

**GENERAL KNOWLEDGE**  
**PRACTICE TEST**

1. Driving under the influence of any drug that makes you drive unsafely is:
  - a. Permitted if it is prescribed by a doctor
  - b. Against the law
  - c. Permitted if it is a diet pill or cold medicine
  
2. Which fires can you put out with water:
  - a. Tire fires
  - b. Gasoline fires
  - c. Electrical fires
  
3. How far should a driver look ahead of the vehicle while driving:
  - a. 9-12 seconds
  - b. 12-15 seconds
  - c. 18-21 seconds
  
4. To prevent shifting, there should be at least one tie-down for ever \_\_\_\_ feet of cargo:
  - a. 10
  - b. 15
  - c. 18
  
5. Which of these statements about downshifting is true:
  - a. When you downshift for a curve, you should do so before you enter the curve
  - b. When you downshift for a hill, you should do so after you start down the hill
  - c. When you downshift for a curve, you should do so after you enter the curve
  
6. How do you test hydraulic brakes for a leak:
  - a. Move the vehicle slowly and see if it stops when the brake is applied
  - b. With the vehicle stopped, pump the pedal three time, apply pressure then hold For five seconds and see it the pedal moves.
  - c. Step on the brake pedal and accelerator at the same time and see if the vehicle moves
  
7. For an average driver, driving 55 MPH on dry pavement, it will take about \_\_\_\_\_ to bring The vehicle to a stop:
  - a. Twice the length of the vehicle
  - b. Half the length of a football field
  - c. The length of a football field
  
8. You are driving a vehicle with a light load, traffic is moving at 35 MPH in a 55 MPH zone. The safest speed for your vehicle in this situation is most likely:
  - a. 30 MPH
  - b. 35 MPH
  - c. 40 MPH
  
9. Which of these is a good rule to follow when driving at night:
  - a. Keep your speed slow enough to stop within the range of your headlights
  - b. Look directly at oncoming headlights
  - c. Keep your instrument lights bright

10. A moving vehicle ahead of you has a red triangle with an orange center on the rear.  
What does this mean?
  - a. The vehicle is hauling hazardous materials
  - b. It may be a slow-moving vehicle
  - c. It may be oversized
  
11. You wish to turn right from a two lane two way street to make the turn. Which of these Drawings show how the turn should be made.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
12. You are driving a heavy vehicle and must exit a highway using an offramp that curves downhill:
  - a. Use the posted speed limit for the offramp
  - b. Slow down to a safe speed before the turn
  - c. Wait until you are in the turn before downshifting
  
13. Which of these statements about using mirrors is true:
  - a. You should look at a mirror for several seconds at a time
  - b. There are "blind spots" that your mirror cannot show you
  - c. A lane change requires you to look at the mirrors twice
  
14. 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 with 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
  - c. 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
  
15. 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. Heavy vehicles can almost always turn more quickly than they can stop
  - c. Leaving the road is always more risky than hitting another vehicle
  
16. The most important reason for being alert to hazards is:
  - a. Law enforcement personnel can be called
  - b. You will have time to plan your escape if the hazard becomes an emergency
  - c. You can help impaired drivers
  
17. You are traveling down a long, steep hill. Your brakes begin to fade and then fail.  
What should you do?
  - a. Downshift
  - b. Pump the brake pedal
  - c. Look for an escape ramp or escape route

18. The most common cause of serious vehicle skids is:
  - a. Driving too fast for road conditions
  - b. Poorly adjusted brakes
  - c. Bad tires
  
19. 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 move back onto the pavement?
  - a. If clear, come to a complete stop before steering back onto the pavement
  - b. Brake hard to slow the vehicle, then steer sharply onto the pavement
  - c. Keep moving at the present speed and steer very gently back onto the pavement
  
20. If a straight vehicle (no trailer or articulation) goes into a front wheel skid, it will:
  - a. Slide sideways and spin out
  - b. Go straight ahead but will turn if you turn the steering wheel
  - c. Go straight ahead even if the steering wheel is turned
  
