

General Knowledge Test A

1. When the roads are slippery you should:

- a. Drive along side other vehicles.
- b. Make turns as gentle as possible.
- c. Test traction while going uphill.
- d. Decrease the distance you look ahead.

2. Which of these statements about brakes is true?

- a. The heavier the vehicle or the faster it is moving the more heat the brakes have to absorb to stop.
- b. Brakes have more stopping power when they get very hot.
- c. Brake drums cool very quickly when the vehicle is moving very fast.
- d. All of the above are true.

3. Truck escapes ramps:

- a. Help avoid damage to vehicles.
- b. Should not be used if brakes fail on a downgrade.
- c. Cannot be used by certain types of heavy vehicles.
- d. All of the above.

4. You are starting your vehicle in motion from a stop: as you apply power to the drive wheels they start to spin: what should you do?

- a. Take your foot off the accelerator.
- b. Take your foot off the accelerator and apply the brakes.
- c. Press harder on the accelerator.
- d. Try a lower gear.

5. The distance you should look ahead of your vehicle while driving amounts to about what fraction of a mile at high speeds?

- a. A tenth (1/10) of a mile.
- b. An eight (1/8) of a mile.
- c. A quarter (1/4) of a mile.
- d. Half (1/2) of a mile.

6. The Commercial Drivers Manual suggests several things to do when you pass a vehicle , which of these is not one of the suggested things to do?

- a. Lightly tap on your horn.
- b. When passing at night, turn on your high beams before you start to pass and leave them on until you have completely passed the vehicle.
- c. Drive carefully to avoid a crash.
- d. Assume the other driver does not see you.

7. Which of these statements about downshifting is true:

- a. When you down shift 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 double clutching, you should let the RPM's decrease while the clutch is released and the shift lever is in neutral.
- d. All of the above.

8. Which of these can cause a vehicle to skid?

- a. Turning too sharply.
- b. Not enough weight on the front axle.
- c. Over-acceleration.
- d. All of the above.

9. Which of these pieces of emergency equipment should always be carried in your vehicle?

- a. Fire extinguishers.
- b. Spare electrical fuses.
- c. Warning devices for parked vehicles.
- d. All of the above.

10. Which of these statements about drugs is true?

- a. A driver can use any prescription drug while driving.
- b. Amphetamines such as pep pills or bennies can be used to help the driver stay alert.
- c. The use of drugs can lead to accidents or arrests.
- d. All of the above are true.

11. Which of these can tell you that a shipment contains hazardous material?

- a. The name of a hazard class on a shipping paper.
- b. A 4 inch diamond shape hazardous material label on the container.
- c. A hazardous materials placard on the vehicle.
- d. All of the above.

12. To avoid a crash you had to drive on the right shoulder. You are now driving at 40 MPH on the shoulder. How should you move back onto the pavement?

- a. If the shoulder is clear, stay on it until your vehicle has come to a stop, then move back on the pavement when it is safe.
- b. Brake hard to slow the vehicle then steer sharply onto the pavement.
- c. Steer sharply onto the pavement, then brake hard as you counter steer.
- d. Keep moving at the present speed and steer very gently back onto the pavement.

13. Which fires can you use water to put out?

- a. Tire fires.
- b. Gasoline fires.
- c. Electrical fires.
- d. All of the above.

14. You could use your mirrors to check:

- a. The condition of your tires.
- b. Where the rear of your vehicle is when you make turns.
- c. Traffic gaps when merging.
- d. All of the above.

15. Which of these statements about speed management is true?

- a. On a wet road, you should reduce your speed by about one-third (1/3).
- b. On packed snow, you should reduce your speed about one-half (1/2).
- c. When the road is slippery, it will take longer to stop and it will be harder to turn without skidding.
- d. All of the above.

16. Your vehicle is in a traffic emergency and may collide with another vehicle if you don't take action. Which of these is a good rule to remember at such times?

- a. You can almost always turn to miss an obstacle more quickly than you can stop.
- b. Stopping is always the safest action in a traffic emergency.
- c. Leaving the road is always more risky than hitting another vehicle.
- d. Unbuckle your safety belt before impact so you will not be trapped inside your vehicle.

