements for vehicles and combinations of vehicles do not apply if they are operated _____.

Only within city limits.

A combination of vehicles, other than truck tractor combinations, of not more than __ feet long may be used from sunrise to sunset to haul poles, piling, and unrefined timber from the forest to a mill not more than __ miles away.

90
125

It is unlawful for a commercial motor vehicle to _____.

coast down any grade even with the clutch disengaged while the transmission is left in gear.

When one truck is following another truck or vehicle, it must keep far enough back to allow _____.

another vehicle to overtake and enter the space between them safely.

A large or long vehicle is much more difficult to back safely than a smaller one. These practices are recommended.

a. When you must back, get out and walk around your truck and make certain there is nothing behind. Then back immediately and watch carefully.
b. Use both rearview mirrors. You can't see the right side while hanging out the left door.
c. If necessary to back some distance, stop part way, then get out and check your progress.
d. Try to have someone standing in a safe place to guide you by signaling.
e. Park where you will not have to back to get away from the parking place.
f. Never back around an intersection corner to turn around.
g. If you have to back in or out of a driveway, where possible, back into the driveway from the street so that you can drive out forward and see where you are going.
h. When backing over a sidewalk into a street, stop at the sidewalk to make especially certain that there is no child playing behind or close by. Stop again at the curb to make a last check on traffic before backing into the street.

Buyers temporary cardboard tags are recognized for

20 days;

Farm registered vehicles, in addition to use for farm and ranch purposes, may be used as a means of passenger transportation for members of the family to

attend church or school, to visit doctors for medical treatment or supplies, or for other necessities of the home or family - but not for gainful employment.

The period for which out-of-state registration plates are recognized in Texas after establishing residency or entering into gainful employment is

30 days.

For registration applications and detailed information, consult your

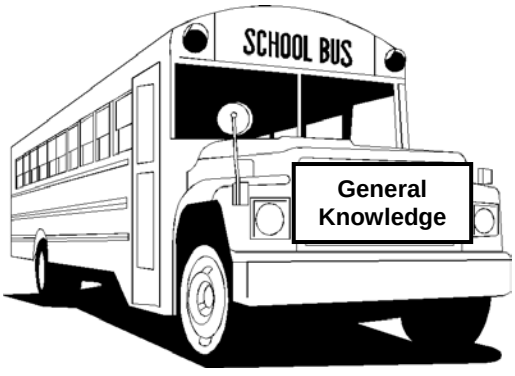
County Tax Assessor-Collector or the Motor Vehicle Division of the Texas Department of Transportation. Additional information may also be obtained from Department of Public Safety publications pertaining to commercial vehicles.

Maintains a ___ following distance on the open road.

four-second

Increases the distance of the gap to ___ bad weather (more reaction time) to compensate for poor traction and actions of less experienced car drivers.

=



QUIZ #1

1. How often should you check your cargo?

A ● Within 25 miles after beginning a trip

B ● After you have driven for three hours

C ● After you take a break

D ● All of the above

2. A commercial motor vehicle (CMV) is defined as...

A ● A vehicle with a gross weight over 26,001 lbs.

B ● A vehicle transporting hazardous materials

C ● A vehicle transporting 16 or more passengers

D ● All of the above

3. Suspension systems...

A ● Keep the load secure

B ● Keep the axles in place

C ● Keep the brake drums from failing

D ● Keep the steering wheel tight

4. At 55 miles-per-hour it takes about 6 seconds to stop a fully loaded truck and the braking distance is...

A ● About the length of a football field or 100 yards

B ● About 1/4 mile

C ● About two truck lengths

D ● About two car lengths

5. Which of the following statements about downshifting is NOT true?

A ● Downshift before starting down a hill

B ● Downshift before entering a curve

C ● Downshift when you get to the bottom of a hill

D ● Downshift before climbing a hill

6. Tires should be replaced...

A ● When the tread separates

B ● When there are broken valve stems

C ● If the tread depth on your front tires is less than 4/32 deep

D ● All of the above

7. Which of the following statements about overhead space is true?

A ● The heights posted at bridges are usually accurate

B ● The weight of the cargo changes a truck's height

C ● Warning lights are always installed on low bridges and overpasses

D ● An empty van is lower than a loaded one

8. In the event of an accident you should remember to do the following EXCEPT...

A ● Move the victims out of the way immediately

B ● Protect the area

C ● Notify authorities

D ● Stop any bleeding and keep the victims warm

9. When accelerating...

A ● Always use the parking brake to slow down

B ● Do not engage the clutch before you take your foot off the brake

C ● Speed up smoothly and gradually and avoid jerking

D ● "Hammer down" when your wheels start to spin

10. Your vehicle is going down a long hill and your brakes begin to fail. What should you do?

A ● Pump the brake pedal

B ● Downshift

C ● Put the gears in neutral

D ● Look for an escape ramp or an escape route

11. The following are all probable signs of a tire blowout EXCEPT...

A ● A loud bang

B ● Vibration of the vehicle

C ● The smell of smoke

D ● A thumping sound

12. Water can be used to extinguish which of the following fires?

A ● Tires B ● Electrical fire C ● Gasoline fire D ● Chemical fire

13. Driving at night is more dangerous because of the following EXCEPT...

A ● Most people are less alert at night due to fatigue

B ● Headlights often cause glare which can blind drivers

C ● Traffic lights are less visible than in the day

D ● There are more drunk drivers at night

14. Which of the following statements about your mirrors is true?

A ● You cannot see your tires

B ● You should be able to see any cars overtaking you

C ● You should be able to see any vehicles behind your trailer

D ● Some objects may appear smaller in your mirrors

15. When driving in heavy traffic you should travel...

A ● At a speed consistent with the flow of traffic

B ● Five mph less than automobiles regardless of posted limits

C ● In the left lane when possible to avoid heavy lanes of traffic

D ● In the right lane to avoid passing

Answers for Quiz #1:

1.D

2.D

3.B

4.A

5.C

6.D

7.B

8.A

9.C

10.D

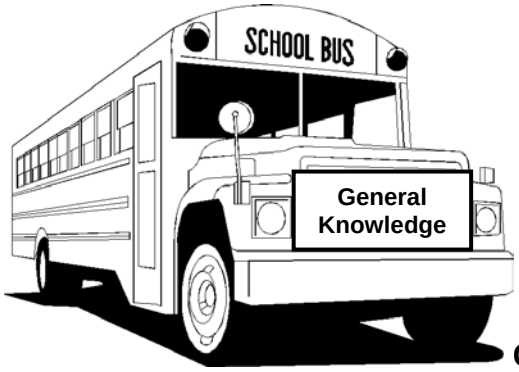
11.C

12.A

13.C

14.D

15.A



QUIZ #2

1. To correct a drive-wheel braking skid you should...

A ● Pump the brake

B ● Steer in the opposite direction

C ● Release the brake and steer/counter-steer

D ● Accelerate quickly!

2. If you must stop on the shoulder of the road, you should place warning devices at all of the following places except...

A ● Within ten feet of the front or rear corners

B ● About 100 feet behind your vehicle

C ● About 100 feet in front of your vehicle

D ● On the other side of a divided highway

3. Which of the following statements about stopping distances is NOT true?

A ● Empty trucks require greater stopping distances because they have less traction

B ● Trucks traveling on ice or snow require greater stopping distances

C ● Brakes, tires, springs and shocks are designed to work best when the truck is empty

D ● Trucks traveling at higher speeds require greater stopping distances

4. What is the reason the exhaust system should be checked?

A ● A leaking exhaust system can allow poisonous fumes into the cab

B ● A leaking exhaust system can promote poor fuel mileage

C ● A leaking exhaust system can be caused by snow and rain

D ● A leaking exhaust system can hamper your visibility

5. When is the road likely to be more slippery?

A ● After a hard rain

B ● After it has been raining lightly for 30 minutes

C ● When it has just begun to rain

D ● After the rain has ended

6. What is the first thing to do if your vehicle catches fire while driving?

A ● Open the door and jump out of the vehicle

B ● Pull off the road and park in an open area

C ● Find a service station to pull in to

D ● Open the hood and let the flames die down

7. Which of the following is NOT true when driving through a curve?

A ● You should slow down before the curve

B ● You should brake during the curve

C ● The higher your truck's center of gravity is, the easier it is to roll over

D ● You should be in a gear that allows you to accelerate during the curve

8. When using turn signals, which of the following should be avoided?

A ● Signal just before you start to make a turn

B ● Signal when you want to change lanes

C ● Signal before you exit

D ● Signal when you are merging into traffic

9. Safe drivers maintain space around their vehicles for the following reasons except...

A ● In case you must stop suddenly

B ● In case there are cars following too closely

C ● In case there is an obstacle in the road

D ● In case you need to test your brakes

10. In the event of a tire failure you should...

A ● Stay off the brake and hold the steering wheel firmly

B ● Pump the brakes until you come to a stop

C ● Accelerate quickly until you find a place to pull over

D ● Disengage the clutch so you are in neutral gear

11. If you find that you are being tailgated, you should...

A ● Quickly change lanes to avoid an accident

B ● Flash your brake lights to warn the tailgater

C ● Decrease the distance between you and the tailgater

D ● Increase the distance between you and the tailgater

12. How should you hold your hands on the steering wheel?

A ● Near the bottom of the wheel

B ● Opposite sides of the wheel

C ● Near the top of the wheel

D ● One hand on the steering wheel and one on the shifter

13. When making a right hand turn you should always...

A ● Steer into the left lane first so you can make the corner

B ● Rush through the intersection so you can get out of the way of traffic

C ● Back up to make the driver behind you move back

D ● Keep the rear of your vehicle close to the curb

14. To correct a drive wheel acceleration skid you should...

A ● Stop accelerating and push in the clutch

B ● Downshift

C ● Pump the brake

D ● Accelerate quickly

15. When driving at highway speeds, you should look 12-15 seconds ahead which is...

A ● At least 100 yards

B ● At least half a mile

C ● At least a quarter of a mile

D ● At least one tractor trailer length

Answers for Quiz #2:

1.C

2.D

3.C

4.A

5.B

6.B

7.B

8.A

9.D

10.A

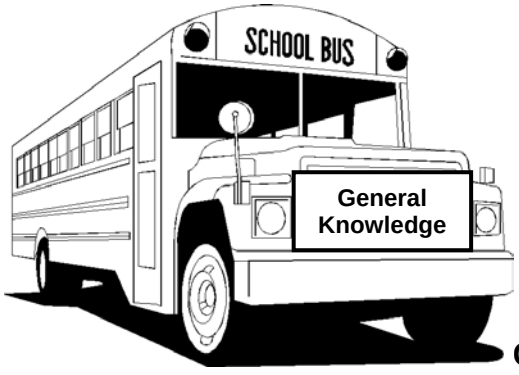
11.D

12.B

13.D

14.A

15.C



QUIZ #3

1. The following statements about an engine overheating are TRUE EXCEPT...

A ● Antifreeze is only used in colder temperatures

B ● You should remove the radiator cap to allow heat to escape the radiator

C ● It is not possible to safely drive without radiator fluid

D ● Never leave the engine running if it is overheating

2. When going down a hill you should always...

A ● Use higher gears when you have a heavy load

B ● Allow the brakes to heat up for better stopping power

C ● Be in the right gear before starting down the hill

D ● Put heavy pressure on the brakes to allow the drums to cool

3. The best time to test your parking brake is...

A ● When the vehicle is parked

B ● When the vehicle is going down a hill

C ● When the vehicle is moving slowly

D ● When the vehicle is traveling on the highway

4. Which is NOT part of the pre-trip inspection...

A ● Check engine oil level

B ● Check horn(s)

C ● Check air seat adjustments

D ● Check seat belt fastener

5. How much space should you maintain in front of you at highway speeds?

A ● Seven seconds for a 60 foot vehicle

B ● Five seconds for a 60 foot vehicle

C ● Ten seconds for a 60 foot vehicle

D ● Three seconds for a 60 foot vehicle

6. Which one of the following is true about shifting gears?

A ● Remain in neutral as long as possible

B ● Allow the engine tachometer to rev into the highest range possible

C ● Ignore how the engine sounds

D ● Shift at the best RPM range for your vehicle

7. When making a left hand turn you should always...

A ● Wait until you reach the center of the intersection before you turn

B ● Start in the left hand lane if there are two turning lanes

C ● Pull into the intersection in case the light turns before you are through

D ● Wait for a small gap in traffic and accelerate

8. The best way to warn the drivers behind you that you are slowing down is to...

A ● Blow your horn

B ● Turn on your emergency flashers

C ● Tap your brakes

D ● Flash your bright lights

9. What is the best thing to do if you are tired?

A ● Drink plenty of coffee to stay awake

B ● Take pills to keep you alert

C ● Plan your trips for the middle of the night to avoid traffic

D ● Get enough sleep

10. When backing up the tractor trailer, try to AVOID...

A ● Backing toward the right (passenger) side

B ● Backing toward the left (driver's) side

C ● Pulling ahead to reposition your trailer

D ● Having someone help/guide you

11. Which of the following are causes of vehicle fires...

A ● Spilled fuel

B ● Short circuits

C ● Driver smoking

D ● All of the above

12. Hydroplaning can occur when you drive through water or slush. If you experience hydroplaning you should...

A ● Lightly tap your brakes to slow down

B ● Release the accelerator and push in the clutch

C ● Steer hard to the right

D ● Speed up to get through the water quickly

13. An engine retarder (Jake Brake) is designed to...

A ● Use engine power to slow down the vehicle

B ● Apply braking power to the steering wheel

C ● Work only with manual transmissions

D ● Work when you accelerate

14. The best way to put out a fire is to...

A ● Get as close as possible and spray the flames

B ● Stand downwind and spray the flames

C ● Stand upwind and spray the base of the fire

D ● Stop spraying as soon as the flames disappear

15. A front wheel skid is usually caused by...

A ● Driving too fast for conditions

B ● Lack of tread on the front tires

C ● Cargo improperly loaded

D ● All of the above

Answers for Quiz #3

1.A

2.C

3.A

4.C

5.A

6.D

7.A

8.C

9.D

10.A

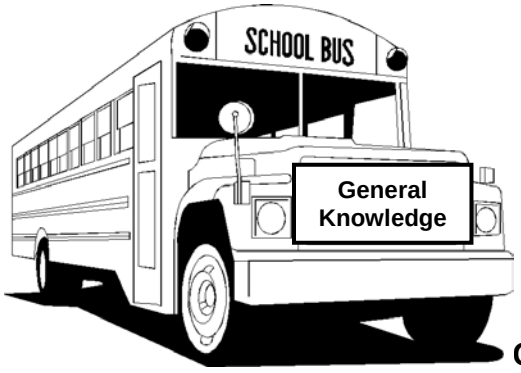
11.D

12.B

13.A

14.C

15.D



QUIZ #4

1. Which of the following statements about alcohol is true...

A ● If you eat before you drink you won't get as drunk

B ● Drinking coffee will help you stay sober

C ● Fresh air will help you sober up

D ● A few beers are the same as a few shots of whiskey or glasses of wine

2. If you do not have a HAZMAT endorsement on your CDL, under what conditions may you legally haul hazardous materials?

A ● If your dispatcher feels it is an emergency situation

B ● If the load does not require placards

C ● When you will remain within your state

D ● When a DOT official approves the load

3. If you are asked to haul a placarded load and you do not have HAZMAT endorsements you should

A ● Obtain written approval from your dispatcher

B ● Obtain written approval from the DOT official

C ● Refuse to take the load

D ● Take the placards off the vehicle

4. Upon conviction of a traffic violation you should notify your employer within 30 days if...

A ● The violation occurred in your personal vehicle

B ● The violation occurred in a commercial vehicle

C ● The violation was for parking in a restricted area

D ● both A & B

5. Overloading your trailer can result in the following EXCEPT...

A ● It can slow you down on upgrades

B ● It can increase stopping distances

C ● It can help you go through snow better

D ● It can increase speed on downgrades

6. All drivers who need a CDL must take the ...

A ● air brakes test

B ● combination vehicles test

C ● chauffeur's license test

D ● general knowledge test

7. If you are convicted of a traffic violation in a state other than the one that issued your CDL...

A ● you must notify your home state of the conviction

B ● that state will notify your home state

C ● it's nobody's business but your own

D ● it doesn't go on your record

8. You're pulled over for weaving all over the lanes. If you refuse to take an alcolol sobriety test, you may be disqualified just as if you WERE driving under the influence(DUI). This is because...

A ● higher standard of care law

B ● reasonable cause law

C ● implied consent law

D ● none of the above

9. Concerning night driving, which statement is true?

A ● Most people are more alert at night

B ● Most heavy vehicle accidents occur between midnight and 6 a.m.

