CDL GENERAL KNOWLEDGE
PRACTICE TEST  |  VERSION 1

- Multiple choice (p. 1-7)
- Answer key (p. 8-9)
- Scorecard (p. 10)

Learn
 Practice
 Drive

CDL CLASS-A AND B TRUCK DRIVER
TRAINING FOR OVER 45 YEARS
1. While driving on a two-lane road, the oncoming vehicle drifts into your lane:

   a. Steer into the oncoming lane, apply hard brakes
   b. Brake hard in an attempt to avoid them
   c. Steer to the right
   d. Steer straight, apply hard brake

2. When checking your exhaust and steering systems for a pre-trip inspection, which of these statements is true?

   a. Steering wheel play of more than 10 degrees or 2 inches is acceptable
   b. Leaks in the exhaust system are not a problem if they are outside the cab
   c. Some leakage of power steering fluid is normal
   d. None of the above statements are true

3. Which of these statements about vehicle fires is true?

   a. If box trailer catches on fire, you should open the cargo doors as soon as you can
   b. If your engine is on fire, you should open the hood as soon as you can
   c. If a trailer is on fire, you should drive to the nearest fire station
   d. A burning tire must be cooled
4. The center of gravity:
   
   a. Should be kept as high as possible
   b. Can make a vehicle more likely to tip over on curves
   c. Is only a problem if the vehicle is overweight
   d. It makes no difference how the vehicle is loaded

5. Which of these statements about speed management is true?
   
   a. On a wet road, you should reduce your speed by about 1/3
   b. On packed snow, you should reduce your speed by about 1/2
   c. When the road is icy, it will take longer to stop and it will be harder to turn without skidding
   d. All of the above are true

6. Which of these statements about downshifting is true?
   
   a. When you downshift for a curve, do so before you enter the curve and accelerate though it
   b. When you downshift for a hill, do so after you start down the hill
   c. When double-clutching, you should let the rpms fall while the clutch is released and the shift lever is in neutral
   d. All of the above is true
7. While driving on an icy or snow-covered roadway, which of the following is a good thing to remember?

   a. Use a shorter following distance
   b. Apply the brakes while turning
   c. Slow down gradually and stop if conditions become too dangerous
   d. All of the above

8. For the average driver driving at 55 mph on dry pavement, it will take about what distance to stop the vehicle?

   a. The length of the vehicle
   b. Twice the length of the vehicle
   c. Twice the length of a football field
   d. The length of a football field

9. The distance that you should look ahead of your vehicle while driving at highway speed is:

   a. One block
   b. 500 feet
   c. 800 feet
   d. ¼ mile
10. The first step to take if your vehicle catches fire while driving is:

   a. *Immediately open the door and jump out*
   b. *Head for the nearest service station*
   c. *Lift the hood to find out what’s burning*
   d. *Get the vehicle off the road and stop in an open area*

11. Use your mirrors to check:

   a. *The condition of your tires and cargo*
   b. *Where the rear of your vehicle is tracking while turning*
   c. *Traffic gaps before you merge*
   d. *All of the above*

12. Cargo that is not loaded or secured properly may cause many problems. Which of these statements is correct?

   a. *A vehicle could be damaged by overloading*
   b. *Other highway users can hit or be hit by loose cargo*
   c. *Cargo not secured properly can cause injury to the driver or to passengers during a quick stop, crash or emergency lane change*
   d. *All of the above are true*
13. The regulations require that cargo inspections:

A.) Are not the responsibility of the driver  
B.) Should be performed at every change-of-duty status  
C.) Are only required if hazardous materials are being hauled  
D.) Should be performed every 6 hours or 300 miles

14. Which of these statements about using mirrors is accurate?

a. You should look at mirror for several seconds at a time  
b. Convex mirrors make things look closer than they really are  
c. There are “blind spots” that your mirror cannot show you  
d. A lane change requires you to look at the mirrors at least twice

15. Which of these statements about overhead clearance is correct?

a. You should assume posted clearance signs are correct and proceed at the posted speed limit  
b. A vehicle’s clearance can change with the load carried  
c. If the road surface causes your vehicle to tilt toward objects at the edge of the road, you should drive close to the shoulder  
d. If you aren’t sure your vehicle will clear something above, ask someone
16. Which of these statements about certain types of cargo is true?

   a. Unstable loads such as hanging meat or livestock can require extra caution on curves
   b. Oversize loads can be hauled without special permits during times when the roads are not busy
   c. Loads that consist of liquids in bulk are usually not stable and may present vehicle handling problems
   d. Both A and C

17. When starting your vehicle from a stop, you apply power to the drive wheels and they start to spin. You should:

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

18. The key factor in balancing cargo weight is to keep the load:

   a. To the front
   b. To the rear
   c. On the side away from most traffic
   d. Centered in the cargo area of the vehicle
19. How far should you look ahead while operating a CMV?
   
a. ½ mile
b. 9 - 12 seconds
c. 12 - 15 seconds
d. 3 blocks seconds
   
20. The correct position to place your hands on the steering wheel is at what positions _____ and _____
   
a. 6 and 12
b. 9 and 2
c. 1 and 8
d. 3 and 9
1. While driving on a two-lane road, an oncoming vehicle drifts into your lane
   c. Steer to the right

2. When checking your exhaust and steering systems for a pre-trip inspection, which of these statements is true?
   d. None of the above statements are true

3. Which of these statements about vehicle fires is true?
   d. A burning tire must be cooled

4. The center of gravity:
   b. Can make a vehicle more likely to tip over on curves

5. Which of these statements about speed management is true?
   d. All of the above are true

6. Which of these statements about downshifting is true?
   a. When you downshift for a curve, do so before you enter the curve and accelerate through it

7. While driving on an icy or snow-covered roadway, which of the following is a good thing to remember?
   c. Slow down gradually and stop if conditions become too dangerous

8. For the average driver driving at 55 mph on dry pavement, it will take about what distance to stop the vehicle?
   d. The length of a football field

9. The distance that you should look ahead of your vehicle while driving at highway speed is
   d. ¼ mile
10. The first step to take if your vehicle catches fire while driving is:
   d. Get the vehicle off the road and stop in an open area

11. Use your mirrors to check:
   d. All of the above

12. Cargo that is not loaded or secured properly may cause many problems. Which of these statements is correct?
   d. All of the above are true

13. The regulations require that cargo inspections:
   b. Should be performed at every change-of-duty status

14. Which of these statements about using mirrors is accurate?
   c. There are “blind spots” that your mirror cannot show you

15. Which of these statements about overhead clearance is correct?
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16. Which of these statements about certain types of cargo is true?
   d. Both A and C

17. When starting your vehicle from a stop, you apply power to the drive wheels and they start to spin. You should:
   c. Take your foot off the accelerator

18. The key factor in balancing cargo weight is to keep the load:
   d. Centered in the cargo area of the vehicle

19. How far should you look ahead while operating a CMV?
   c. 12-15 seconds

20. The correct position to place your hands on the steering wheel is at what positions _____ and _____
   d. 3 and 9
### Scorecard

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Most states require you answer at least 70% of the questions correctly to pass.