21. Which of these statements about tires and hot weather driving is true?
  - a. You should inspect your tires more often
  - b. If a tire is too hot to touch, you should drive on it to cool it off
  - c. Recapped tires are less likely to fail in hot weather than new tires
  
22. What should you do if your vehicle hydroplanes?
  - a. Start stab braking
  - b. Accelerate slightly
  - c. Release the accelerator
  
23. You should avoid driving through deep puddles or flowing water, but if you must, what will keep your brakes working?
  - a. Gently pressing the brake pedal while driving through the water
  - b. Apply hard pressure on both the brake pedal and accelerator after coming out of the water
  - c. Disconnecting the steering axle brakes after coming out of the water
  
24. Cargo Inspections:
  - a. Should be done after every break during driving
  - b. Are only needed if hazardous materials are being hauled
  - c. Should be done every 6 hours or 300 miles
  
25. The center of gravity of a load:
  - a. Should be kept as high as possible
  - b. Can make a vehicle more likely to roll over on curves
  - c. Is only a problem if the vehicle is overloaded
  
26. The key principle in balancing cargo weight is to keep the load:
  - a. To the front
  - b. To the rear
  - c. Centered

27. You do not have a Hazardous Materials Endorsement on your Commercial Driver License. When can you legally haul hazardous materials?
- Never
  - Only when the load does not require placards
  - Only when the shipment will not cross state lines
28. Which of these statements about cold-weather driving is true?
- The engine will not over heat when the weather is very cold
  - Exhaust system leaks are less dangerous in cold weather
  - Windshield washer antifreeze should be added to the washer reservoir
29. Which of these statements about drinking alcohol is true?
- Some people aren't affected by drinking
  - A few beers have the same affect on driving as a few shots of whiskey
  - Coffee and fresh air can sober up a person
30. You are starting your vehicle in motion from a stop. As you apply power to the drive wheels, they start to spin. You should:
- Try a lower gear
  - Press harder on the accelerator
  - Take your foot off the accelerator
31. The proper way to hold a steering wheel is at:
- 6 and 12
  - 1 and 11
  - 3 and 9
32. To test the service brake on a hydraulic system, you push the pedal firmly and see if the braking action is correct. When should this be done?
- When the vehicle is not moving
  - When the vehicle is moving at about 5 MPH
  - When the vehicle is traveling downhill
33. You are driving a 40 foot vehicle at 45 MPH. Driving conditions are ideal (dry pavement, good visibility). The least amount of space that you should keep in front of your vehicle to be safe is the distance you travel in:
- 3 seconds
  - 4 seconds
  - 5 seconds
34. If you are being tailgated, you should:
- Increase the space in front of your vehicle
  - Speed up
  - Signal the tailgater when it is safe to pass you
35. Which of these is the most important thing to remember about emergency braking?
- Disconnecting the steering axle brakes will help keep you vehicle in a straight line during emergency/braking
  - Never do it without downshifting first
  - If the wheels are skidding, you cannot control the vehicle

36. Which of these is a good rule to follow when steering to avoid a crash?
- Apply the brakes while turning
  - Don't turn any more than needed to clear what is in your way
  - Avoid countersteering
37. How do you correct a rear wheel acceleration skid?
- Increase acceleration to the wheels
  - Apply the brakes
  - Stop accelerating and push in the clutch
38. Your vehicle has hydraulic brakes. While traveling on a level road, the system loses pressure and the brakes fail. Which of these statements is true?
- You should not downshift if you have an automatic transmission
  - Pumping the brake pedal may bring the pressure up so you can stop the vehicle
  - The parking brake will not work either because it is part of the same hydraulic system
39. What should you do if the road you were driving on became very slippery with ice?
- Stop driving as soon as it is safe to do so
  - Downshift to stop
  - Drive at a varying speed
40. Which of these statements about staying alert to drive is true?
- A half-hour break for coffee will do more to keep you alert than a half-hour nap
  - There are drugs that can overcome being tired
  - The only thing that can cure fatigue is sleep
41. Hydroplaning:
- Only occurs when there is a lot of water
  - Only occurs at speeds above 50 MPH
  - Is more likely if tire pressure is low
42. When the roads are slippery, you should:
- Drive alongside other vehicles
  - Make turns as carefully as possible
  - Decrease the distance that you look ahead of your vehicle
43. Which of these can help you stay alert while driving?
- Scheduling trips during hours that you are normally asleep
  - Keeping the cab warm
  - Taking short breaks before you are drowsy
44. Which of these statements about overhead clearances is true?
- You should assume posted clearance signs are correct
  - A vehicle's clearance can change with the load carried
  - If the road surface causes the vehicle to tilt, you should drive close to the shoulder
45. The purpose of retarders is to:
- Provide emergency brakes
  - Help slow the vehicle while driving and reduce brake wear
  - Apply extra braking power to the non-drive axles