C ● Most hazards are easier to see at night because of the extra lighting

D ● If you become sleepy, drink enough coffee to keep you awake until you get to your destination

10. When making an emergency stop on the highway...

A ● put on your four-way flashers and keep them on until you're back on the road

B ● put on your four-way flashers and keep them on until your warning devices are in place

C ● place a red flag from the rear of your vehicle

D ● blow your horn to alert motorists

11. If you're required to keep a log of your time...

A ● you may bring it up to date once a week

B ● any FHWA agent may inspect it

C ● you may assign your co-driver to fill it out and sign it for you

D ● you should add an hour when you cross a time zone

12. If your vehicle doesn't pass a roadside inspection...

A ● it can be declared "out of service"

B ● you cannot drive the vehicle, even to a repair station

C ● you may repair it on the spot, then resume your trip

D ● all of the above

13. By law, you must have your vehicle's lights on...

A ● one half hour after sunset until one half hour before sunrise

B ● unless street lights are lit

C ● only when there's not enough natural light to see clearly

D ● none of the above

14. Normal oil pressure while idling is...

A ● 165 to 185 degrees Fahrenheit

B ● 30 to 75 psi

C ● 30 to 35 psi

D ● 5 to 15 psi

15. Progressive shifting means...

A ● downshifting at lower rpm as you reach the lower gears

B ● downshifting at higher rpm as you reach the lower gears

C ● upshifting at lower rpm as you reach the higher gears

D ● upshifting at higher rpm as you reach the highest gears

Answers for Quiz #4

1.D

2.B

3.C

4.D

5.C

6.D

7.A

8.C

9.B

10.B

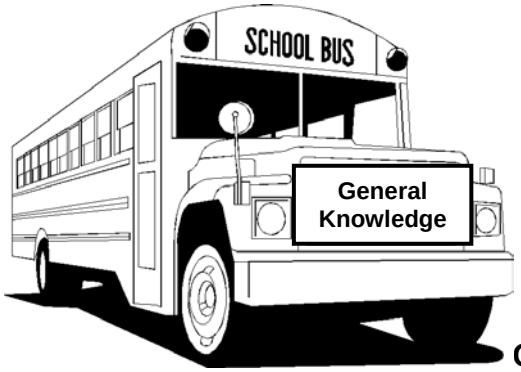
11.B

12.D

13.A

14.D

15.D



QUIZ #5

1. You should downshift...

A ● before starting down a steep hill

B ● when the speedometer or tachometer indicates that it's necessary

C ● before entering a sharp curve

D ● all of the above

2. Maintain good visual alertness by...

A ● fixing your eyes on the road in front of you

B ● looking ahead as far as you can see

C ● keeping a close eye on the road behind you

D ● shifting your attention between the mirrors and the road ahead

3. Signaling other drivers when it's safe for them to pass is...

A ● a great aid to highway safety

B ● required

C ● an unsafe practice

D ● a common courtesy drivers should extend to each other

4. Normal engine temperature ranges from...

A ● 180 to 250 degrees Fahrenheit

B ● 100 to 250 degrees Fahrenheit

C ● 165 to 185 degrees Fahrenheit

D ● Any of the above, as long as it's over 100 degrees Fahrenheit

5. Your vehicles battery box must have...

A ● at least two batteries

B ● enough fluid to work properly

C ● at least one loose wire for grounding

D ● a secure cover

6. Rust around wheel nuts often means that...

A ● the nuts are loose

B ● the nuts are broken

C ● it's been raining a lot lately

D ● it's nothing to worry about

7. When the roads are wet, icy, or snow covered...

A ● use your retarder for braking as much as possible

B ● turn the retarder off

C ● use the retarders maximum setting for better traction

D ● be ready to turn the retarder on if you start to skid

8. If you try to downshift while coming down a mountain, you might..

A ● damage the engine

B ● wear out the clutch

C ● get stuck in neutral

D ● lose traction

9. A vehicle marked at the rear with a red triangle having an orange center...

A ● Is hauling hazardous materials
B ● Is moving slowly
C ● Is a farm vehicle
D ● May stop at any time

10. Bridge laws...

A ● control traffic on a bridge
B ● determine the maximum legal axle weight
C ● apply only to bridges in California
D ● can lower the maximum axle weight limit

11. The legal size and weight distribution limits...

A ● should be your guide
B ● are not changed by adverse conditions
C ● does not ensure safe operations in adverse conditions
D ● are change by the states depending upon the season

12. Blocking used to prevent cargo movement...

A ● is secured to the cargo compartment floor
B ● is secured to the cargo itself
C ● is secured to the cargo and to the walls
D ● must be placed every 3 feet

13. Drive tire tread must be at least...

A ● 1/4 inch B ● 2/32 inch C ● 1/2 inch D ● 4/32 inch

14. Normal clutch travel is...

A ● less than one inch
B ● about one or two inches
C ● more than two inches
D ● it changes and can't be measured

15. State law can regulate...

A ● the weight of your vehicle, but not the cargo
B ● the weight of the cargo, but not your vehicle
C ● both your vehicle and cargo weights
D ● neither weights; the federal government regulates legal weights

Answers for Quiz #5

1.D

2.D

3.C

4.C

5.D

6.A

7.B

8.C

9.B

10.D

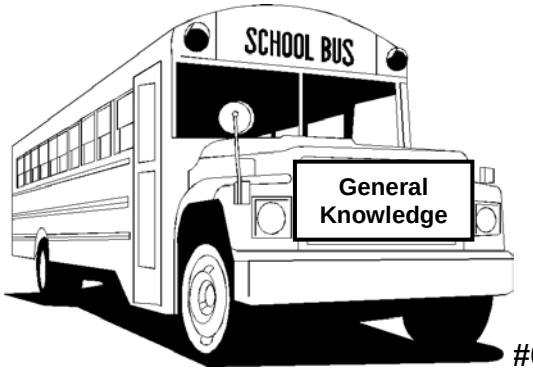
11.C

12.A

13.D

14.B

15.C



#6

1. Truck escape ramps:

A ● Cannot be used by certain types of heavy vehicles.

B ● Are designed to protect vehicles from damage.

C ● Should not be used unless you have first tried all other ways to save your vehicle after brake failure.

D ● All of the above.

2. Which of these can cause the vehicle to skid?

A ● Not enough weight on the front axle.

B ● Over acceleration.

C ● Turning too sharply.

D ● All of the above.

3. You are driving a vehicle that could safely be driven at 55 MPH on an open road. But traffic is now heavy, moving at 35 MPH although the speed limit is 55. The safest speed for your vehicle in this situation is most likely:

A ● 55 MPH B ● 45 MPH C ● 35 MPH D ● 25 MPH

4. Every time you park your vehicle and shut the engine off you should:

A ● Leave it in gear (if it has a manual transmission).

B ● Apply the parking brake.

C ● Turn the steering wheel as far to the left as you can.

D ● Do all the above.

5. Which of these describes how you should use the brake pedal on a steep downhill grade?

A ● Release the brake when you are 5 MPH below your safe speed, then let your speed come back up to your safe speed and repeat braking again, (bring your speed down 5 MPH below your safe speed)

B ● With stronger pressure as the vehicle goes downhill.

C ● Light steady pressure.

D ● Light, pumping action.

6. For an average commercial vehicle, being driven at 55 MPH on dry pavement it will take about ____ to bring the vehicle to a stop.

A ● The length of a vehicle.

B ● Half the length of a football field.

C ● Twice the length of the vehicle.

D ● The length of a football field.

7. Which of these statements about certain types of cargo is true?

A ● Oversize loads can be hauled without special permits during times when the roads are not busy.

B ● When liquids are hauled, the tank should always be loaded totally full.

C ● Unstable loads such as hanging meat or livestock require extra caution on curves.

D ● Loads that consist of liquids in bulk do not present vehicle handling problems because they are usually very heavy.

8. Which of these statements about backing a heavy vehicle is true?

A ● Backing is always dangerous.

B ● You should back and turn toward the driver's side whenever possible.

C ● You should use a helper and communicate with hand signals.

D ● All of the above are true.

9. When should you wear seat belts?

A ● Only in states where it is required by law.

B ● Any time you are in a moving vehicle.

C ● Only when engaged in interstate commerce.

D ● Only when traveling on a highway.

10. The most common cause of serious vehicle skids is:

A ● Driving too fast for road conditions.

B ● Poorly designed roads.

C ● Poorly adjusted brakes.

D ● Over inflated tires.

11. If you are being tailgated, you should:

A ● Signal the tailgater when it is safe to pass.

B ● Speed up.

C ● Flash your brake lights.

D ● Increase the space in front of you.

12. The parking brake should be tested while the vehicle is:

A ● Moving slowly.

B ● Moving at highway speed.

C ● Going downhill.

D ● Parked

13. A drivers trip log, if required:

A ● May be brought up to date once a week.

B ● May be written in pencil

C ● Must be shown immediately when an officer requests it.

D ● All of the above.

14. When should the pre-trip inspection report from the last driver be reviewed?

A ● During your pre-trip inspection

B ● Doesn't have to be reviewed

C ● Once per week

D ● Once a month

15. If you are stopped at a rest area and found to have a BAC (Blood Alcohol Concentration) of .02 you will:

A ● Be In trouble with the dispatcher
B ● Be placed out of service for 24 hours
C ● Be placed out of service for 48 hours
D ● Be placed out of service for 72 hours

Answers for Quiz #6

1.B

2.D

3.C

4.B

5.A

6.D

7.C

8.B

9.B

10.A

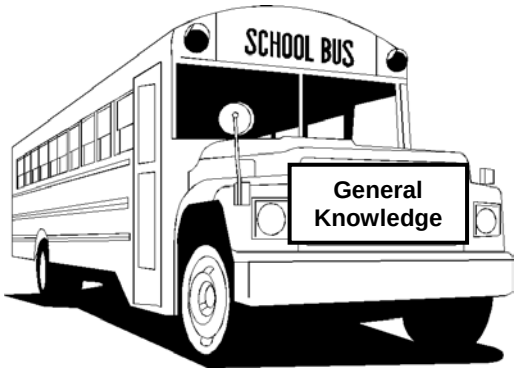
11.D

12.D

13.C

14.A

15.B



QUIZ #7

1. When roads are slippery, you should:

A ● Stop and test the traction while going up hills.

B ● Drive alongside other drivers.

C ● Decreases the distance that you look ahead of your vehicle.

D ● Make turns as gently as possible.

2. While driving, you see a small (1 foot square) cardboard box ahead in your lane. You should:

A ● Steer around it when it is safe to do so.

B ● Hit it with your vehicle to knock it off the road.

C ● Brake hard to avoid hitting it.

D ● Stop and direct traffic around it.

3. Which of these pieces of emergency equipment should be carried at all times in your vehicle?

A ● Fire extinguishers.

B ● Warning devices for parked vehicles.

C ● Spare electrical fuses (if the vehicle uses them).

D ● All of the above.

4. What is counter steering?

A ● Using the steering axle brakes to prevent over steering.

B ● Steering in the opposite direction from what other drivers expect you to do.

C ● Turning the wheel in the opposite direction after steering to avoid a traffic emergency.

D ● Turning the steering wheel counter clockwise.

5. You do not have a hazardous materials endorsement on your commercial drivers license. When can you drive a vehicle hauling hazardous materials?

A ● Never

B ● Only when the shipment will not cross state lines.

C ● Only when the vehicle does not require placards.

D ● Only when a person who has the hazardous materials endorsement rides in the vehicle.

6. You are driving a new truck with a manual transmission. What gear will you probably have to use to take a long downhill grade?

A ● A lower gear that you would use to climb the hill.

B ● The same gear you would use to climb the hill.

C ● A higher gear that you would use to climb the hill.

D ● None: newer trucks can coast down hills.

7. High beams should be:

A ● Dimmed when you are within 100 feet of another vehicle.

B ● Used whenever it is safe and legal to do so.

C ● Turned on when an oncoming driver does not dim his or her lights.

D ● All of the above.

8. An en-route inspection should include checking:

A ● Cargo doors and / or cargo securement.

B ● Tire temperature.

C ● Brake temperature.

D ● All of the above.

9. Where or when should you test the stopping action of your service brakes?

A ● At a special brake testing center only.

B ● When the vehicle is traveling downhill without a load.

C ● When the vehicle is moving at about 5 MPH.

D ● In a parking lot when the vehicle is not moving.

10. Stab braking:

A ● Should never be used.

B ● Involves locking the wheels.

C ● Involves steady pressure on the brake pedal.

D ● Should only be used on slick roads.

11. Which of these statements about using turn signals is true?

A ● When turning, you should signal early.

B ● You do not need to use your signal when changing lanes on a four lane highway.

C ● You should use your turn signal to mark your vehicle when it is pulled off the side of the road.

D ● When turning, you should cancel the signal just before you make the turn.

12. Retarders:

A ● Allow you to disconnect the steering axle brakes.

B ● Cannot be used on interstate highways.

C ● Work better at very low rpms.

D ● Can cause the vehicle to skid when the road is slippery.

13. Which of these statements about staying alert to drive is true?

A ● If you must stop to take a nap, it should be at a truck stop or other public area never on the side of the road.

B ● A half-hour break for coffee will do more to keep you alert that a half-hour nap.

C ● The only thing that can cure fatigue is sleep.

D ● There are drugs that can overcome being tired.

14. You are driving on a two lane road. An oncoming driver drifts into your lane and is headed straight for you. Which of these is generally the best action?

A ● Steer to the right

B ● Steer onto the left shoulder

C ● Hard braking

D ● Steer into the oncoming lane

15. You should avoid driving through deep puddles or flowing water. But if you must, which of these steps can help keep your brakes working?

A ● Applying hard pressure on both the brake pedal and accelerator after coming out of the water.

B ● Gently pressing the brake pedal while driving through the water.

C ● Turning on your brake heaters.

D ● Driving through quickly.

Answers for Quiz #7

1.D

2.A

3.D

4.C

5.C

6.A

7.B

8.D

9.C

10.B

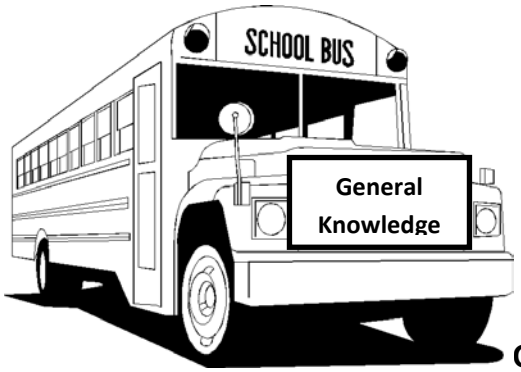
11.A

12.D

13.C

14.A

15.B



QUIZ #8

1. Which of these statements about brakes is true?

A ● Brake drums cool very quickly when the vehicle is moving very fast.

B ● Brakes have more stopping power when they get very hot.

C ● The heavier a vehicle or the faster it is moving, the more heat the brakes have to absorb to stop it.

D ● All of the above are true.

2. What should you do when your vehicle hydroplanes?

A ● Release the accelerator.

B ● Start stab braking.

C ● Counter steer hard.

D ● Accelerate slightly.

3. Under loaded front axles can cause the following:

A ● Too much play in the steering wheel

B ● Poor traction

C ● Damage to the tires.

D ● All of the above

4. Your vehicle is in a traffic emergency and may collide with another vehicle if you do not take action. Which of these is a good rule to remember at such a time?

A ● Stopping is always the safest action in a traffic emergency.

B ● Open the door and jump out if you have time.

C ● Heavy vehicles can almost always turn more quickly than they can stop.

D ● Leaving the road is always more risky that hitting another vehicle.

5. Which of these is a sign of tire failure?

A ● steering that feels heavy.
B ● Vibration.
C ● A loud bang.
D ● All of the above.

6. Which of these statements about drinking alcohol is true?

A ● Some people are not affected by drinking.
B ● A few beers have the same effect on driving as a few shots of whiskey.
C ● Coffee and fresh air can sober a person up.
D ● All of the above are true.

7. Which of these can help you stay alert while driving?

A ● Taking short breaks before you are drowsy.
B ● Keeping the cab warm.
C ● Taking over-the-counter cold medicine.
D ● Scheduling trips during hours that you are normally asleep.

8. Which one of these is not part of the check of the engine compartment done for a pre trip inspection?

A ● Worn wiring insulation.
B ● Engine oil level.
C ● Condition of belts and hoses.
D ● Valve clearance.

9. According to the driver's manual, why should you limit the use of your horn?

A ● It wears down the battery.
B ● It can startle other drivers.
C ● The horn is not a good way to let others know you're there.
D ● You should keep both hands tightly gripping the steering wheel.

10. You are traveling down a long, steep hill. Your brakes get so hot that they fail. What should you do?

A ● Pump the brake pedal.
B ● Down shift.
C ● Look for an escape ramp or escape route.
D ● All of the above.

11. How far should a driver look ahead of the vehicle while driving?

A ● 6-9 seconds
B ● 9-12 seconds
C ● 12-15 seconds
D ● 18-21 seconds

12. Which of these statements about cargo loading is true?

A ● State laws dictate legal weight limits.
B ● Slight overloading of a vehicle can make its brakes work better.
C ● If the shipper loads cargo, the driver is not responsible for overloading.
D ● The legal maximum weight allowed by a state can be considered safe for all driving conditions.

13. Which of these statements about marking a stopped vehicle is true?

A ● The vehicle's tail lights should be kept on to warn other drivers.
B ● If a hill or curve keeps drivers behind you from seeing the vehicle within 500 feet, the rear reflective triangle should be moved back down the road to give adequate warning.
C ● You do not need to put out reflective triangles unless the vehicle will be stopped for 30 minutes or more.
D ● All of the above are true.

14. You are driving a 40 foot vehicle at 45 MPH. Driving conditions are ideal (dry pavement, good visibility). What is the least amount of space that you should keep in front of your vehicle to be safe?

A ● 2 seconds B ● 3 seconds C ● 4 seconds D ● 5 seconds

15. The amount of liquid to load into a tank depends on:

A ● The weight of the liquid.
B ● The legal weight limits.
C ● The amount of liquid will expand in transit.
D ● All of the above

Answers for Quiz #8

1.C

2.A

3.D

4.C

5.D

6.B

7.A

8.D

9.B

10.C

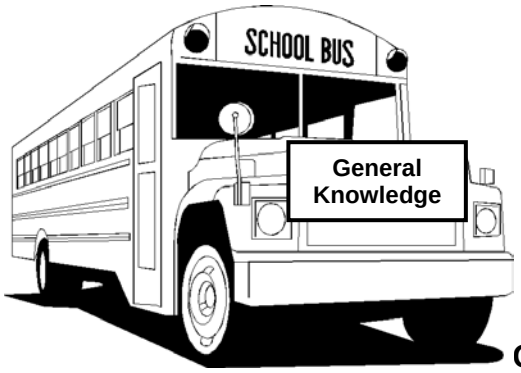
11.C

12.A

13.B

14.D

15.D



QUIZ #9

1. You are starting your vehicle in motion from a stop. As you apply power to the drive wheels, they start to spin. You should:

A ● Take your foot off the accelerator and apply the brakes.

B ● Press harder on the accelerator.