17. Which of these statements about tires and hot weather driving is true?

- a. If a tire is too hot to touch, you should drive on it to cool it off.
- b. You should inspect your tires every two hours or every 100 miles when driving in hot weather.
- c. The air pressure of the tires decreases as the temperature of the tire increases.
- d. All of the above.

18. Which of these is the most important thing to remember about emergency braking?

- a. Emergency braking helps keep the linings clean.
- b. Disconnecting the steering axle brakes will help keep your vehicle in a straight line with emergency braking.
- c. If the wheels are skidding, you cannot control the vehicle.
- d. Never attempt emergency braking without downshifting first.

19. To correct a drive wheel-braking skid you should:

- a. Stop braking.
- b. Stop braking, turn quickly and counter steer.
- c. Increase braking.
- d. Increase braking, turn quickly and counter steer.

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

- a. Steering that feels heavy.
- b. A loud "bang".
- c. Vibration.
- d. All of the above.

21. What is the proper way to hold a steering wheel?

- a. With one hand.
- b. With both hands close together near the top of the wheel.
- c. With both hands close together on the bottom of the wheel.
- d. With both hands on opposite sides of the steering wheel.

22. You are driving a 40-foot vehicle at 35 MPH, the road is dry and visibility is good. What is the least amount of space you should keep in front of your vehicle to be safe?

- a. Two (2) seconds
- b. Three (3) seconds.
- c. Four (4) seconds.
- d. Five (5) seconds

23. Which of these is a good thing to do when driving at night?

- a. Keep your speed slow enough so that you can stop within the range of your headlights.
- b. Look at oncoming headlights only briefly.
- c. Wear sunglasses.
- d. Keep your instrument lights bright.

24. Which of these statements about driving in areas of strong winds is true?

- a. You should drive alongside other vehicles to help break up the wind.
- b. The lighter your vehicle the less trouble you will have with the wind.
- c. Winds are especially a problem when coming out of tunnels.
- d. You can lesson the affect of the winds by letting some air out of your tires.

25. To help you stay alert while driving you should:

- a. Schedule trips for hours that you are normally asleep.
- b. Take cold medicine if you have a cold.
- c. Take short breaks before you get drowsy.
- d. Do all of the above.

26. You do not have a Hazardous Materials endorsement on your commercial driver's license; you can drive a vehicle hauling hazardous materials when:

- a. The shipment will not cross state lines.
- b. The GVWR is 26,000 pounds or less.
- c. The vehicle does not require placards.
- d. A person who has the Hazardous Materials endorsement rides with you.

27. You wish to turn right from one 2 lane, 2 way street to another; the vehicle is so long you must swing wide to make the turn; how should the turn be made?

- a. You should swing wide before making the turn.
- b. You should swing wide after making the turn.
- c. You should start turning from the left lane and swing wide after you turn.
- d. You should start turning from the left lane and turn into the left lane of the new street.

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

- a. Stop driving as soon as you can safely do so.
- b. Downshift to stop.
- c. Apply the brakes often to keep the linings dry.
- d. Keep varying your speed by accelerating and braking.

29. Which of these statements is true about retarders?

- a. They cause extra brake wear.
- b. They allow you to disconnect the steering axle brakes.
- c. They can cause the drive wheels to skid when they have poor traction.
- d. They cannot be used on interstate highways.

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

- a. The same gear that you would use to climb the hill.
- b. A lower gear than you would use to climb the hill.
- c. A higher gear than you would use to climb the hill.
- d. None, newer trucks can coast down a hill.

31. Which of these is not part of the pre-trip inspection of the engine compartment?

- a. Engine oil level.
- b. Valve clearance.
- c. Condition of hoses.
- d. Worn electrical wiring insulation.

32. You can see a marking on the vehicle ahead of you. The marking is a red Triangle with an orange center. What does the marking mean?

- a. It may be a slow-moving vehicle.
- b. The vehicle is hauling hazardous materials.
- c. It is a law enforcement vehicle.
- d. It is being driven by a student driver.