46. While driving, you see a small (1 foot square) cardboard box ahead in you lane. You should:
- Stop and direct traffic around it
  - Hit it with your vehicle to knock it off the road
  - Steer around it if it is safe to do so
47. Which of these statements about crossing or entering traffic with a heavy vehicle is true?
- Heavy vehicles need larger gaps in traffic than cars
  - The best way to cross traffic is to pull the vehicle partway across the road and block one lane while waiting for the other to clear
  - The heavier the load, the smaller the gap needed to cross traffic
48. You are driving on a straight, level highway at 50 MPH. There are no vehicles in front of you. A tire blows out on your vehicle. What should you do first?
- Stay off the brake until the vehicle slows down on its own
  - Quickly steer onto the shoulder
  - Begin light braking
49. When looking ahead of your vehicle while driving, you should
- Look to the right side of the road
  - Look to the left side of the road
  - Look back and forth
50. To correct a rear wheel braking skid, you should:
- Apply more pressure to the brake pedal and steer/countersteer
  - Release the brakes and accelerate
  - Release the brakes and steer/countersteer
51. Which of these statements about downshifting for a long downhill grade is true?
- It allows engine compression and friction to help the brakes slow the vehicle
  - The proper time to downshift is just after the vehicle starts down the hill
  - It is not necessary to downshift if the vehicle has retarders
52. Which is the best way to use the brake pedal on a steep downhill grade?
- Light, pumping action
  - Light, steady pressure
  - Repeated strong pressure, then release
53. Which of these is a good rule to follow when using a fire extinguisher:
- Keep as close to the fire as possible
  - Stay downwind of the fire
  - Aim at the base of the fire
54. If a vehicle is loaded with most the weight on the steering axle, what can happen?
- Too much traction on the steering axle
  - Not enough traction on the steering axle
  - Difficult steering
55. Which of these statements about handling cargo is true?
- Unstable loads such as hanging meat or livestock can require extra caution on curves
  - Loads that consist of liquids in bulk are usually very stable and do not have vehicle handling problems
  - When liquids are hauled, the tank should always be completely filled

56. You are driving on a two-lane road. An oncoming driver drifts into your lane and headed straight for you. Which of these is generally the best action to take?
- Steer into the oncoming lane
  - Hard braking
  - Steer to the right
57. Controlling braking:
- Can be used while you are turning sharply
  - Involves locking the wheels for short periods of time
  - Is used to keep a vehicle from skidding

ANSWERS:

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|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. B  | 2. A  | 3. B  | 4. A  | 5. A  |
| 6. B  | 7. C  | 8. B  | 9. A  | 10. B |
| 11. B | 12. B | 13. B | 14. B | 15. B |
| 16. B | 17. C | 18. A | 19. A | 20. C |
| 21. A | 22. C | 23. A | 24. A | 25. B |
| 26. C | 27. B | 28. C | 29. B | 30. C |
| 31. C | 32. B | 33. C | 34. A | 35. C |
| 36. B | 37. C | 38. B | 39. A | 40. C |
| 41. C | 42. B | 43. C | 44. B | 45. B |
| 46. C | 47. A | 48. A | 49. C | 50. C |
| 51. A | 52. B | 53. C | 54. C | 55. A |
| 56. C | 57. C |       |       |       |