C ● Take your foot off the accelerator.

D ● Try a lower gear.

2. You should use your mirrors to check:

A ● Traffic gaps before you merge.

B ● The condition of the tires and cargo.

C ● Where the rear of your vehicle is while you make turns.

D ● All of the above.

3. The proper way to hold a steering wheel is at clock positions ____ and ____.

A ● 6 and 12 B ● 3 and 9 C ● 4:30 and 7:30 D ● 1:30 and 10:30

4. Cargo inspections:

A ● Should be performed after every break you take while driving.

B ● Are only needed if hazardous materials are being hauled

C ● Not the responsibility of the driver.

D ● Should be performed every 6 hours or 300 miles.

5. Your brakes can get wet when you drive through a heavy rain. What can this cause when the brakes are applied?

A ● Lack of braking power

B ● Trailer jackknife

C ● Wheel lockup

D ● All of the above

6. How do you test hydraulic brakes for leaks?

A ● Measure the free play in the pedal with a ruler.

B ● With the vehicle stopped, pump the pedal three times, apply firm pressure for 5 seconds, then hold and see if the pedal moves.

C ● Step on the brake pedal and the accelerator at the same time and see if the vehicle moves.

D ● Move the vehicle slowly and see if it stops when the brake is applied.

7. Which of these is a good rule to follow when driving at night.

A ● Keep your instrument lights bright.

B ● Look directly at oncoming headlights only briefly.

C ● Keep your speed slow enough that you can stop within the range of your headlights.

D ● Wear sun glasses

8. A vehicle is loaded with very little weight on the drive axle. What may result?

A ● Damage to drive axle tires.

B ● A need to disconnect the steering axle brakes.

C ● Better handling.

D ● Poor traction

9. The key principle in balancing cargo weight is to keep the load:

A ● On the side away from most traffic

B ● Balanced in the cargo area

C ● To the front

D ● To the rear

10. Which of these statements about using mirrors is true?

A ● There are blind spots that your mirrors cannot show you.

B ● You should check your mirrors twice for a lane change.

C ● You should look at a mirror for several seconds at a time.

D ● Convex mirrors make things look closer than they really are.

11. Which of these statements about cold weather driving is true?

A ● In snow storms, wiper blades should be adjusted so that they do not make direct contact with the windshield.

B ● Exhaust system leaks are less dangerous in cold weather.

C ● There is no need to worry about engine overheating when the weather is very cold.

D ● Windshield washer antifreeze should be added to the washer reservoir.

12. The most important reason for being alert to hazards is so:

A ● You will have time to plan your escape if the hazard becomes an emergency.

B ● Accident reports will be accurate.

C ● Law enforcement personnel can be called.

D ● You can help impaired drivers.

13. Which of these is a good rule to follow when using a fire extinguisher?

A ● stay downwind of the fire.

B ● Keep it as close to the fire as possible.

C ● Aim at the base of the fire.

D ● All the above.

14. Is it legal to drive with one fourth of a vehicles leaf springs broken or missing?

A ● It doesn't make any difference as long as you drive slow.

B ● Yes

C ● No

D ● None of the above.

15. Dry bulk tanks require special care because:

A ● The load can shift

B ● They have a high center of gravity

C ● Both of the above

D ● None of the above

Answers for Quiz #9

1.C

2.D

3.B

4.A

5.D

6.B

7.C

8.D

9.B

10.A

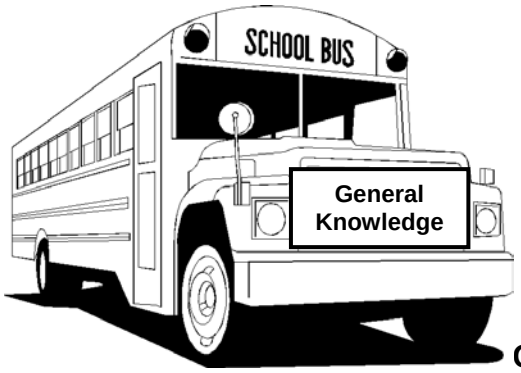
11.D

12.A

13.C

14.C

15.C



QUIZ #10

1. Which of these statements about down shifting is true?

A ● When you down shift for a curve, you should do so before you enter the curve.

B ● When double clutching, you should let the RPM's decrease while the clutch is released and the shift lever is in neutral.

C ● When you down shift for a hill, you should do so after you start down the hill.

D ● All of the above are true.

2. Which of these statements about drugs is true?

A ● A driver can use any prescription drug while driving

B ● Amphetamines (pep pills or bennies) can be used to help the driver stay alert.

C ● Use of drugs can lead to accidents and / or arrest.

D ● All of the above.

3. To avoid a crash, you had to drive onto the right shoulder. You are now driving at 40 MPH on the shoulder. How should you proceed?

A ● Keep moving at the present speed and steer very gently back onto the pavement.

B ● Steer sharply onto the pavement and counter steer when both back wheels of your vehicle are on the road.

C ● Brake hard to slow the vehicle, then steer sharply onto the road.

D ● Come to a complete stop, if possible, before continuing back onto the road.

4. Which of these statements about managing space is true?

A ● Smaller vehicles require more space to stop than larger ones.

B ● When the road is slippery, you should keep much more space in front of your vehicle.

C ● Many accidents are caused by drivers keeping too much space in front of their vehicles.

D ● All of the above.

5. Which of these is the most important things to remember about emergency braking?

A ● If the wheels are skidding you cannot control vehicle.

B ● Disconnecting steering axle brakes will help keep your vehicle in a straight line during emergency braking.

C ● Never do it without down shifting first.

D ● It wears brake linings.

6. To correct a rear wheel (drive wheel) braking skid, you should:

A ● Apply more braking pressure to the brake pedal

B ● Release brakes and accelerate.

C ● Apply more pressure to the brake pedal and steer/counter steer.

D ● Release the brakes and steer/counter steer.

7. While driving, ice builds up on your wipers and they no longer clean the windshield. You should:

A ● Keep driving, and spray the windshield with washer fluid.

B ● Keep driving, and reach out the window and knock the ice off.

C ● Pull over in a safe place and remove the ice.

D ● Keep driving, and turn your defroster on.

8. The road you are driving on becomes very slippery due to black ice. Which of these is a good thing to do in such a situation?

A ● Apply the brakes often to keep the linings dry.

B ● Down shift to stop.

C ● Drive at a varying speed.

D ● Stop driving and park where it is safe to do so.

9. You must park on the side of a level, straight, two lane road. Where should you place the three reflective triangles?

A ● One within 10 feet of the rear of the vehicle, one about 100 feet to the rear, and one about 200 feet to the rear.

B ● One within 10 feet of the front of the vehicle, one about 200 feet from the front, and one about 100 feet to the rear.

C ● One within 10 feet of the rear of the vehicle, one about 100 feet to the rear, and one about 100 feet from the front of the vehicle.

D ● One about 50 feet from the rear of the vehicle, one about 100 feet to the rear, and one about 100 feet from the front of the vehicle.

10. You are driving in the right lane of a four lane, undivided road, you come over a hill and find a car stopped ahead in your lane. You do not have room to stop, and the hill blocks your view to the rear. Which of these is most likely the best action to take?

A ● Steer to the right.

B ● Use hard braking and brace for collision.

C ● Steer into the left lane.

D ● Steer into the oncoming lanes.

11. You are checking your tires for a pre trip inspection. Which of these statements is true?

A ● Tires of mismatched sizes should not be used on the same vehicle.

B ● Radial and bias-ply tires can be used together on the same vehicle.

C ● Dual tires should be touching each other.

D ● 2/32 inch tread depth is safe for the front tires.

12. The first step to take if your vehicle catches fire while driving is:

A ● Head for the nearest service station.

B ● Get the vehicle off the road and stop in an open area.

C ● Park in the shade of a building.

D ● Immediately open the door and jump out.

13. Which of these statements about double clutching and shifting is true?

A ● If you miss a gear while up-shifting, you must bring the vehicle to a stop.

B ● Double clutching should only be used with a heavy load

C ● You can use the tachometer to tell you when to shift.

D ● Double clutching should not be used when the road is slippery.

14. The center of gravity of a load:

A ● Is only a problem if the vehicle is overloaded.

B ● Should be kept as high as possible.

C ● Can make a vehicle more likely to tip over on curves.

D ● All of the above.

15. You are testing the stopping action of service brakes on a hydraulic system. Which of these can mean there is a problem?

A ● The brake pedal goes to the floor

B ● Stopping action is delayed.

C ● The vehicle pulls to one side when the brake pedal is pressed.

D ● All of the above.

Answers for Quiz #10

1.A

2.C

3.D

4.B

5.A

6.B

7.C

8.D

9.C

10.A

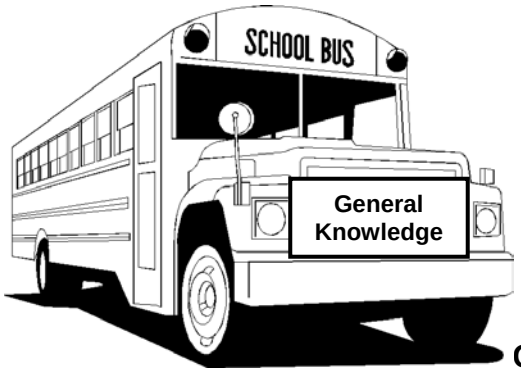
11.A

12.B

13.C

14.C

15.D



Quiz #11

1. When preparing to do a pre-trip inspection you must check to see that the parking brakes are on and/or chocked.

A. True B. False

Answer:

2. When getting in to start the engine and inspect inside the cab you must

A. Make sure the parking brake is on.
B. Put gearshift in neutral (or park if automatic).
C. Start engine and listen for unusual noises.
D. All of the above.

Answer:

3. Look at the gauges - the oil pressure gauge should come up to normal within how long after starting the engine?

A. Minutes B. Seconds C. It does not matter.

Answer:

4. You should check the following for looseness, sticking, damage or improper settings:

A. Steering wheel
B. Accelerator, brake and clutch pedals
C. Transmission controls
D. All of the above

Answer:

5. After inspecting mirrors and windshields for cracks, dirt, illegal stickers, or other obstructions to your vision, you should:

A. Look in the mirror to see if you look good.
B. Clean and adjust as necessary.
C. Not worry about any of it.

Answer:

6. When checking lights you should:

A. Make sure that the parking brake is set.
B. Turn off the engine and take the key with you.
C. Turn on the headlights and four way flashers.
D. All of the above.

Answer:

7. What should wheel bearing seals be checked for?

A. Color of paint used on cover
B. Cleanliness
C. Hub oil level and no leaks

Answer:

8. How many red reflective triangles should you carry?

A. 1 B. 2 C. 3 D. 4

Answer:

9. How do you test hydraulic brakes for leaks?

A. Pump the brake pedal three times, then apply firm pressure to the pedal and hold for five seconds. The pedal should not move.
B. Drive 20 mph and slam on the brakes.
C. Drive slowly and pump the brake pedal. Make sure it doesn't hit the floor.

Answer:

10. Why put the starter switch key in your pocket during the pre-trip inspection?

A. So you don't lose it B. So no one moves the vehicle C. For your safety

Answer:

11. To avoid roll backs when you start, you should:

A. Stop on a flat area
B. Engage the clutch very quickly
C. Press the accelerator
D. Partly engage the clutch before you take your right foot off the brake

Answer:

12. What is the proper way to hold the steering wheel?

A. Firmly with both hands on opposite sides of the wheel
B. With your right hand on the wheel
C. Firmly with one hand at the top of the wheel and the other at the bottom

Answer:

13. Why should you back toward the driver's side?

A. Backing toward the right side is dangerous
B. So you can see better
C. A and B

Answer:

14. When backing, why is it important to use a helper?

A. It makes people think you are a better driver.
B. There are blind spots you can't see.
C. It's more fun when you have help.

Answer:

15. What is the most important hand signal that you and the helper should agree on?

A. Stop B. Go C. Right D. Left

Answer:

16. What are two special conditions where you should downshift?

A. When starting off fast and speed shifting
B. Before starting down a hill and before entering a curve
C. Before starting up a hill and before entering a curve

Answer:

17. When should you downshift automatic transmissions?

A. When going down grades B. When going up grades
C. when going around curves D. None of the above

Answer:

18. Retarders keep you from skidding where the road is slippery.

A. True B. False

Answer:

19. What are the two ways to know when to shift?

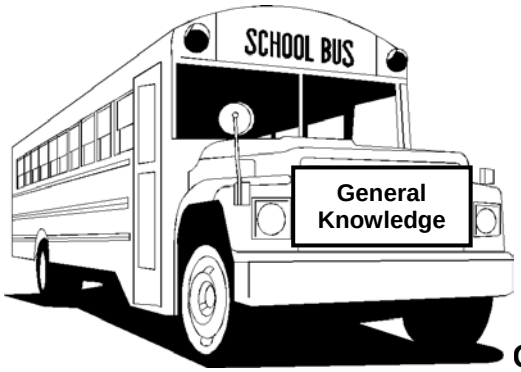
A. Use engine speed (rpm) and road signs
B. Use your watch and engine sound
C. Use engine speed (rpm) and use road speed (mph)

Answer:

20. How far ahead should you look?

A. Most good drivers look 20 to 30 seconds ahead
B. Most good drivers look 5 to 10 seconds ahead
C. Most good drivers look 2 to 4 seconds ahead
D. Most good drivers look 12 to 15 seconds ahead

Answer:



Quiz #12

1. What are two main things to look for ahead?

A. Road Signs B. Police C. Rest Area D. Traffic and road conditions

Answer:

2. What is your most important way to see the sides and rear?

A. By looking out the window
B. Checking your mirrors regularly
C. Getting on the C. B. radio.

Answer:

3. What does "communicating" mean in safe driving?

A. Letting other drivers know you're there to help prevent accidents.
B. Using hand signals.
C. Driving a brightly colored vehicle.

Answer: 4. Where should your reflectors be placed when stopped on an undivided highway?A. Within 10 feet of the front or rear and 100 feet behind and ahead of the vehicle.
B. Within 50, 100, and 150 feet of the vehicle.
C. Within 10, 20, and 30 feet of the vehicle.

Answer:

5. What three things add up to total stopping distance?

A. Road conditions, reaction distance, and braking distance
B. Perception distance, reaction distance, and braking distance
C. Braking distance, controlling speed, and reaction distance.

Answer:

6. If you go twice as fast, will your stopping distance increase by:

A. twice B. three times C. four times D. five times

Answer:

7. Empty trucks have the best braking.

A. True B. False

Answer:

8. What is hydroplaning?

A. driving in the snow
B. when the tires lose their contact with the road
C. when you hit a pot hole

Answer:

9. What is black ice?

A. Dirty snow
B. Rain and snow mixed
C. A thin layer of ice clear enough that you can see the road underneath it.

Answer:

10. If the vehicle ahead of you is smaller than yours, it can probably:

A. out-run you. B. stop faster than you can. C. take turns faster than you can.

Answer:

11. If you are driving a 30 foot vehicle at 55 mph, how many seconds of following distance should you allow?

A. Four seconds B. Eight seconds C. Six seconds

Answer:

12. You should decrease your following distance if somebody is following you too closely.

A. True B. False

Answer:

13. If you swing wide to the left before turning right another driver may try to pass you on the right.

A. True B. False

Answer:

14. You should use low beams whenever you can.

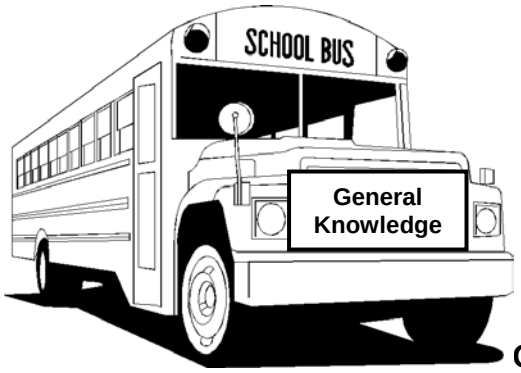
A. True B. False

Answer:

15. What should you do before you drive if you are drowsy?

A. Drink some coffee. B. Take some caffeine pills.
C. Get some sleep before you drive. D. None of the above.

Answer:



Quiz #13

1. What effects can wet brakes cause?

A. Brakes can be weak or grab.
B. Brakes to work better.
C. You foot can get tired.

Answer:

2. How can you avoid wet brake problems?

A. Speed up, shift to a higher gear.
B. Slow down, shift to a low gear, gently put on the brakes.
C. Apply the brakes harder and faster.

Answer:

3. You should let air out of hot tires so the pressure goes back to normal.

A. True B. False

Answer:

4. You can safely remove the radiator cap as long as the engine isn't overheated.

A. True B. False

Answer:

5. What factors determine your selection of "safe" speed when going down a long steep downgrade?

A. Size of vehicle, traffic conditions, curves in the road.
B. Conditions of brakes, radio bulletins and alertness of driver.
C. Total weight of the vehicle, length of the grade, steepness, road conditions, and weather.

Answer:

6. Why should you be in the proper gear before starting down a hill?

A. Because gravity can cause the speed of your vehicle to increase.
B. Because you don't want to shift going down a hill.
C. Because the clutch works better up a hill.

Answer:

7. Describe the proper braking technique when going down a long steep downgrade.

A. Apply the brake just hard enough to feel a definite slowdown.
B. When your speed has been reduced to around 5 mph below your "safe" speed, release the brake.
C. When your speed has increased to your "safe" speed. repeat A and B
D. All of the above.

Answer:

8. What is a hazard?

A. Any road condition or other road user that is a possible danger.
B. A flashing amber light.
C. A small animal.

Answer:

9. Why make emergency plans when you see a hazard?

A. To have something to do while driving
B. In order to protect yourself and others.
C. To avoid getting a ticket.

Answer: 10. Stopping is not always the safest thing to do in an emergency?A. True B. False

Answer:

11. What are some advantages of going right instead of left around an obstacle?

A. You can avoid a head on collision.
B. Taking the shoulder may be best.
C. Someone may be passing to the left.
D. All of the above.

