

ABC SCHOOL OF MOTORING

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DSA QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

From September 1st 2003, all driving test candidates will be required to answer two questions concerning the operation and maintenance of their vehicle, one explanatory and the other demonstrative.

As from July 1st 2008 the safety questions have been expanded, revised and updated.

SHOW ME

QUESTION: 1 Show me/explain how you would check that the power steering is working before starting a journey.

ANSWER *If the power steering becomes heavy the system may not be working properly. Before starting a journey two simple checks can be made. Gentle pressure on the steering wheel, maintained while the engine is started, should result in a slight but noticeable movement as the system begins to operate. Alternatively turning the steering wheel just after moving off will give an immediate indication that the power assistance is functioning.*

QUESTION: 2 Open the bonnet, identify where you would check the engine oil level and tell me how you would check that the engine has sufficient oil.

ANSWER *Identify the dipstick/oil level indicator, describe how to check oil level against the min/max markers.*

QUESTION: 3 Open the bonnet, identify where you would check the engine coolant level and tell how you would check that the engine has the correct level.

ANSWER *Identify high/low level markings on the header tank where fitted or radiator filler cap, and describe how to top up to correct level.*

QUESTION: 4 Show me how you would check the parking brake for excessive wear.

ANSWER *Apply the footbrake firmly. Demonstrate by applying parking brake that when it is fully applied it secures itself, and is not at the end of the working travel.*

QUESTION: 5 Identify where the window screen washer reservoir is tell me how you would check the windscreen washer level.

ANSWER *Identify reservoir and explain how to check the level.*

QUESTION: 6 Open the bonnet, identify where the brake fluid reservoir is and tell me how you would check that you have a safe level of hydraulic brake fluid.

ANSWER *Identify reservoir, check level against high/low markings.*

QUESTION: 7 Show me how you would check that the horn is working (off road only)

ANSWER *Check is carried out by using control (turn on ignition if necessary)*

QUESTION: 8 Show me how you would check that the direction indicators are working.

ANSWER *Switch the ignition on and apply the indicators and check functioning of all indicators.*

QUESTION: 9 Show me how to switch your headlights from dipped to main beam and explain how you would know the main beam is on whilst inside the car.

ANSWER *Operate the switch with the ignition on, and check the main beam warning light is on.*

QUESTION: 10 Show me how you would switch on the rear fog light(s) and explain when you would use it/them (no need to exit vehicle).

ANSWER Operate the switch with the ignition on, and then check the fog warning light is on and explain when you would use the fog lights.

QUESTION: 11 Show me how you would set the demister controls to clear all the windows effectively. This should include both front and rear windows.

ANSWER Set all relevant controls, including fan, temperature, air direction/source and heated screen to clear windscreen and windows. Engine does not have to be started for this demonstration.

QUESTION: 12 Show me how you would clean the windscreen using the windscreen washer and wipers.

ANSWER Operate the control to wash and wipe the windscreen with the ignition on

QUESTION: 13 Show me how you would check that the brake lights are working on this car. (I can assist you if you wish)

ANSWER Switch the ignition on and operate brake pedal, make use of reflections in windows, garage doors, etc, or ask someone to help. (The examiner is allowed to check for you)

TELL ME

QUESTION: 14 Tell me how you make sure your head restraint is correctly adjusted so it provides the best protection in the event of a crash.

ANSWER The head restraint should be adjusted so the rigid part of the head restraint is at least as high as the eye or top of the ears, and as close to the back of the head as is comfortable.

QUESTION: 15 Tell me how you would check that the brakes are working before starting a journey.

ANSWER *Brakes should not feel spongy or slack. Brakes should be tested as you set off. Vehicle should not pull to one side.*

QUESTION: 16 Tell me where you would find information for the recommended tyre pressures for this car and how the tyre pressures should be checked.

ANSWER *Manufacturers guide, use a reliable pressure gauge, check and adjust pressures when tyres are cold, don't forget the spare tyre, remember to refit valve caps.*

QUESTION: 17 Tell me how you would check the tyres to ensure that they have sufficient tread depth and that their general condition is safe to be on the road.

ANSWER *No cuts or bulges, 1.6mm of tread depth across three quarters of the breadth of the tyre and around the entire circumference.*

QUESTION: 18 Tell me how you would check that the head and tail lights are working. (No need to exit the vehicle)

ANSWER Switch on ignition, operate light switch, then I would walk around the vehicle. (As this is a "tell me" question, there is no need to physically check the lights).

QUESTION: 19 Tell me how you would know if there was a problem with your anti-lock braking system.

ANSWER Warning light should illuminate if there is a fault with the anti-lock braking system.