33. High beams should be:

- a. Used when it is safe and legal to do so.
- b. Turned on when an oncoming driver does not dim his/her lights.
- c. Dimmed when you get within 100 feet of another vehicle.
- d. All of the above.

34. What should you do if your vehicle hydroplanes?

- a. Start stab braking.
- a. Accelerate slightly.
- c. Release the accelerator.
- d. Turn right.

35. An enroute inspection should include checking for:

- a. Tire overheating.
- b. Brake overheating.
- c. Cargo securement.
- d. All of the above.

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

- a. You should avoid backing whenever you can.
- b. Helpers should be out of the driver's sight and use only voice (spoken) signals to communicate with the driver.
- c. It is safer to back toward the right side of the vehicle than toward the driver's side.
- d. All of the above.

37. Which of these is a good thing to remember about drinking alcohol?

- a. Alcohol first affects judgment and self-control, which are necessary for safe driving.
- b. The chance of a crash is much greater for drivers who have been drinking than for drivers who have not.
- c. A driver can lose his/her license for driving while drunk.
- d. All of the above.

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

- a. Dual tires should be touching each other.
- b. Tires of mismatched sizes should not be used on the same vehicle.
- c. Radial and bias-ply tires can be used together on the same vehicle.
- d. 2/32 inch tread depth is safe for the front tires.

39. Which of these can cause a fire?

- a. Under inflated tires.
- b. Loose fuel connections.
- c. Electrical short circuits.
- d. All of the above.

40. What is countersteering?

- a. Turning the steering wheel counterclockwise.
- b. Steering in the opposite direction from what the other drivers expect you to do.
- c. Using the steering axles brakes to prevent oversteering.
- d. Turning the wheel back in the other direction after steering to avoid a traffic emergency.

41. 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 though the speed limit is 55. The safest speed for your vehicle is most likely:

- a. 25 mph.
- b. 35 mph.
- c. 45 mph.
- d. 55 mph.

42. On which fires can you use the "A:B:C:" fire extinguisher?

- a. Electrical fires.
- b. Burning liquids.
- c. Burning cloth.
- d. All of the above.

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

- a. The legal maximum weight allowed by a state can be considered safe for all driving conditions.
- b. Slight overloading of a vehicle can make its brakes work better.
- c. State laws dictate legal weight limits.
- d. If cargo is loaded by the shipper, the driver is not responsible for overloading.

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

- a. When turning, you should cancel the signal just before you make the turn.
- b. You do not need to use your turn signal when changing lanes in traffic on a four-lane highway.
- c. When turning, you should signal early.
- d. You should use your turn signal to mark your vehicle when it is pulled off on the side of the road.

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

- a. Double-clutching should not be used when the road is slippery.
- b. Double-clutching should only be used with a heavy load.
- c. You can use the tachometer to tell you when to shift.
- d. If you miss a gear while upshifting, you must bring the vehicle to a stop.

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

- a. Light, pumping action.
- b. Light, steady pressure.
- c. Repeated strong pressure, then release.
- d. With stronger pressure as the vehicle goes downhill.

47. Which of these statements about speed management is true?

- a. Empty trucks always stop in a shorter distance than fully loaded ones.
- b. When you double your speed (go twice as fast), it will take twice the distance to stop.
- c. You should choose a speed that lets you stop within the distance that you can see ahead.
- d. You should always brake during curves.

48. The center of gravity of a load:

- a. Should be kept as high as possible.
- b. Can make a vehicle more likely to tip over on curves if it is high.
- c. Is only a problem if the vehicle is overloaded.
- d. All of the above.

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

- a. 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.
- b. You do not need to put out reflective triangles unless the vehicle will be stopped for 30 minutes or more.
- c. The vehicles taillights should be kept on to warn other drivers.
- d. All of the above are true.

50. You are checking your brakes and suspension system for a pre-trip inspection. Which of these statements is true?

- a. Brakes should not have oil, grease, or brake fluid on them.
- b. Brake pads should not have brake fluid on them.
- c. One missing leaf in a spring can be dangerous.
- d. All of the above are true.