Answer:

12. What is an "escape ramp?"

A. Ramps that are located a few miles from the top of a downgrade to help you stop.
B. A quick way to get out of town.
C. Ramps to get on and off an interstate highway fast.

Answer:

13. If a tire blows out you should put the brake on hard to stop quickly.

A. True B. False

Answer:

14. What are some things to do at an accident scene to prevent another accident?

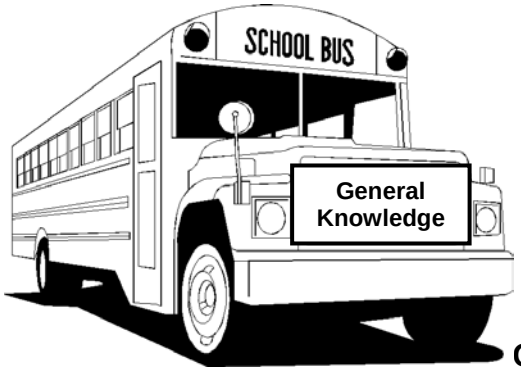
A. Try to get your vehicle to the side of the road.
B. If you're stopping to help. park away from the accident.
C. Put on your flashers and set out reflector triangles.
D. All of the above.

Answer:

15. Name two causes of tire fires:

A. Tight turns and gravel roads
B. Under inflated tires and duals that touch
C. Driver smoking and following too close

Answer:



Quiz #14

1. Truck escape ramps:

A. Cannot be used by certain types of heavy vehicles.
B. Are designed to protect vehicles from damage.
C. Should not be used unless you have first tried all other ways to save your vehicle

after brake failure.
D. All of the above.

Answer:

2. Which of these can cause the vehicle to skid?

A. Not enough weight on the front axle.
B. Over acceleration.
C. Turning too sharply.
D. All of the above.

Answer:

3. You are driving a vehicle that could safely be driven at 55 MPH on an open road. But traffic is now heavy, moving at 35 MPH although the speed limit is 55. The safest speed for your vehicle in this situation is most likely:

A. 55 MPH B. 45 MPH C. 35 MPH D. 25 MPH

Answer:

4. Every time you park your vehicle and shut the engine off you should:

A. Leave it in gear (if it has a manual transmission).
B. Apply the parking brake.
C. Turn the steering wheel as far to the left as you can.
D. Do all the above.

Answer:

5. Which of these describes how you should use the brake pedal on a steep downhill grade?

A. Release the brake when you are 5 MPH below your safe speed, then let your speed come back up to your safe speed and repeat braking again, (bring you speed down 5 MPH below your safe speed)
B. Brake with stronger pressure as the vehicle goes downhill.
C. Light steady pressure.
D. Light, pumping action.

Answer:

6. For an average commercial vehicle, being driven at 55 MPH on dry pavement it will take about ____ to bring the vehicle to a stop.

A. The length of a vehicle.
B. Half the length of a football field.
C. Twice the length of the vehicle.
D. The length of a football field.

Answer:

7. Which of these statements about certain types of cargo is true?

A. Oversize loads can be hauled without special permits during times when the roads are not busy.
B. When liquids are hauled, the tank should always be loaded totally full.
C. Unstable loads such as hanging meat or livestock require extra caution on curves.
D. Loads that consist of liquids in bulk do not present vehicle handling problems because they are usually very heavy.

Answer:

8. Which of these statements about backing a heavy vehicle is true?

A. Backing is always dangerous.
B. You should back and turn toward the driver's side whenever possible.
C. You should use a helper and communicate with hand signals.
D. All of the above are true.

Answer:

9. When should you wear seat belts?

A. Only in states where it is required by law.
B. Any time you are in a moving vehicle.
C. Only when engaged in interstate commerce.
D. Only when traveling on a highway.

Answer:

10. The most common cause of serious vehicle skids is:

A. Driving too fast for road conditions.
B. Poorly designed roads.
C. Poorly adjusted brakes.
D. Over inflated tires.

Answer:

11. If you are being tailgated, you should:

A. Signal the tailgater when it is safe to pass.
B. Speed up.
C. Flash your brake lights.
D. Increase the space in front of you.

Answer:

12. The parking brake should be tested while the vehicle is:

A. Moving slowly.
B. Moving at highway speed.
C. Going downhill.
D. Parked

Answer:

13. A drivers trip log, if required:

A. May be brought up to date once a week.
B. May be written in pencil
C. Must be shown immediately when an officer requests it.
D. All of the above.

Answer:

14. When should the pre-trip inspection report from the last driver be reviewed?

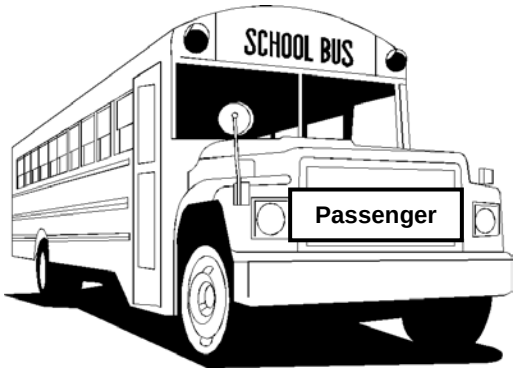
A. During your pre-trip inspection
B. Doesn't have to be reviewed
C. Once per week
D. Once a month

Answer:

15. If you are stopped at a rest area and found to have a BAC (Blood Alcohol Concentration) of .02 you will:

A. Be In trouble with the dispatcher
B. Be placed out of service for 24 hours
C. Be placed out of service for 48 hours
D. Be placed out of service for 72 hours

Answer:



Practice Test #1

1. A disruptive passenger . . .
   - Should not be discharged where it would be unsafe for them
   - Is not your responsibility
   - Should be monitored at all times
2. If your bus leans toward the outside on a banked curve, you are:
   - Driving too slow
   - Driving on a wet surface
   - Driving too fast
3. You must stop your bus between
   - 15 and 50 feet before a railroad crossing
   - 5 to 10 feet before a railroad crossing
   - 20 to 25 feet before a railroad crossing
4. The interlock system for the brake and accelerator on a transit coach may be used . . .

- To replace the rear door emergency buzzer
- As a safety feature when the exit door is open
- To replace the parking brake

5. If your bus is disabled, the bus, with riders aboard, may be towed or pushed to a safe place only . . .
   - If getting off the bus would be more risky for the riders
   - By a tow truck with a GVWR of at least 27,000 pounds
   - If the distance is less than 1 mile
6. How many seats not securely fastened to the bus are usually allowed?
   - 0
   - 1
   - 2
7. Which of the following types of cargo can never be carried on a bus with riders?
   - Tear gas
   - Emergency hospital supplies
   - Emergency drug shipments
8. If a rider wants to bring a car battery or a can of gasoline aboard your bus, you should
   - Have the rider pay a second fare
   - Instruct them to sit next to an open window
   - Not allow them to do it
9. When it is carried on a bus, hazardous materials must be . . .
   - Stored in the passenger compartment
   - Labeled
   - Packed in a yellow box
10. You have passed all the requirements for a "class b" bus driver's license. Which of these vehicles are you not license to drive?
    - Class a bus
    - Class b bus
    - Class c bus
11. You must put a loaded bus into motion from a stopped position on a steep upgrade (4% or more). Which of these is the best technique to follow when you have a bus with a manual transmission?
    - Accelerate hard and release the clutch quickly
    - Hold the foot brake until the clutch has been fully released

- Slowly release the clutch while releasing the parking brakes

12. If your bus has an emergency exit door, it must . . .
    - Not have any signs, stickers, or markings anywhere near it
    - Have a red electric door light turned on at all times
    - Be secured when operating the bus
13. Which of the following must be closed while the bus is in motion?
    - Emergency windows
    - Windows
    - Roof vents

14. The standee line is . . .
    - A two inch line on the floor to the rear of the driver's seat
    - A line two feet from the rear exist
    - There is no such thing on a bus
15. At drawbridges with no signal you must stop at least . . .
    - 5 to 10 feet before the draw of the bridge
    - 15 to 20 feet before the draw of the bridge
    - 50 feet before the draw of the bridge

Answers:

1. **A disruptive passenger . . .**
   a. Should not be discharged where it would be unsafe for them
2. **If your bus leans toward the outside on a banked curve, you are:**
   c. Driving too fast
3. **You must stop your bus between…**
   a. 15 and 50 feet before a railroad crossing
4. **The interlock system for the brake and accelerator on a transit coach may be used . . .**
   b. As a safety feature when the exit door is open
5. **If your bus is disabled, the bus, with riders aboard, may be towed or pushed to a safe place only . . .**
   a. If getting off the bus would be more risky for the riders
6. **How many seats not securely fastened to the bus are usually allowed?**
   a. 0
7. **Which of the following types of cargo can never be carried on a bus with riders?**
   a. Tear gas
8. **If a rider wants to bring a car battery or a can of gasoline aboard your bus, you should…**
   c. Not allow them to do it
9. **When it is carried on a bus, hazardous materials must be . . .**
   b. Labeled
10. **You have passed all the requirements for a "class b" bus driver's license. Which of these vehicles are you not license to drive?**
    c. Class a bus
11. **You must put a loaded bus into motion from a stopped position on a steep upgrade (4% or more). Which of these is the best technique to follow when you**

have a bus with a manual transmission?

c. Slowly release the clutch while releasing the parking brakes

12. **If your bus has an emergency exit door, it must . . .**

    c. Be secured when operating the bus

13. **Which of the following must be closed while the bus is in motion?**

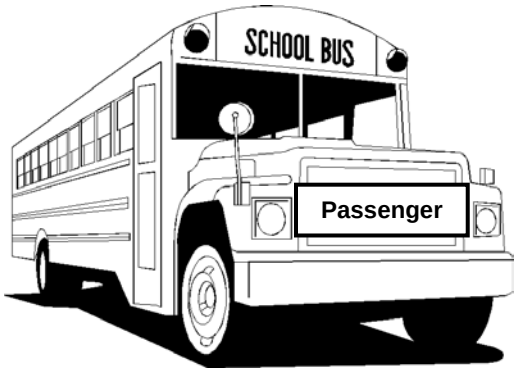
    a. Emergency windows

14. **The standee line is . . .**

    a. A two inch line on the floor to the rear of the driver's seat

15. **At drawbridges with no signal you must stop at least . . .**

    c. 50 feet before the draw of the bridge



Practice Test #2

1. Commercial bus drivers must have a CDL if:

a. ● They drive a vehicle that has air brakes

b. ● They drive a vehicle that is designed to carry more than fifteen (15) passengers including the driver.

c. ● They drive a vehicle that has a gross weight rating of more than 26,000 pounds.

d. ● They drive a vehicle that is designed to carry more than nine passengers.

2. Carry on baggage cannot be stored:

a. ● On the seats

b. ● Under the seat

c. ● Behind the seats

d. ● In the aisle

3. Buses may carry:

a. ● Small arms ammunition labeled orm-d
b. ● Car batteries
c. ● Explosives
d. ● Class 1 poison

4. When arriving at the destination announce:

a. ● The location
b. ● The next departure time
c. ● The reason for stopping
d. ● All of the above

5. A disruptive passenger:

a. ● Should not be discharged where it would be unsafe for them.
b. ● Is not your responsibility
c. ● Should not be allowed on the bus
d. ● May be thrown off the bus

6. If your bus leans toward the outside on a banked curve, you are:

a. ● Driving too slow
b. ● Driving on a wet surface
c. ● Driving too fast
d. ● Driving at the correct speed

7. You must stop your bus between:

a. ● 15 and 50 feet before a railroad crossing
b. ● 5 to 10 feet before a railroad crossing
c. ● 20 to 25 feet before a railroad crossing
d. ● None of the above

8. At the end of each shift you should:

a. ● Report any defects
b. ● Take all your personal belongings
c. ● Inspect your bus
d. ● All of the above

9. The interlock system for the brake and accelerator on a transit coach may be used:

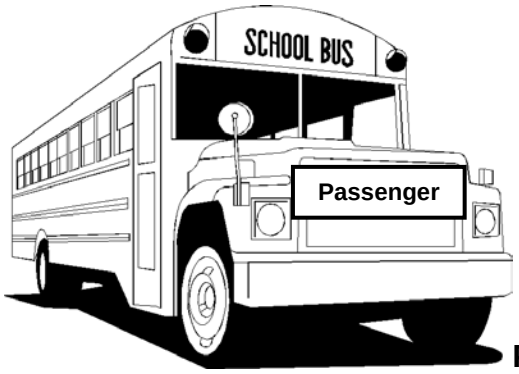
a. ● To replace the rear door emergency buzzer
b. ● As a safety feature when the exit door is open
c. ● To replace the parking brake
d. ● All of the above.

10. Your bus is disabled. The bus, with riders aboard, may be towed or pushed to a safe place only:

a. ● If getting off the bus would be more risky for the riders
b. ● By a tow truck with a GVWR of at lease 27,000 pounds
c. ● If the distance is less than 1 mile
d. ● By another bus with its 4-way flashers on.

ANSWERS:

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



Practice Test #3

1. The driver's seat should be adjusted:

a. ● Only when the bus is moving at 30 mph or less
b. ● Only when the bus is at a stop
c. ● Whenever the driver finds it necessary while driving
d. ● None of the above

2. In general, the best braking technique to use in maintaining a safe speed when driving on a downgrade is:

a. ● Using only downshifting
b. ● Using only the parking brakes
c. ● Use the snub braking method (5 mph below safe speed)
d. ● Fanning or pumping the brakes

3. Which of these is the best general rule for night driving?

a. ● Increase the normal (daytime) following distance by one second.
b. ● Drive slightly slower than the other traffic
c. ● Drive slightly faster than the other traffic
d. ● Drive close to the shoulder of the road

4. Off tracking of the rear wheels is affected by:

a. ● Greater distance between the front and rear wheels
b. ● Sharper turns and curves
c. ● Faster speed on turns and curves
d. ● All of the above

5. How are buses to handle most railroad grade crossings?

a. ● Come to a complete stop before crossing
b. ● Turn the vehicle flashers on before crossing
c. ● Tap the electric horn before crossing
d. ● Slow down and prepare to stop if a train is approaching

6. Which of these is a good rule for backing a straight bus?

a. ● None of these
b. ● Back toward the side opposite the driver
c. ● Use voice signals to communicate with a helper
d. ● Turn the steering wheel so that the front moves away from the direction in which you want the back of the vehicle to go

7. Which of these forms of signaling is not recommended?

a. ● Using four way flashers to warn of danger ahead
b. ● Signaling to others that you will change lanes
c. ● All of these answers are proper to use
d. ● Signaling to others that it is safe to pass your bus

8. Following are some situations that require special attention from all drivers. Which one is an even bigger problem for the driver of a vehicle with a low ground clearance?

a. ● Off tracking on sloped curves
b. ● Humps or dips in the road
c. ● Backing on level ground
d. ● Driving in slippery conditions

9. In a pressurized cooling system, coolant level should be checked:

a. ● Only by a mechanic
b. ● Every 90 days
c. ● Only while the engine is hot
d. ● None of the above.

10. You need to evacuate your bus in an emergency, passengers should be directed to a safe place no less than ____ feet from the bus.

a. ● 75
b. ● 100
c. ● 150
d. ● 200

Answers:

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

Practice Test #4

1. Name some things to check in the interior of a bus during the pre-trip inspection.

A. Parking brake and steering mechanism
B. Lights, reflectors, and horn
C. Tires and windshield wipers
D. All of the above

2. As you check the outside of the bus, you should close any open emergency exits or open access panels.

A. True B. False

3. When checking the interior of a bus before driving it which of the following parts of the bus must be in sage working condition?

A. Signaling devices (emergency buzzer)
B. Handrails, emergency exit handles
C. Air Conditioners and heaters
D. A and B
E. C and D

4. Are bus drivers required to wear seatbelts?

A. Yes B. No

5. Is it alright to leave carry on baggage in a doorway or aisle?

A. Yes B. No

6. Most hazardous materials cannot be carried on a bus, but some hazardous materials are allowed.

A. True B. False

7. What are some hazardous materials you can transport by bus?

A. Poison, tear gas, and irritating materials
B. Small arms ammunition, hospital supplies, and drugs
C. Explosives and radioactive materials

8. In buses designed to allow standing you can stand anywhere you want.

A. True B. False

9. What is a standee line?

A. A strip around the outside of the bus.
B. A two inch line on the floor to show riders where not to stand.
C. A two inch line between the seats.

10. Does it matter where you make a disruptive passenger get off the bus?

A. Yes B. No

11. How far from a railroad crossing should you stop?

A. Between 10 and 40 feet
B. Between 15 and 50 feet
C. Between 20 and 60 feet

12. When must you stop before crossing a drawbridge?

A. Stop at least 30 feet before the draw of the bridge.
B. Stop at least 40 feet before the draw of the bridge.
C. Stop at least 50 feet before the draw of the bridge.

13. What are "prohibited practices" while operating a bus?

A. Avoid fueling with riders on board.
B. Don't talk to riders while driving.
C. Don't tow or push a disabled bus with riders aboard.
D. All of the above.

14. Urban mass transit coaches may have a brake and accelerator interlock system. The rear door of a transit bus has to be open to put on the parking brake.

A. True B. False

15. If you work as an interstate carrier, you must complete a written inspection report for each bus driver.

A. True B. False

16. Are recapped or regrooved tires allowed on buses?

A. Yes, on all wheels.
B. Yes, on all wheels except the front wheels.
C. No, recapped or regrooved tires are not allowed on buses.

17. Before driving who is responsible for inspecting emergency equipment?

A. The shop B. The dispatcher C. The driver

18. What are the shape of hazardous material labels?

A. Round B. Rectangular C. Diamond-shaped

19. Which poor weather condition can cause the most dangerous driving?

A. Ice B. Rain C. Snow

20. If you have to swerve quickly to avoid an accident you want to know:

A. If all of your passengers are wearing seat belts.
B. Where other vehicles are around your bus.
C. Where your passengers are seated.

Answer Key
1. D
2. A
3. D
4. A
5. B
6. A
7. B
8. B
9. B
10. A
11. B
12. C
13. D
14. B

15. A
16. B
17. C
18. C
19. A
20. B

and Prepare for Your AIR BRAKES TEST:

Step 1: Start the engine and make sure the AIR PRESSURE GAUGE is reading between 100 to 125 pounds per square inch (PSI).

Step 2: Turn off the engine, and turn the key to the on position.

Step 3: Release the PARKING BRAKE, and the psi gauge should drop no more than 2 PSI in ONE MINUTE.

Step 4: Apply steady pressure to the SERVICE BAKE and the psi gauge should drop no more than 3 PSI in ONE MINUTE.

Step 5: Pump the SERVICE BRAKE steadily releasing the air in the tanks. At 60 psi, the LOW AIR PRESSURE warning light will come on and the ALARM will sound.

Step 5: Continue pumping the SERVICE BRAKE until the psi gauge reaches between 20 and 45 psi and the PARKING BRAKE engages.

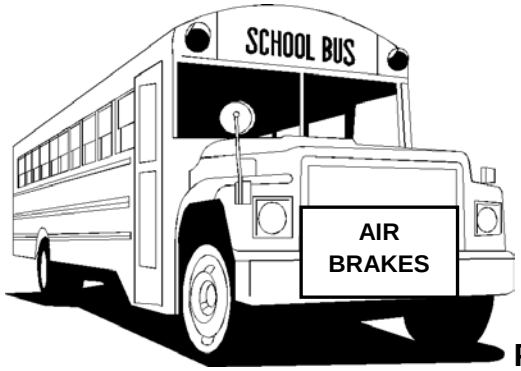
TO REBUILD AIR IN THE TANKS:

Step 1: Start the engine and accelerate to approximately 1000 RPM and hold steady.

Step 2: When the psi gauge reads between, 60 to 70, the low air pressure brake warning light will go out and the alarm will turn off.

Step 3: Continue building the air pressure and time the rate of build up in the tanks. It should be 85 – 100 psi in LESS THAN 45 seconds.

This completes the Air Brake System Check. The pressure should continue to build until the gauge reaches 125 psi and the air pumps will stop pumping air.



PRACTICE TEST #1

1. The parking or emergency brake on a heavy vehicle can only be held into position by something that cannot leak away. An example would be?

   a. Fluid pressure b. Spring pressure

   c. Air pressure d. Any of the above

2. A straight truck or bus air brake system would not leak at a rate of more than how many PSI per minute with the engine off and the brakes released?

   a. 1 PSI per minute b. 2 PSI per minute

   c. 3 PSI per minute d. 4 PSI per minute

3. Your vehicle has a dual air brake system, if a low air pressure warning comes on for the secondary system what should you do?

   a. Bring the vehicle to a safe stop and continue only when the system is fixed

   b. Reduce your speed and test the remaining system while underway

   c. Reduce your speed and drive to the nearest garage for repairs

   d. Continue at normal speed if only the secondary system fails

4. If your vehicle has an alcohol evaporator, why is it there?

   a. To rid the wet tank of alcohol that condenses and sets at the bottom

   b. To eliminate the need for daily tank draining

   c. To boost the tank pressure in the same way that turbo chargers boost engines

d. To reduce the risk of ice in air brake valves in cold weather

5. Air braking takes more time than hydraulic braking because

a. Air brakes use different brake drums

b. Air takes more time to flow through than hydraulic fluid

c. Brakes require heavier return springs

d. Air is always leaking through air line fittings

6. The brake pedal in an air brake system _____.

a. Controls the speed of the air compressor

b. Always needs to be held down half-way during normal driving

c. Controls the air pressure applied to put on the brakes

d. Is connected to slack adjusters by a series of rods and linkages

7. If your truck or bus has dual parking control valves you can use pressure from a separate tank for what purpose?

a. To balance the service brake system when you are parked.

b. To stay parked twice as long without using up the service air pressure.

c. To release the spring emergency and parking brakes to move a short distance.

d. To brake harder if the main tank is getting low.

8. Air brake systems combine three different systems. They are the service brake system, the parking brake system, and what other?

a. The emergency brake system b. The foot brake system

c. The S-CAM brake system d. The drum brake system

9. To check the free play of manual slack adjusters of S-CAM brakes you should park on what kind of grade?

a. Park on level ground and apply the parking brake

b. Park on level ground, chock the wheels and release the parking brakes

c. Park on level ground, drain off the air pressure before checking the adjustment

d. Park on a slight grade, release the parking brakes and apply the service brake watching your vehicle movement

10. Which of these is the most important thing to do when a low air pressure warning comes on?

a. Stop and safely park as soon as possible

b. Shift to the next higher gear

c. Adjust the brake pedal for more travel

d. Open the air supply control valve

11. What does the air compressor governor do?

a. It controls the speed of the air compressor

b. It controls when the brake chambers release pressure

c. It controls the air pressure applied to the brakes

d. It controls when air is pumped into the air tanks

12. The braking power of the spring brakes _____.

a. Is not affected by the condition of the service brakes

b. Can only be tested by highly trained brake service people

c. Depends on the service brakes being in adjustment

d. Increases when the service brakes are hot

13. All air brake equipped vehicles have _____.

a. At lease one brake heater

b. A hydraulic system in case the air system fails

c. A supply pressure gauge

d. An air use gauge

14. If you must make an emergency stop how should you brake?

a. You brake so you can steer hard while braking hard

b. You brake using the full power of the brakes and lock them

c. You brake so you can steer and your vehicle stays in a straight line

d. You brake so you use the hand brake first

15. What does the application pressure gauge show?

a. It shows you how much air you used during this trip

b. It shows how much pressure you have in the air tanks

c. It shows how much pressure you are applying to the brakes

d. None of the above

16. If you do not have automatic tank drains, how often should you drain the oil and water from the air storage air tanks?

a. After every four hours of service

b. At the end of each day of driving

c. Once a week

d. Every other week

17. You know that your brakes are fading when:

a. You have to push harder on the brake pedal to control your speed on a down grade

b. The brake pedal feels spongy when pressure is applied

c. Pressure on the brake pedal is released and speed increases

d. Less pressure is needed on the brake pedal for each stop

18. If your vehicle has an alcohol evaporator, every day during cold weather what should you do?

a. Change the alcohol from a new bottle

b. Clean the air filter with alcohol

c. Check the oil for alcohol content

d. Check and fill the alcohol level

19. Why drain water from compressed air tanks?

a. The low boiling point of water reduces braking power

b. Water can freeze in cold weather and cause brake failure

c. Water cools the compressor too much

d. To keep from fouling the air compressor oil

20. To test service brakes, you should brake firmly while moving slowly forward. The brakes are O.K. if you notice:

a. The vehicle pulls to one side
b. An unusual feel
c. A delayed stopping action
d. None of the above

21. What is the correct braking technique for driving on long downhill grades?

a. Reduce your speed to 5 MPH below your safe speed
b. Release the brakes
c. When your speed has increased to your safe speed, repeat a and b
d. All of the above

22. The driver must be able to see or hear a warning before air pressure in the storage tank falls below what pressure?

a. 40 PSI
b. 50 PSI
c. 60 PSI
d. 80 PSI

23. During normal driving, spring brakes are usually held back by _____.

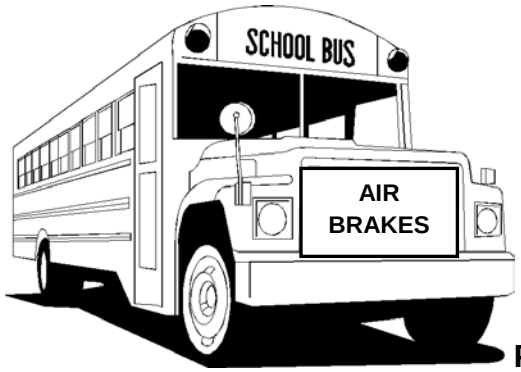
a. Bolts
b. Air Pressure
c. Spring Pressure
d. Centrifugal force

24. In air brake vehicles the parking brakes should be used how?

a. As little as possible
b. Anytime the vehicle is parked
c. To hold your speed when going downhill
d. Only during pre-trip and post-trip inspections

25. Emergency stab braking is when you _____.

a. Press hard on the brake pedal and apply full hand valve until you stop
b. Apply the hand valve for one second, then push hard on the pedal
c. Use light, steady pressure on the brake pedal
d. Brake as hard as you can, release the brakes when the wheels lock; and when the wheels start rolling press the brakes fully



PRACTICE TEST #2

1. The air loss rate for a straight truck or bus, with the engine off and the brakes on, should not be more than what?

a. 1 PSI in 30 seconds

b. 1 PSI in 1 minute

c. 2 PSI in 45 seconds

d. 3 PSI in 1 minute

2. Your brakes are fading when _____.

a. You have to push harder on the brake pedal to control your speed on a downgrade.

b. The brake pedal feels spongy when you apply pressure.

c. You release pressure on the brake pedal and speed increases.

d. Less pressure is needed on the brake pedal for each stop.

3. What does the supply pressure gauge show?

a. It shows how much pressure you have used in this trip.

b. It shows how much pressure is in the air tanks.

c. It shows how much pressure is going to the brake chambers.

d. It shows how much pressure the air can take.

4. The brake system that supplies and releases the brakes when the driver uses the brake pedal is called what brake system?

a. The emergency brake system b. The service brake system

c. The parking brake system d. None of the above

5. If your vehicle has an alcohol evaporator, every day during cold weather what should you do?

a. Check and fill the alcohol level b. Change the alcohol from a new bottle

c. Clean the air filter with alcohol d. Check the oil for alcohol content

6. Why should you drain water from compressed air tanks?

a. The boiling point reduces braking power.

b. Water can freezes in cold weather causing brake failure.

c. Water-cools the compressor too much.

d. You should drain water to make room for the oil that should be in the compressed air tank.

7. To test air service brakes you should brake firmly when moving slowly forward. What tell you that the brakes are O.K.?

a. A delayed stopping action. b. An unusual feel.

c. The vehicle pulls to the right. d. None of the above.

8. On long downhill grades, experts recommend using a low gear and light, steady pedal pressure instead of on-again, off-again braking. Why is that?

a. Because air usage is less when you have light steady pressure.

b. Because brake linings do not heat up as much with light steady pressure.

c. Because you can keep vehicle speed constant in a low gear with light, steady pressure.

d. All the above.

9. Your truck or bus has a dual air brake system, if a low air pressure warning comes on for only one system, what should you do?

a. Reduce your speed and drive to the nearest garage for repair.

b. Reduce your speed and test the remaining system while underway.

c. Continue at normal speed. No action is needed if only one system fails.

d. Stop right away and safely park, continue only after the system is fixed.

10. During normal driving, spring brakes are usually held back by what?

a. Air pressure b. Spring pressure

c. Centrifugal force d. Bolts or clamps

11. Total stopping distance for air brakes is longer than that for hydraulic brakes, due to what distance?

a. Perception distance b. Reaction distance

c. Brake lag distance d. Effective braking distance

12. The most common type of foundation brake found on heavy vehicles is what?

a. The disc brake b. The wedged drum brake

c. The S-CAM system d. None of the above

13. With air brake vehicles the parking brakes should be used when?

a. Whenever you leave the vehicle unattended.

b. To hold the speed when going downhill.

c. As little as possible.

d. Only during pre-trip and post-trip inspections.

14. What is emergency stab braking?

a. Pump the pedal lightly and rapidly

b. Press on the brake pedal as hard as you can, then release the brakes when the wheels lock; and when the wheels start rolling put the brakes on fully again.

c. Brake hard until the wheels lock, then get off the brakes for as much time as the wheels were locked.

d. Press hard on the brake pedal and apply full hand valve until you come to a stop.

15. Parking or emergency brakes of trucks and buses are held on by what kind of pressure?

a. Spring pressure b. Fluid pressure

c. Air pressure d. Atmospheric pressure

16. The driver must be able to see a low air pressure warning, which comes on before pressure in the service air tanks falls below how many PSI?

a. 20 PSI b. 40 PSI c. 60 PSI d. 80 PSI

17. If your vehicle has an alcohol evaporator, why is it there?

a. To rid the wet tank of alcohol that condenses and sets at the bottom

b. To eliminate the need for daily tank draining

c. To boost the tank pressure in the same way that turbo chargers boost engines

d. To reduce the risk of ice in air brake valves in cold weather

18. The brake pedal in an air brake system _____.

a. Controls the speed of the air compressor

b. Is seldom used compared to hydraulic systems

c. Controls the sir pressure applied to put on the brakes

d. Is connected to slack adjusters by a series of rods and linkages

19. If your truck or bus has dual parking control valves then you can use pressure from a separate tank for what purpose?

a. To balance the service brake system when you are parked.

b. To stay parked twice as long without using up the service air pressure.

c. To release the spring emergency and parking brakes to move a short distance.

d. To brake harder if the main tank is getting low.

20. If you must make an emergency stop than you should brake how?

a. So that you use the hand brake before the brake pedal

b. So that you do not need to worry about steering

c. So you can steer and so your vehicle stays in a straight line

d. So you can use the full power of the brakes to lock the wheels

21. To check the free play of manual slack adjusters of S-CAM brakes you should park on what kind of grade?

a. Level ground and apply the parking brake

b. Park on level ground, chock the wheels and release the parking brakes

c. Park on level ground, drain off the air pressure before checking the adjustment

d. Park on a slight grade, release the parking brakes and apply the service brake watching your vehicle movement

22. The most important thing to do when a low air pressure warning comes on is what?

a. Up shift

b. Downshift

c. Adjust the brake pedal for more travel

d. Stop and safely park as soon as possible

23. What does the air compressor governor control?

a. The speed of the air compressor

b. Air pressure applied to the brakes

c. Air pumped into the air tanks

d. When the brake chambers release pressure

24. What describes the braking power of the spring brakes?

a. It increases when the service brakes are hot

b. It depends on the service brakes being in adjustment

c. It is not affected by the condition of the service brakes

d. It can only be tested by highly trained brake service people

25. All air brake equipped vehicles have what?

a. An air use gauge

b. A supply pressure gauge

c. At least one brake heater

d. A back-up hydraulic system

Practice Test #1

ANSWERS

1 - (b) 6 - (c) 11 - (d) 16 - (b) 21 - (d)

2 - (b) 7 - (c) 12 - (c) 17 - (a) 22 - (c)

3 - (a) 8 - (a) 13 - (c) 18 - (d) 23 - (b)

4 - (d) 9 - (b) 14 - (c) 19 - (b) 24 - (b)

5 - (b) 10 - (a) 15 - (c) 20 - (d) 25 - (d)

Practice Test # 2

ANSWERS:

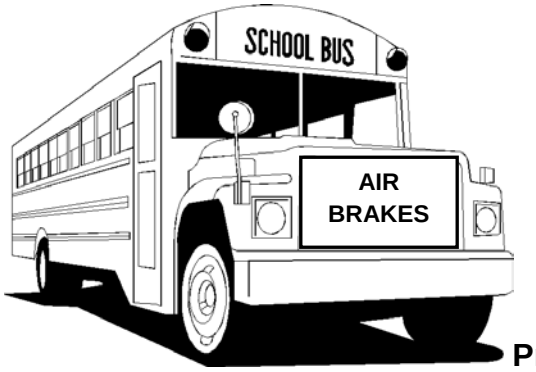
1 - (d) 6 - (b) 11 - (c) 16 - (c) 21 - (b)

2 - (a) 7 - (d) 12 - (c) 17 - (d) 22 - (d)

3 - (b) 8 - (d) 13 - (a) 18 - (c) 23 - (c)

4 - (b) 9 - (d) 14 - (b) 19 - (c) 24 - (b)

5 - (a) 10 - (a) 15 - (a) 20 - (c) 25 - (b)



Practice Test #3

1. Why must air tanks be drained?

A. To drain all the air out of the tank.
B. To drain moisture and oil out of the tank.
C. To keep anyone from moving the vehicle.

2. What is a supply pressure gauge used for?

A. To tell you how much diesel is in the vehicle.
B. To tell you how much water is in the air tank.
C. To tell you how much air is in the air tank.

3. All vehicles with air brakes must have a low air pressure warning signal.

A. True B. False

4. What are spring brakes?

A. Brakes used for parking.
B. If the air brakes leak down, springs press the brakes on to stop the vehicle.
C. The spring on the brake pedal.

5. Front wheel brakes are good under all conditions.

A. True B. False

6. When you put your brakes on the air brake system works with an electric switch, by air pressure to turn on the brake lights.

A. True B. False

7. What do air brakes use to make the brakes work?

A. Compressed gas B. Compressed oil C. Compressed air

8. Air brakes are really three different braking systems: service brake, parking brake and emergency brake.

A. True B. False

9. The service brake applies and releases:

A. The parking brake when you use the parking brake control.
B. The brake when you use the brake pedal during normal driving.
C. In the event of an emergency.

10. The parking brake applies and releases:

A. The brake pedal during normal driving.
B. In the event of an emergency.
C. The parking brakes when you use the parking brake control.

11. The emergency brake system:

A. Uses parts of the service and parking brake system to stop the vehicle in the event of a brake system failure.
B. Uses the service brake to stop the vehicle in the event of a brake system failure.
C. Uses the parking brake to stop the vehicle in the event of a brake system failure.

12. The governor controls when the air compressor will pump into the air storage tanks.

A. True B. False

13. The air storage tanks are used to hold compressed air.

A. True B. False

14. When you put on the brakes by pushing down the brake pedal:

A. The air pressure is reduced to the brake pads.
B. Air pressure is applied to the brake pads.
C. Compressed air is let go out of the system.

15. The S-cam forces the brake shoes away from one another and presses them against the inside of the brake drum. It is called the S-cam because:

A. It is shaped like the letter Z.
B. It is shaped like the letter N.
C. It is shaped like the letter S.

Answer Key
1. B
2. C
3. A
4. B
5. A
6. A
7. C
8. A
9. B
10. C
11. A
12. A
13. A
14. B
15. C

The AIR BRAKES FACTS

1. The air loss rate for a straight truck or bus with the engine off and the brakes on should not be more than 3 PSI in one minute.

2. Your brakes are fading when you have to push harder on the brake pedal to control your speed on a downgrade.

3. The supply pressure gauge shows how much pressure is in the air tanks.

4. The brake system that applies and releases the brakes when the driver uses the brake pedal is the service brake system.

5. If your vehicle has an alcohol evaporator, every day during cold weather you should check and fill the alcohol level.

6. You should drain the water from compressed air tanks because water can freeze in cold weather and cause brake failure.

7. To test service brakes, you should brake firmly when moving slowly forward. The brakes are O.K. if you do not notice a delayed stopping action, an unusual feel, or the vehicle “pulls” to one side.

8. On long downhill grades, apply the brakes just enough to feel a slowdown. When your speed has been reduced to approximately five miles per hour below your “safe” speed, release the brakes. When your speed has increased to your

safe speed, repeat steps one and two. Repeat this until you have reached the end of the downhill grade.

9. Your truck or bus has a dual air brake system. If a low air pressure warning comes on for only one system, what should you do? Stop right away and safely park. Continue only after the system is fixed.

10. During normal driving, spring brakes are usually held back by air pressure.

11. Total stopping distance for air brakes is longer than that for hydraulic brakes due to brake lag.

12. The most common type of foundation brake found on heavy vehicles is the S-CAM brake system.

13. With air brake vehicles, the parking brake should be used whenever you leave the vehicle unattended.

14. For emergency stab braking, you should press on the brake pedal as hard as you can, release the brakes when the wheels lock, and when the wheels start rolling press the brakes fully again.

15. Parking or emergency brakes on trucks and buses can be held on by spring pressure.

16. The driver must be able to see a low air pressure warning, which comes on when pressure in the air tanks fall below 60 PSI.

17. If your vehicle has an alcohol evaporator, it is there to reduce the risk of ice in air brake valves in cold weather.

18. The brake pedal in an air brake system controls the air pressure applied to put on the brakes.

19. If your truck or bus has dual parking control valves, you can use pressure from a separate tank to release the emergency/parking brakes to move a short distance.

20. To check the free play of manual slack adjusters of S-CAM brakes, you should park on level ground, chock the wheels, and release the parking brake.

21. The most important thing to do when a low air pressure warning comes on is stop and safely park as soon as possible.

22. The air compressor governor controls when air is pumped into the air tanks.

23. The braking power of the spring brakes depends on the service brakes being in adjustment.

24. All air brake equipped vehicles have a supply pressure gauge.

25. If you must make an emergency stop, you should brake so you can steer and so your vehicle stays in a straight line.

26. The parking or emergency brake on a heavy vehicle can only be held in position by something that cannot leak away, like spring pressure.

27. A straight truck or bus air brake system should not leak at a rate of more than 2 PSI per minute with the engine off and the brakes released.

28. Your vehicle has a dual air brake system. If a low air pressure warning comes on for the secondary system, you should bring the vehicle to a safe stop and continue only when the system is fixed.

29. Air braking takes more time than hydraulic braking because air takes more time to flow through the lines than hydraulic fluid.

30. Air brake systems combine three different systems. They are the service, parking, and the emergency brake systems.

32. The application pressure gauge shows how much air pressure you are applying to the brakes.

33. If you do not have automatic tank drains, you should drain the oil and water from the air storage tanks at the end of each day of driving.

Practice Test #1

1. A school bus is "every motor vehicle used for the transportation of children to or from school or school activities."

A. True B. False

2. It doesn't matter if school bus drivers know current laws and regulations and keep abreast of any changes.

A. True B. False

3. School bus drivers must have a commercial driver's license and:

A. passenger and combination vehicle endorsements.
B. school bus and passenger endorsements.
C. air brake and tank endorsements.

4. Maximum time in transit: No pupil shall be allowed to remain in transit to and from school for:

A. more than one hour round trip.
B. more than two hours round trip.
C. more than three hours round trip.

5. Can a school bus transport more pupils than indicated by the manufacturer's rated capacity for the bus?

A. Yes B. No

6. Inspection of buses are made one or more times a year in order to determine whether the school bus can be used to safely transport school children.

A. True B. False

7. Each state board of education is charged with the primary responsibility of rules and regulations regarding pupil transportation.

A. True B. False

8. A school bus driver doesn't have to wear a seat belt at all times.

A. True B. False

9. Only some school bus drivers are required to participate in In-service training programs.

A. True B. False

10. Who makes the final decision to determine when weather conditions make the roads unsafe to travel?

A. The School Administrator B. The School Teacher C. The School Bus Driver

11. What is one of the more dangerous procedures a school bus driver must undertake?

A. Driving in traffic. B. Loading and unloading. C. Driving in the rain.

12. When approaching a school bus stop you should activate your overhead amber lights how far from the bus stop?

A. 100 ft. B. 200 ft. C. 300 ft.

13. Immediately after stopping you should:

A. Open entrance door slightly to activate the stop arms and overhead red warning lights.
B. Tell the children to stand back until you are ready for them to load.
C. Get the children onto the bus as quickly as possible.

14. Always unload on the right outside lane if on a multi-lane road.

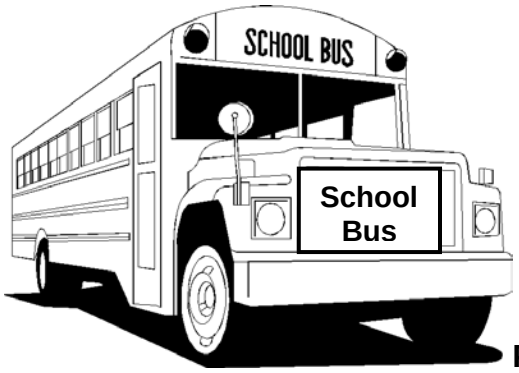
A. True B. False

15. Pupils must walk at least how many feet in front of a school bus to cross the road?

A. 8 ft. B. 10 ft. C. 12 ft.

Answer Key

1. A
2. B
3. B
4. C
5. B
6. A
7. A
8. B
9. B
10. C
11. B
12. C
13. A
14. A
15. C



Practice Test #2

1. In addition to checking for spare electrical fuses, three red reflective triangles, and a properly charged and rated fire extinguisher, school bus drivers must also inspect the following emergency equipment:

A. three red burning flares, safety belts in all seats.
B. three red burning flares, a nine-item first-aid kit.
C. three flares of any type and isopropyl alcohol.

2. A school bus driver must also check the alternately flashing amber lights indicator, if equipped, the alternately flashing red lights indicator and the strobe light indicator, if equipped.

A. True B. False

3. School bus drivers must also check the following external lights and reflectors:

A. strobe light, if equipped, stop arm light, if equipped.
B. alternately flashing amber lights, if equipped.
C. alternately flashing red lights.
D. all of the above.

4. If equipped, check the stop arm to see that it is mounted securely to the left front window of the school bus.

A. True B. False

5. Check that the entry door is not damaged and:

A. operates smoothly and closes securely from the inside.
B. operates smoothly and closes securely from the outside.
C. operates smoothly and closes securely from a remote location.

6. Should the hand rails and stop light be checked during a pre-trip inspection?

A. Yes B. No

7. On a pre-trip inspection for a bus, the passenger/entry should be checked for:

A. door operation, hand and foot rails and handicap lift.
B. door operation, hand rails, entry step condition and brake condition.
C. door operation, hand rails, entry step condition and handicap lift if equipped.

8. When checking a handicap lift the things that you should look for are:

A. leaking, damaged or missing wheel chairs.
B. leaking, damaged, or missing parts and explain how lift should be checked for correct operation. Lift must be fully retracted and latched.
C. leaking, damaged, or missing parts and explain how lift should be checked for correct operation. Lift must be 25 percent retracted and latched.

9. Make sure that all emergency exits are not damaged, operate smoothly and close securely from the outside.

A. True B. False

10. Check all emergency exits and show that:

A. they are not damaged, operate smoothly, and close securely from the inside and the warning devices are working.
B. they are damaged, operate smoothly and close securely and exit warning devices are working.
C. all devices inside and outside of bus are operating in unison.

11. During the pre-trip inspection you should check for broken seat frames and check that seat frames are firmly attached to the floor.

A. True B. False

12. Should you check passenger exit mirrors?

A. Yes B. No

13. During the external inspection of a Coach or Transit Bus a check should be made to see that:

A. the vehicle is sitting level (side to side) and if air-equipped check for water leakage.
B. the vehicle is not sitting level and if air equipped check for audible air leaks from the suspension system.
C. the vehicle is sitting level (front and rear) and if air-equipped, check for audible air leaks from the suspension system.

14. A compartment check includes:

A. checking that baggage and all other exterior compartment doors are not damaged, operate properly and latch securely.
B. checking that all compartment doors are painted in coordinating colors.
C. checking that everyone has brought baggage.

15. A battery/box check is important. The battery must be secure, connections must be tight and cell caps must be present. In addition these items should be checked:

A. battery connections should show signs of excessive wear.
B. battery connections should not show signs of excessive corrosion, but the battery box and cover or door is unimportant.
C. battery connections should not show signs of excessive corrosion and the battery box and cover or door should not be damaged and should be secure.

Answer Key
1. B
2. A
3. D
4. B
5. A
6. A
7. C
8. B
9. B
10. A
11. A
12. A
13. C
14. A
15. C

Practice Test #

1. During the pre-trip inspection, you must show that:

A. the vehicle is safe to drive.
B. the vehicle is newer than 4 years old.
C. you are competent and have no alcohol in your system.

2. During the pre-trip inspection you will:

A. sit in a truck and drive around talking about your expertise.
B. take a computerized test about truck driving.
C. walk around the vehicle and point to or touch each item and explain to the examiner what you are checking and why.

3. When checking the hoses you should:

A. look for puddles on the ground.
B. look for dripping fluids on underside of engine and transmission.
C. inspect hoses for condition and leaks.
D. All of the above.

4. When checking the oil level you will show the examiner:

A. that the oil level is within safe operating range.
B. add water to the wipers.
C. indicate where the power steering fluid dipstick is located.

5. You should never check the reservoir sight glass of the coolant level.

A. True B. False

6. When checking the power steering fluid at the pre-trip inspection the level must be above the refill mark to be acceptable

A. True B. False

7. Check the following belts for snugness, cracks, or frays:

A. power steering belt and water pump belt, alternator belt and air compressor belt.
B. air compressor belt and seat belt.
C. power steering belt and driver's belt.
D. none of the above.

8. To check the clutch/gearshift you should:

A. depress clutch.
B. place gearshift lever in neutral (or park for automatic transmissions).

C. start engine, then release clutch slowly.
D. all of the above.

9. You must check to make sure that the oil pressure gauge is working.

A. True B. False

10. When checking the oil pressure gauge you should make sure that:

A. the gauge shows decreasing oil pressure.
B. shows increasing or normal oil pressure or that the warning light goes off.
C. shows that there is enough gas for your trip.

11. The temperature gauge is unimportant at a pre-trip inspection.

A. True B. False

12. During a pre-trip inspection the mirrors and windshield should be checked for:

A. proper steering.
B. colorful observation.
C. cleanliness, obstructions, and damage.

13. Some emergency equipment that should always be carried is:

A. unimportant during the pre-trip inspection.
B. spare electrical fuses, three reflective triangles, a properly charged and rated fire extinguisher.
C. spare electrical fuses, a walkie talkie, a fire extinguisher.

14. To check for steering play in a non-power steering vehicle you should turn the steering wheel back and forth. Play should not exceed:

A. 30 degrees B. 20 degrees C. 10 degrees

15. Check that wiper arms and blades are secure, damaged, and operate occasionally.

A. True B. False

Answer Key
1. A
2. C
3. D
4. A
5. B
6. A
7. A
8. D
9. A
10. B
11. B
12. C
13. B
14. C
15. B

Practice Test #2

1. During a pre-trip inspection you should show the examiner that you can check the lighting indicators for:

A. the left and right turn signal.
B. the four-way emergency flashers.
C. the high beam headlights.
D. all of the above.

2. The horn and heater/defroster should be checked during a pre-trip inspection.

A. True
B. False

3. To check the parking brake you should:

A. apply the parking brake and make sure that it will hold the vehicle by shifting into a lower gear and gently pulling against the brake.
B. apply the parking brake and pressing the foot brake to make sure that they will work

together.
C. You need not show that the parking brake works.

4. During a hydraulic brake check you must pump the brake pedal____times and then hold it down for_____seconds. The brake pedal should not move (depress) for five seconds.

A. 3, 5 B. 5, 10 C. 10,15

5. Failure to perform an air brake check will result in an automatic failure of the vehicle inspection test.

A. True B. False

6. When checking lights and reflectors all external and reflective equipment must be clean and functional. Light and reflector checks include:

A. headlights, seatbelts, tail lights, decorative lights.
B. clearance lights, headlights, tail lights, turn signals, four-way flashers, brake lights, and red reflectors (on rear and amber reflectors everywhere else).
C. clearance lights, Christmas lights, head and tail lights.

7. An external inspection of the steering box and hoses will include checking that the steering box is securely mounted and not leaking more than 4 ounces of fluid per hour.

A. True B. False

8. The steering box must be securely mounted. You will check for:

A. proper paint on the box.
B. secure lighting on the steering box.
C. missing nuts, bolts, and cotter keys.

9. On the steering linkage you must check for joints and sockets that are worn or loose and that there are no missing bolts, nuts, or cotter keys.

A. True B. False

10. The Suspension System check should include:

A. hoses, springs, mounts, brakes.
B. springs/air/torque, mounts, shock absorbers.
C. mounts, shocks, brakes.

11. It is unnecessary to check the slack adjusters when checking the brake system.

A. True B. False

12. On some brake drums, there are openings where the brake linings can be seen from outside the drum. For this type of drum, check that:

A. a visible amount of brake lining is showing.
B. a visible amount of brake lining is not showing.
C. that the brake lining is very thin.

13. Should you be prepared to perform the same brake components inspection of every axle (power unit and trailer, if equipped)?

A. Yes B. No

14. The following items must be inspected on every tire:

A. Tread depth, tire brand, and hub oil seals.
B. Tread depth, hub oil seals, lug nuts, and white walls.
C. Tread depth, hub oil seals, lug nuts, and spacers.

15. Listen for air leaks when checking the air/electric lines. Hoses and electrical lines should not be cut but can be spliced.

A. True B. False

Answer Key
1. D
2. A
3. A
4. A
5. A
6. B
7. B
8. C
9. A
10. B
11. B
12. A
13. A
14. C
15. B

Practice Test #1

1.The color of the clearance lights on the front of a vehicle must be?

A. Red B. White C. Amber D. Green

2. When backing a large truck or other large vehicle, you should?

A. Get out, walk around and make sure there is nothing behind you.

B. Use both rear view mirrors.

C. Try and have someone standing in a safe place guide you.

D. All of the above.

3. Every trailer must have how many reflectors on the rear?

A. 1 B. 2 C. 3 D. 4

4. Electrical turn signal indicators are required on all motor vehicles manufactured after the year model

A. 1958 B. 1959 C. 1960 D. 1961

5. No combination of vehicles, other than a truck tractor-trailer combination may exceed

A. 40 feet B. 60 feet C. 45 feet D. 65 feet

Answers:

1. C

2. D

3. B

4. B

5. D

Commercial Driver License DVD Summaries

Train the

Vehicle Inspection

Pre-Trip Inspection

- Use a checklist
- Be sure to follow your organization's procedures.

Cushion of Safety

- Area to the front, back and sides of bus that you should keep free of pedestrians, other vehicles and fixed objects.
- Most critical part – area to the front of your bus.
  - Look down the road
    - ¼ mile or 12 to 15 seconds
    - 1 to 1 ½ blocks
- Keep a safe following distance.
  - Must allow enough distance to stop your vehicle safely.
  - Total stopping distance
    - Perception Distance
    - Reaction Distance
    - Brake Lag Distance
    - Braking Distance
  - Increase your following distance
    - If you have a tailgater
    - In adverse weather conditions

Check your mirrors every 3 to 5 seconds.

Cover your break!

Preventable Collision: is one in which the driver failed to do everything reasonable to avoid it.

Situational Driving Segment #1

DDC Collision Prevention Formula

1. Recognize the Hazard
2. Understand the Defense
3. Act Correctly in Time

In congested areas hazards could include: cars turning in front of you, crossing pedestrians, parked vehicles pulling out, vehicles pulling into the road from either side of the road.

- Reactions to take – Cover your break, slowing, sounding the horn to signal your approach, topping.
- Intersection Crossings
- Left and Lag

Situation Driving Segment #2

Open Road Environments – hills, trees/foliage.

You will need a large break to traffic to pass safely.

Avoid passing on 2-lane rural roads.

Tailgating – Increase your follow distance from the car in front of you.

On the Highway

Special Considerations

Backing Procedures - avoid whenever possible.

1. Check the area for obstructions
2. In an unfamiliar environment use a qualified individual to help (agree on hand signals)
3. Move very slowly, put on your hazard lights and honk the horn if necessary.
4. Do not back until you feel the wheels hit something.

Night Driving

- Use your high beams when it is safe and legal to do so.
- Avoid drivers, move to slow or fast, weaving or not using their headlights.

Adverse Weather Conditions.

- Reduce your speed and increase your following distance.
- Raining and Fog - turn on your low beams.

After watching the video be sure you can answer these questions:

1. What is your Cushion of Safety?
2. How often should you check your mirrors?
3. What FOUR things make up your total stopping distance?
4. What do you do if you have someone following the bus too closely?
5. What is a preventable collision?
6. What is the DDC Collision Prevention Formula?
7. List three things you can do to help you back up successfully.
8. When should you use your high beams?

Railroad Crossing Procedures

Each year, approximately 4,000 train/vehicle collisions occur at railroad crossings. These 4,000 collisions result in about 400 fatalities and 1,100 injuries. Unfortunately, some of the crashes involve school buses that result in injuries and fatalities to students. In an effort to avert these crashes, the following procedures are recommended to school bus drivers.

1. When making stops for railroad crossings, carefully observe all traffic. Use school bus hazard warning lamps, and tap the brakes to communicate to traffic that the bus is about to stop. Take these actions far enough in advance to avoid startling motorists behind the bus, which could cause panic stops or rear-end collisions.
2. Bring the bus to a full and complete stop before crossing any track, whether or not the bus is carrying passengers. Stop the bus within not less than 15 feet or more than 50 feet from the rails nearest the front of the bus.
3. On multiple-lane roads, stop only in the right lane unless it is necessary to make a left turn immediately after crossing the railroad tracks.
4. After stopping the bus, fully open the service door and the driver's side window, turn off all noisy equipment (radios, fans, etc.), instruct students to be quiet, and look and listen in both directions along the track or tracks for approaching trains. In instances where school bus loading/unloading red warning lamps are activated by opening the service door, deactivate such lamps by using the master control switch.
5. If the view of the railroad track or tracks is not adequate, do not attempt to cross the tracks until you can see that no train is approaching.
6. If a train passes from one direction, make sure that another train, possibly hidden by the first train, is not approaching on an adjacent track.
7. For railroad crossings equipped with warning devices such as lights, bells, and/or gates, always obey the signals. Never ignore railroad crossing signals. If a police officer or flagman is present at the crossing, obey their directions, but be sure to make your own visual check.
8. Before crossing the tracks, ensure there is adequate room on the other side of the tracks and train right-of-way for the entire bus. It is always possible that the bus may have to stop immediately after crossing the railroad tracks.
9. When the tracks are clear, completely close the bus service entry door and place the transmission in a gear that will not require changing gears while crossing the tracks. In instances where school bus loading/unloading red warning lamps are activated by opening the service door, and such lamps were deactivated by using the master control switch, reactivate the school bus loading/unloading lamps. Leave all noisy equipment turned off, and continue looking in all directions as the bus crosses the tracks. After safely crossing the tracks, turn off the hazard warning lamp.
10. If the bus stalls while crossing the tracks, evacuate the students and move them a safe distance away from the bus as quickly as possible. If a radio or telephone is available, notify the school bus dispatcher of the situation. If a train is approaching, have everyone walk in the direction of the train at a 45 degree angle away from the train tracks.
11. Weather conditions, such as fog, snow, rain, and wind, can affect the driver's ability to see and hear an approaching train and to determine the safety of crossing railroad tracks. Additional caution must be exercised during such conditions.
12. Report malfunctioning railroad signals or hazardous railroad crossing conditions to the appropriate school transportation personnel.

Field Trips

Know local school policy.

Before the trip.

1. Know your route.
2. Identify responsible adults.
3. Be sure students know safety rules.
4. Bring key phone numbers
5. Bring toll money
6. Secure any equipment
7. Count Passengers
8. Check for en route stops

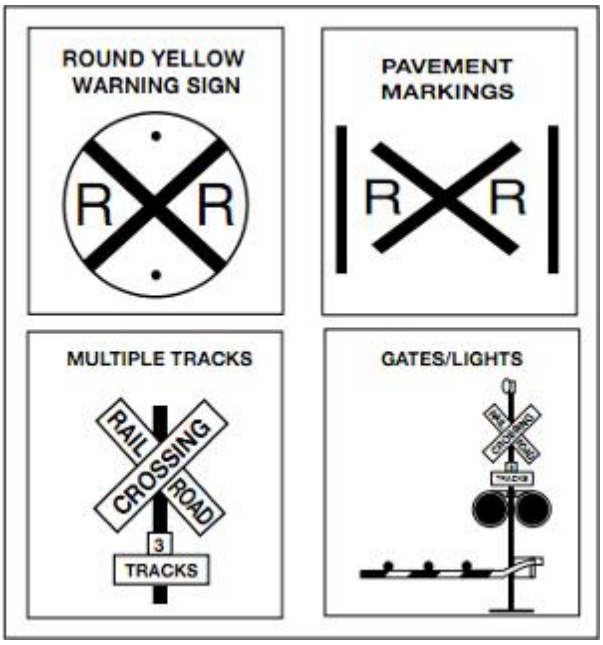
Driver/Student Relations

- Be Consistent
- Be Firm
- Listen
- Be Professional, but Friendly
- Don't let personal problems affect job Performance
- Know and Follow Local Policies about Disciplinary Procedures

Bus Stop Procedures

- Approach the stop slowly
- Require students to wait off the roadway
- Make sure traffic stops
- Make sure students are seated before pulling out

Railroad Crossing Safety



Most important safety device in the school bus driver!

Advance Warning Sign

Pavement Markings

Stop Line: identifies the place nearest the tracks for you to stop.

> If there is no stop line – required to stop no closer than 15 feet and no farther than 50 feet before the first track.

Cross-buck Sign – for a bus means to STOP

Flashing Lights

Multiple Tracks

5 ALIVE

1. Prepare to Stop
    a. Slow Down
    b. Prepare to stop
    c. Alert others of your intentions by
        i. Tapping on the brakes
        ii. Turning on the hazard lights
2. Quiet
    a. Flash the dome lights
    b. Make an announcement
    c. Using a noise suppression switch
    d. Turn off radio and fans
3. Stop 15 – 50 feet, Open Window and Door and look both ways down the tracks and avoid Obstructed Views (Rock and Roll)
4. Do a Double Take
5. GO! If no train is in sight cross the tracks.

Have at least feet of clearance once you cross the tracks!

What to do: test route, review containment areas, eliminate excess noise, change route if there is not an adequate containment area/there are hazards.

ALWAYS EXPECT A TRAIN!

Train Facts:

- Stopping distance – a mile or more.
- No steering wheel – can't swerve.
- Trains are heavier
- 400 school buses = 1 train

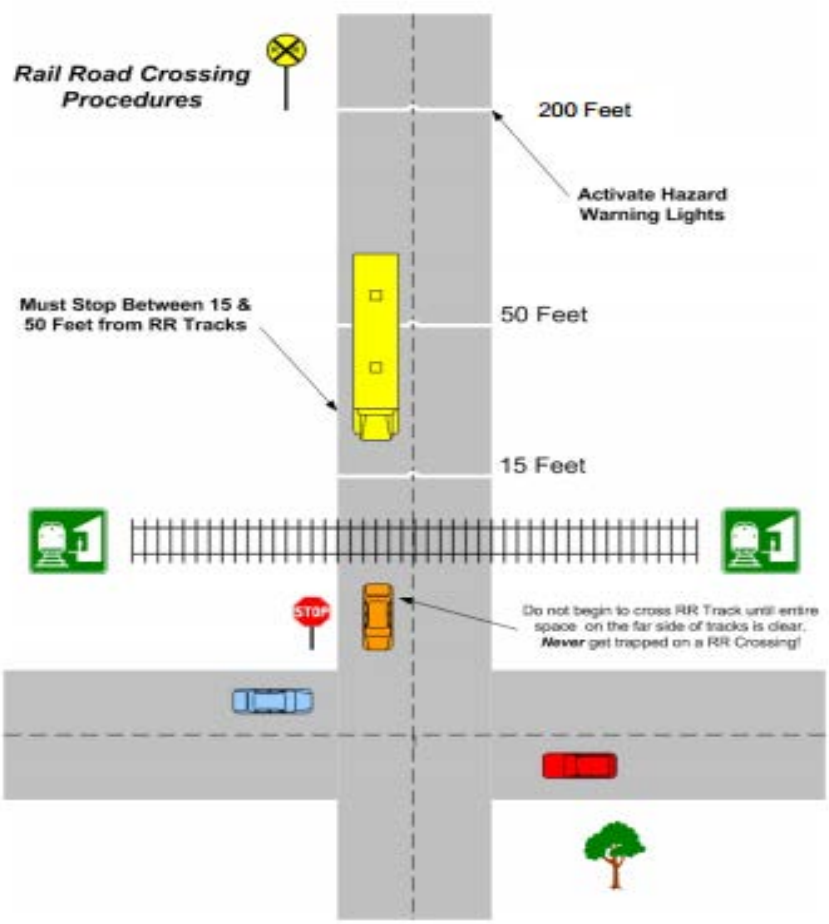
Route Planning

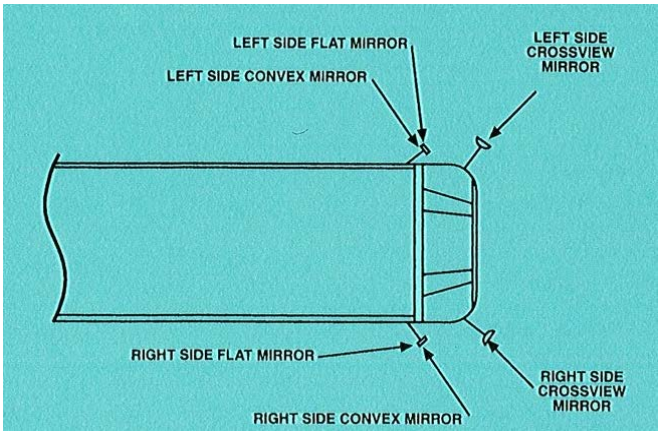
Evacuation Plan

Evacuation area; 45° angle in the direction of the train.

Evacuation Drill

- Scout and Plan
- Get the students to a Safe Area
- Call Dispatch Office





Mirrors on School Buses

7 Mirror Configurations are the most common

Flat Mirrors

Used for driving and seeing the traffic around you.

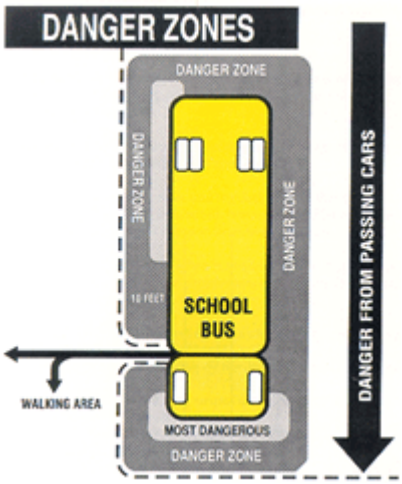
Convex Mirrors

Located below the outside flat mirrors/ to see students.

Crossover Mirrors (Extremely Convex)

Overhead Inside Rearview Mirror – mounted directly above the windshield on the driver's side area of the bus.

Adjustment Grid – in order to check mirrors.



Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 111 establishes the cone placement as the field of view defined as the "Danger Zone".

Where children can get lost in the blind spots.

Danger Zone: is the area anywhere outside of the bus where children are in the most danger of being hit, either by another vehicle or their own bus.

Extend as much as 30 feet from the front bumper, 10 feet from the left and right sides of the bus and 10 feet behind the rear of the bumper of the school bus.

Flat mirrors

- 200 feet or 4 bus lengths behind the bus
- Along the sides of the bus.
- The rear tires touching the ground.

Convex Mirrors

- The entire side of the bus up to the mirror mounts.
- Front of the rear tires touching the ground.
- At least one traffic lane on either side of the bus.

Cross View Mirrors

- Entire area in front of the bus from the front bumper at ground level to a point where direct vision is possible.
- Direction vision and mirror view vision should overlap.
- The right and left front tires touching the ground.
- The area from the front of the bus to the service door.

Emergency School Bus Evacuation

(Watch second segment for the Bus Driver Perspective)

When do you evacuation? Only when ABSOLUTELY necessary.

Mandatory Evacuations:

- The bus is on fire or there is a threat of fire.
- The bus is stalled on or adjacent to a railroad-highway crossing.
- The position of the bus may change and increase the danger.
- There is an imminent danger of collision.
- There is a need to quickly evacuate because of a hazardous materials spill.

What to do to be prepared:

Pre-Trip Inspection

- Check exit latches.
- Check safety equipment

Keep an updated list of students that ride your bus.

Count your seats.

Keep aisles clear.

Pick helpers or leaders that need to sit near the exits.

Preparing to Evacuate.

- Turn on hazard lights.
- Put the bus in gear or in park.
- Set the parking brake.
- Remove the key.
- Contact the dispatcher.
- Drop the radio mike and the first aid kit out the side mirror if your district allows it.

Front Door Evacuation

- Face students and announce the bus evacuation.
- Direct helper to get in position just outside of the door.
- Instruct the leader where to take the kids.
    - Pick a spot 100 feet away, safely away from traffic.
- Release one seat at a time.
- Leave all belongings behind.
- Instruct students to use the handrail.
- Keep an eye on students already outside of the bus.
- Double check to make sure all students are off the bus.
- As you exit the bus grab your student list and any emergency supplies/ safety equipment.
- Place reflectors to protect the scene.

- Join your students in the safety area.
- Keep everyone together as a group until assistance arrives.

Rear Door Evacuation

Basically the same procedures except:

Release of the students is from the rear of the bus.

Height of the door requires extra caution.

Non-Door Exits

Escape Hatches

Windows

Post-Accident Procedures

Assess the Situation

Focus on the immediate safety of the passengers and yourself.

- If there is any immediate risk, evacuate the bus.

Reasons to evacuate

- If the bus is on fire, or fire is suspected.
- If the bus is in the water or in danger of going in the water.
- If the bus is in a dangerous position in the roadway where it could be struck by another vehicle or tip over.

Before leaving the vehicle check once more for stragglers.

- The children should be in a safe place and least 100 feet away from the bus and away from traffic.
- Keep the children calm.
- Check for any injuries. Is everyone okay? DO NOT ask is anyone hurt?
- After the bus is secure set up warning devices.

Next Steps

Call the Dispatcher

Tell them: Bus Number, Route Number, School, Location, Number of students on board, information about student injuries, if an ambulance is required if the police have been called if the bus can be driven, If you will need backup to transport the children to school.

Practice filling out an Accident Report Form

Button Your Lip

- Exchange information with the other parties involved in the accident.
- **LESS IS MORE**
- Do not admit liability to anyone.
- Only give factual information about the accident.

At the scene

- Other Driver's name and address
- License Plate Number
- Their phone number
- Type of Vehicle
- Number of occupants in the car
- Insurance details (Insurer and Policy Number)
- Names and addresses of witnesses to the accident
- Accident Report Form

Post-Accident Procedures

Review Question 1

If you know the accident was your fault, you should tell the other driver that you accept fault.

a) True
b) False

Review Question 2

The first step in an accident situation is to secure your students and your _____.

a) Bus
b) Personal belongings
c) Accident report form

Review Question 3

You should obtain insurance information from the other drivers involved; this includes gathering which two pieces of information?

a) Insurer and policy number
b) Policy date and policy number
c) Policy date and insurer

Review Question 4

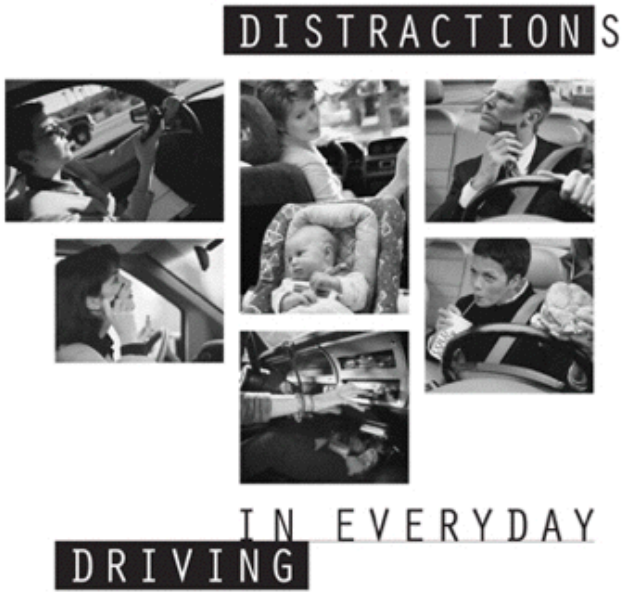
Warning devices are primarily used to:

a) Advice police and other responders of where to park.
b) Notify other drivers to prevent additional accidents.
c) Set a perimeter around the students to establish a safe area.

Review Question 5

When checking for injuries, you should say:

a) Is anyone hurt?
b) Has anyone broken anything?
c) Is everyone okay?



Distraction: Anything that takes your attention from the road.

Behaviors to Avoid While Driving

1. **Radio and Comfort Controls (air, heat, etc.)**

   Set them prior to beginning your trip.

2. **Safely secure loose items in the cargo and cabin area of your Vehicle**

3. **Directions, Log Books, Other Documents**

4. **Eating While Driving**
   - 3rd most common activity within a vehicle
   - 74% of people admit to doing this while driving

5. **Technology**

   51% use CELL PHONES while driving

   Be familiar with all State laws regarding cell phones.

   Hands-free devices can be just as distracting.

   CB, Two-way Radios, on-board computer systems.

6. **Exterior Distractions**

   Pedestrians

   Unpredictable nature.

   Try to always yield to pedestrians.

   Unfamiliar Territories

   - New area, unfamiliar part of town
   - Pre-planning your route and studying maps of the area.

   Weather

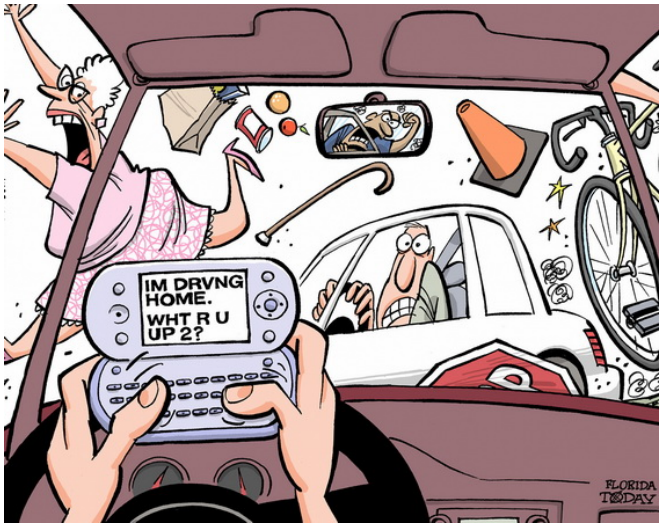
   - Make adjustments to your driving accordingly.
   - Give yourself more time.

   Outdoor Signage

   Keep focused and do not let yourself become distracted.

Distracted driving is any activity that could divert a person's attention away from the primary task of driving. *All* distractions endanger driver, passenger, and bystander safety. These types of distractions include:

- Texting
- Using a cell phone or smartphone
- Eating and drinking
- Talking to passengers
- Grooming
- Reading, including maps
- Using a navigation system
- Watching a video
- Adjusting a radio, CD player, or MP3 player



Key Facts and Statistics

- In 2010, 3092 people were killed in crashes involving a distracted driver and an estimated additional 416,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving a distracted driver.
- 18% of injury crashes in 2010 were reported as distraction-affected crashes.
- In the month of June 2011, more than 196 billion text messages were sent or received in the US, up nearly 50% from June 2009.
- 11% of all drivers under the age of 20 involved in fatal crashes were reported as distracted at the time of the crash. This age group has the largest proportion of drivers who were distracted.
- 40% of all American teens say they have been in a car when the driver used a cell phone in a way that put people in danger.
- Drivers who use hand-held devices are 4 times more likely to get into crashes serious enough to injure themselves.
- Text messaging creates a crash risk 23 times worse than driving while not distracted.
- Sending or receiving a text takes a driver's eyes from the road for an average of 4.6 seconds, the equivalent-at 55 mph-of driving the length of an entire football field, blind.
- Headset cell phone use is not substantially safer than hand-held use.
- Driving while using a cell phone reduces the amount of brain activity associated with driving by 37%.

http://www.distraction.gov/content/get-the-facts/facts-and-statistics.html

Evacuation Procedures

Front door evacuation

1. Secure the bus:

    • place transmission in neutral

    • set parking brake

    • shut off the engine

    • remove ignition key

    • activate hazard warning lights

    • activate red loading/unloading lights

2. If time allows, notify dispatch office of evacuation:

    • location

    • conditions

    • type of assistance needed

3. Dangle radio microphone or telephone out of driver's window for later use, if operable.

4. If no radio or radio inoperable, dispatch a passing motorist or area resident to call for help. As last resort, dispatch two older, responsible students to go for help. Refer to local district policy and procedures.

5. Order evacuation:

    • Stand, open front door, face students and get their attention.

    • Give the command, "Front door emergency evacuation--Stay seated until it is your turn to exit. Leave all belongings on the bus."

    • Explain evacuation procedure: (1) The student assistant will evacuate first and assume their positions at the exit doors. (2) The students seated in the front right seat will follow. (3) Next, students in left front seat will exit. (4) Continue evacuation alternating right to left seats from the front to the rear of the bus until the bus is empty.

6. Prepare to evacuate:

    • Direct two previously assigned student assistants to exit and stand outside the bus on each side of the front door to assist other students as they exit.

• Direct one previously assigned student assistant to lead other students to a "safe place" pointed out by the driver.

7. Evacuate students from bus:

WARN ALL STUDENTS: "Walk, do not run. Use the hand rail."

(1) Begin evacuation with student assistants.

(2) Students seated in the front right seat will follow.

(3) Next, direct students in front left seat to follow.

(4) Continue evacuation alternating right to left seats from the front to the rear of the bus until the bus is empty.

8. Walk through the bus to ensure no students remain on the bus.

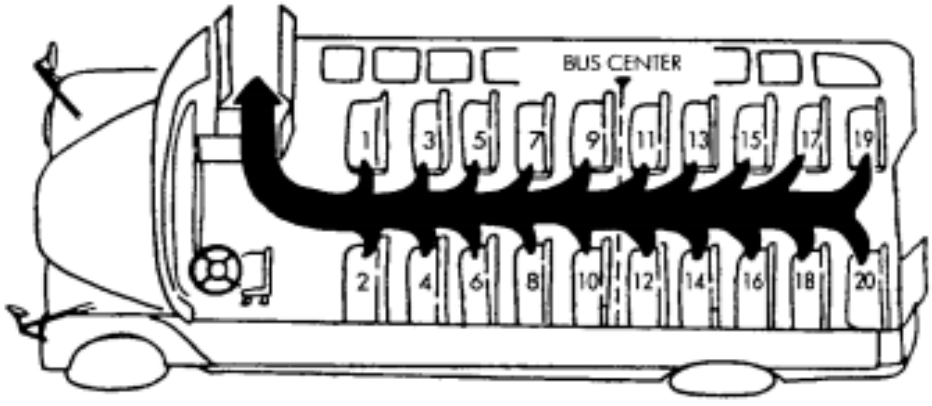
9. Retrieve emergency equipment (fire extinguisher, first aid kit, body fluids clean-up kit and 3 reflective triangles).

10. Protect the scene. Set out 3 red reflective triangles as required by law.

11. Join the waiting students. Account for all students and check for their safety.

12. Keep students together and do not allow them to return to the bus without driver permission.

13. Prepare information for emergency responders (EMS, fire, police).



Rear door evacuation

1. Secure the bus:

    • place transmission in neutral

    • set parking brake

    • shut off the engine

    • remove ignition key

    • activate hazard warning lights

    • activate red loading/unloading lights

2. If time allows, notify dispatch office of evacuation:

    • location

    • conditions

    • type of assistance needed

3. Dangle radio microphone or telephone out of driver's window for later use, if operable.

4. If no radio or radio inoperable, dispatch a passing motorist or area resident to call for help. As last resort, dispatch two older, responsible students to go for help. Refer to local district policy and procedures.

5. Order evacuation:

    • Stand, face students and get their attention

    • Give the command, "Rear door emergency evacuation--Stay seated until it is your turn to exit. Leave all belongings on the bus."

        • Direct all students to exit out the rear door by sitting down and hanging their legs out the door. Allow the student assistants to help them as they slide off the floor of the bus and onto the ground. DO NOT JUMP!

        • Explain evacuation procedure: (1) The student assistants will evacuate first and assume their positions at the exit doors. (2) The students seated in the right rear seat will follow. (3) Next, students in left rear seat will exit. (4) Continue evacuation alternating right to left seats from the rear to the front of the bus until the bus is empty

6. Prepare to evacuate:

    • Direct two previously assigned student assistants to open the emergency exit door, exit the bus and stand outside the bus on each side of the emergency exit door to assist other students as they exit.

    • Direct one previously assigned student assistant to exit the bus and lead other students to a “safe place” pointed out by the driver.

7. Evacuate students from bus:

    • WARN ALL STUDENTS: “Walk, do not run or jump.”

    • (1) Begin evacuation with student assistants. (2) Students seated in the right rear seat will follow. (3) Next, direct students in the left rear seat to follow. (4) Continue evacuation alternating right to left seats from the rear to the front of the bus until the bus is empty.

8. Walk through the bus to ensure no students remain on the bus.

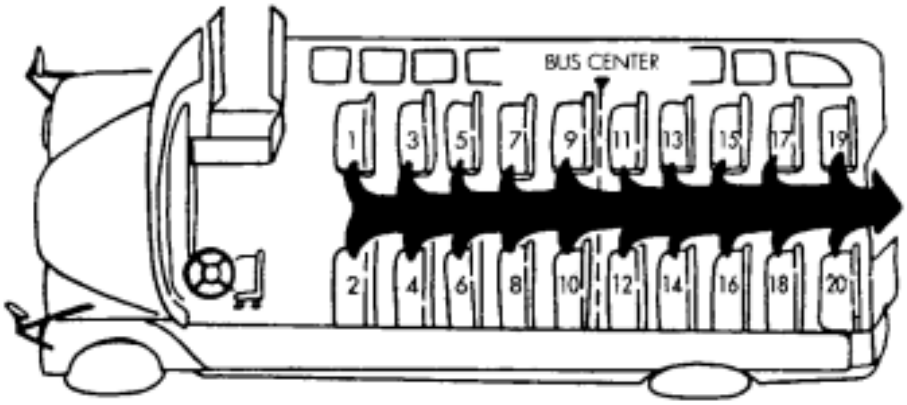
9. Retrieve emergency equipment (fire extinguisher, first aid kit, body fluids clean-up kit and 3 reflective triangles).

10. Protect the scene. Set out 3 red reflective triangles as required by law.

11. Join the waiting students. Account for all students and check for their safety.

12. Keep students together and do not allow them to return to bus without driver permission.

13. Prepare information for emergency responders (EMS, fire, police).



Front and Rear door evacuation

1. Secure the bus:

- place transmission in neutral
- set parking brake
- shut off the engine
- remove ignition key
- activate hazard warning lights
- activate red loading/unloading lights

2. If time allows, notify dispatch office of evacuation:

- location
- conditions
- type of assistance needed

3. Dangle radio microphone or telephone out of driver's window for later use, if operable.

4. If no radio or radio inoperable, dispatch a passing motorist or area resident to call for help. As last resort, dispatch two older, responsible students to go for help. Refer to local district policy and procedures.

5. Order evacuation:

- Stand, face students and get their attention.
- Give the command, "Front and rear door emergency evacuation--Stay seated until it is your turn to exit. Leave all belongings on the bus."
- Direct students exiting out the rear door to exit by sitting down and hanging their legs out the door. Allow the student assistants to help them as they slide off the floor of the bus and onto the ground. DO NOT JUMP!
- Explain evacuation procedure: (1) The student assistants will evacuate first and assume their positions at the exit doors. (2a)Next, students seated in the front half of the bus will exit through the front door. Begin with the front right seat, then the front left seat, alternating until the center of the bus has been reached. (2b) Students seated in the back half of the bus will exit through the rear door. (2c) Continue the evacuation with the students seated in the right rear seat, then left rear seat, alternating towards the center of the bus until the bus is empty.

6. Prepare to evacuate:

• Direct two previously assigned student assistants to exit the bus through the front door and stand outside the bus on each side of the door to assist other students as they exit.

• Direct two previously assigned student assistants to open the rear emergency exit door, exit the bus and stand outside the bus on each side of the emergency exit door to assist other students as they exit.

• Direct one previously assigned student assistant to exit the bus through the front door and lead other students to a “safe place” pointed out by the driver.

7. Evacuate students from bus:

• WARN ALL STUDENTS: “Walk, do not run or jump. Use the hand rail.”

(1) Begin evacuation with student assistants. (2a) Next, students seated in the front half of the bus will exit through the front door. Begin with the front right seat, then the front left seat, alternating until the center of the bus has been reached. (2b) Students seated in the back half of the bus will exit through the rear door. (2c) Continue the evacuation with the students seated in the right rear seat, then left rear seat, alternating towards the center of the bus until the bus is empty.

8. Walk through the bus to ensure no students remain on the bus.

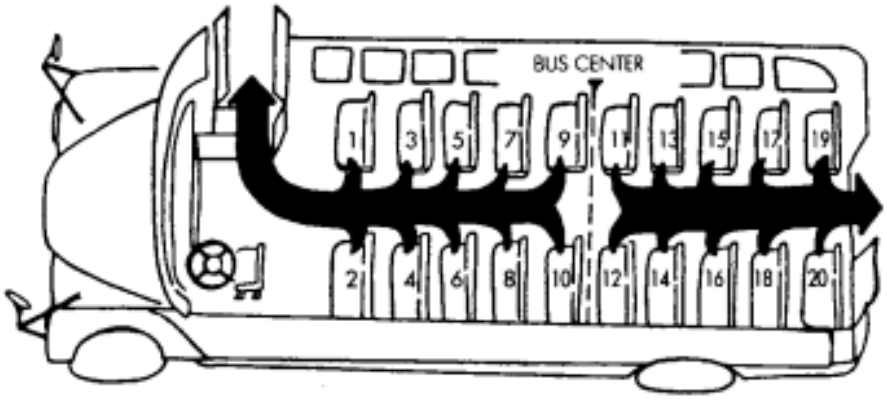
9. Retrieve emergency equipment (fire extinguisher, first aid kit, body fluids clean-up kit and 3 reflective triangles).

10. Protect the scene. Set out 3 reflective triangles as required by law.

11. Join the waiting students. Account for all students and check for their safety.

12. Keep students together and do not allow them to return to bus without driver permission.

13. Prepare information for emergency responders (EMS, fire, police).



SCHEDULE YOUR DRIVING TEST

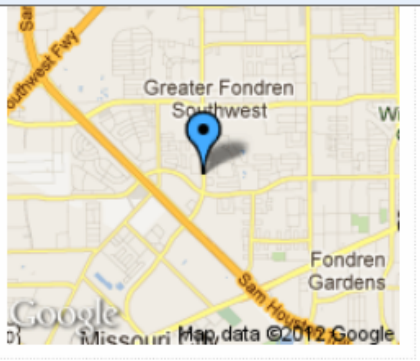
You can do this on-line at
http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/administration/driver_licensing_control/rolodex/searchresults.asp

Unfortunately there is a limited amount of spaces made available on-line and you might have to go to the DMV to schedule the test in person. I did. When I went in person I was able to get the day and time I wanted. You can also schedule your test after you complete your written tests if you know when you want to take it. Tests can be scheduled for any day, but FRIDAY!

Houston Gessner

Street Address
12220 South Gessner
HOUSTON, TX 77071-2831
General Information
713-219-4100

Schedule a driving test online



Days And Hours Open:				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 -5:00	8:00 -6:00	8:00 -5:00	8:00 -5:00	8:00 -5:00

Note:
You may schedule a driving test appointment online for this office. You may also visit the office to schedule a driving test appointment or walk in and wait for a driving test if one becomes available. Prescheduled customers will have priority and there is no guarantee of a same day appointment.

No driving tests conducted between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

BUS DRIVER TRAINING – INITIAL CERTIFICATION CLASSES

After passing your driving test your will have **SIX MONTHS** to complete the 20 hour initial training. Make sure to send a copy of your CDL paper license to Curtis Carlson (Curtis.Carlson@fortbend.k12.tx.us) so he can get you signed up for the Initial Certification class and take care of the cost. If you sign up for it on your own you will have to pay the $120 out of pocket and wait to be reimbursed. You can take the class anywhere you want (Katy, Houston, etc), but I've listed the Fort Bend classes that have been posted to date. Here is the link to the Region IV Calendar of Events if you want to look for additonal classes:
http://www.escweb.net/tx_esc_04/catalog/calendar.aspx

After the Initial Certification you will have to take an 8 hour Recertification class every THREE years.

Bus Driver Training - Initial Certification

Participate in the initial safety-training course to become a certified Texas school bus driver. Delivered in English and in compliance with all state and federal requirements, the course meets the 20-hour requirement and addresses the designated fourteen chapters in the Texas School Bus Driver Certification Course Guide.

Important Session Information:
Location: Fort Bend ISD Transportation, 16707 Bissonnet, Houston, TX 77083.
Please bring driver's license and enrollment certificate to class.

Registration ends at 12:00 AM on Saturday, October 6, 2012.

Session ID:
937200

Credit Available:
Clock Hours 20

Contact Person:
Charley Kennington

Instructor(s):
Henry Brown - Fort Bend ISD

Registration Fee:
$120.00

Audience:
Bus Drivers

Date(s)	Time(s)	Location(s)
10/6/2012	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Fort Bend ISD Transportation Dept
10/13/2012	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Fort Bend ISD Transportation Dept
10/20/2012	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Fort Bend ISD Transportation Dept

http://www.escweb.net/tx_esc_04/catalog/session.aspx?mode=monthly&date=10/1/2012&eventId=5038&sessionId=937200&referrer=calendar.aspx

Bus Driver Training - Initial Certification

Participate in the initial safety-training course to become a certified Texas school bus driver. Delivered in English and in compliance with all state and federal requirements, the course meets the 20-hour requirement and addresses the designated fourteen chapters in the Texas School Bus Driver Certification Course Guide.

Important Session Information:
Location: Fort Bend ISD Transportation, 16707 Bissonnet, Houston, TX 77083.
Please bring driver's license and enrollment certificate to class.

Registration ends at 12:00 AM on Saturday, December 1, 2012.

Session ID:
937204

Credit Available:
Clock Hours 20

Contact Person:
Charley Kennington

Instructor(s):
Lelia Banks - Fort Bend ISD

Registration Fee:
$120.00

Audience:
Bus Drivers

Date(s)	Time(s)	Location(s)
12/1/2012	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Fort Bend ISD Transportation Dept
12/8/2012	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Fort Bend ISD Transportation Dept
12/15/2012	8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Fort Bend ISD Transportation Dept

http://www.escweb.net/tx_esc_04/catalog/session.aspx?mode=monthly&date=12/1/2012&eventId=5038&sessionId=937204&referrer=calendar.aspx

The Route

From the South Gessner DPS office (12220 South Gessner Houston, TX 77071)

Exit Right onto West Airport

Be careful of the curb. It's a tight turn.

Take West Airport to Beltway 8.

Turn Right and take the entrance ramp on to Beltway 8 West.

You will only be on this for a short time, because you immediately get on to 59 South towards Victoria.

Exit Stafford/90

You have to get over three lanes fairly quickly so be ready.

Take a right on Corporate.

Take Corporate to Dairy Ashford.

Left on Dairy Ashford

This is a flashing yellow light.

You'll stay in the left lane

This is where you will cross over the Railroad Tracks.

Stay on Dairy Ashford until you get to 59.

You'll take a left to get onto 59 North.

From here you'll get onto Beltway 8 East.

Exit West Airport/S Gessner.

Left on South Gessner, which will take you back to the DPS office.