ELDT CLASS A CDL PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

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How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

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Questions

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1. What does FMCSA rule state about crossing railway grade crossings?

A. Vehicles can stop on the tracks

B. Do not cross unless the entire vehicle can cross without stopping

C. Crossing is only allowed during daylight

D. Drivers must use a signal before crossing

2. Which statement is false regarding the need for a driver's senses?

A. A driver's senses are essential for diagnosing vehicle malfunctions

B. A driver should rely solely on visual diagnostics

C. The cab may require hearing and smell senses for detection of issues

D. Driver intuition can help in recognizing vehicle problems

3. Which areas are monitored by logbooks and ELDs?

A. Driving speed and fuel consumption

B. Off-duty, sleeper, driving, on-duty (not driving), and meal periods

C. Road conditions and traffic volume

D. Weight and cargo load

4. What does BAC stand for in relation to alcohol consumption?

A. Blood Alcohol Content

B. Blood Alcohol Concentration

C. Base Alcohol Concentration

D. Blood Acidity Concentration

5. What should drivers be cautious of at railroad crossings?

A. Traffic on the left

B. Weather conditions

C. Ensuring they can completely cross without stopping

D. Speed limits in the area

6. Why is planning routes vital for commercial drivers?

A. To avoid tolls

B. To ensure fuel efficiency

C. To reduce rollover risks

D. To find the fastest routes

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7. When does "on-duty" time count for drivers?

A. As soon as they start their shift

B. Until the truck goes into motion

C. When they begin loading the truck

D. As soon as they log in to their ELD

8. What is a general guideline for handling tight curves?

A. Accelerate through the curve

B. Keep your hands at the 10 and 2 position

C. Begin braking before entering the curve

D. Change lanes quickly

9. How can longer routes with more highway miles impact fuel economy?

A. They typically worsen fuel economy

B. They do not influence fuel economy

C. They may result in better fuel economy

D. They require more frequent stops for fuel

10. True or False: What you eat has much effect on how drowsy you feel while driving.

A. True

B. False

C. Only heavy meals affect drowsiness

D. Only sugary foods affect drowsiness

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Answers

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1. B
2. B
3. B
4. B
5. C
6. C
7. B
8. C
9. C
10. B

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Explanations

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1. What does FMCSA rule state about crossing railway grade crossings?

A. Vehicles can stop on the tracks

B. Do not cross unless the entire vehicle can cross without stopping

C. Crossing is only allowed during daylight

D. Drivers must use a signal before crossing

The FMCSA rule regarding crossing railway grade crossings emphasizes the importance of ensuring that a vehicle can completely clear the tracks before proceeding. This is crucial to prevent the vehicle from becoming stranded on the tracks, which poses a significant safety risk not only to the driver but also to any train that may be approaching. By stating that vehicles should not cross unless the entire vehicle can cross without stopping, the rule encourages drivers to assess the crossing ahead and confirm that there is sufficient space beyond the tracks to accommodate the full length of their vehicle. This is particularly vital for large commercial vehicles, such as those operating under a CDL, as they often have longer lengths that can hinder safe crossing if the driver misjudges the space available. The other options do not emphasize this critical safety aspect. Stopping on the tracks, for instance, poses an immediate danger, while only allowing crossings during daylight may not be practical or safe for all situations. Additionally, requiring a signal before crossing is not a standard regulation that applies universally; drivers should always prioritize safe clearance over signaling. Understanding this rule can greatly enhance safety when navigating railway crossings.

2. Which statement is false regarding the need for a driver's senses?

A. A driver's senses are essential for diagnosing vehicle malfunctions

B. A driver should rely solely on visual diagnostics

C. The cab may require hearing and smell senses for detection of issues

D. Driver intuition can help in recognizing vehicle problems

The statement regarding relying solely on visual diagnostics is false because effective driving and vehicle maintenance require a comprehensive use of all senses. While visual perception is crucial for detecting many issues, such as warning lights or visible malfunctions, it is not sufficient on its own. Listening to sounds from the vehicle and using the sense of smell can provide additional important clues about potential problems. For instance, unusual noises may indicate mechanical issues, while burning smells can suggest electrical problems or overheating components. Moreover, intuition, developed through experience, plays a significant role in recognizing when something might be wrong with the vehicle, influencing a driver's decisions to investigate further. Thus, a holistic approach utilizing all the senses—not just sight—is essential for safe driving and proper vehicle maintenance.

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3. Which areas are monitored by logbooks and ELDs?

A. Driving speed and fuel consumption

B. Off-duty, sleeper, driving, on-duty (not driving), and meal periods

C. Road conditions and traffic volume

D. Weight and cargo load

Logbooks and Electronic Logging Devices (ELDs) are specifically designed to monitor hours of service (HOS) for commercial drivers. The primary focus of these tools is to record the various duty status categories that a driver engages in throughout their work period. These categories include off-duty time, sleeper time, driving time, on-duty (not driving) time, and meal periods. The reason this is crucial is that federal regulations mandate specific limits on how many hours drivers can operate a commercial vehicle to ensure safety and prevent fatigue-related accidents. By accurately tracking these different statuses, ELDs aid in compliance with these regulations, ultimately enhancing safety on the road. While aspects like driving speed and fuel consumption, road conditions, traffic volume, as well as weight and cargo load are important factors in driving and operations, they are not the primary focus of logbooks and ELDs. Therefore, the monitoring of duty status as described makes option B the correct choice.

4. What does BAC stand for in relation to alcohol consumption?

A. Blood Alcohol Content

B. Blood Alcohol Concentration

C. Base Alcohol Concentration

D. Blood Acidity Concentration

The term BAC in relation to alcohol consumption stands for Blood Alcohol Concentration. This measurement indicates the amount of alcohol in a person's bloodstream, expressed as a percentage. For example, a BAC of 0.08% means that there are 0.08 grams of alcohol for every 100 milliliters of blood. Understanding BAC is crucial because it is a primary factor in determining an individual's level of impairment and the legal limits for driving under the influence. Blood Alcohol Content, while similar in meaning, is not the widely accepted term used in legal and scientific contexts. The other options, such as Base Alcohol Concentration and Blood Acidity Concentration, do not accurately represent the concept of measuring alcohol in the bloodstream and are not used in discussions of alcohol consumption or legal limits. In many jurisdictions, legal driving limits are set based on this BAC measurement, so it is critical for drivers to understand what it represents and how it affects their ability to operate a vehicle safely.

5. What should drivers be cautious of at railroad crossings?

A. Traffic on the left

B. Weather conditions

C. Ensuring they can completely cross without stopping

D. Speed limits in the area

Being cautious at railroad crossings is crucial for safety, and the most important practice is ensuring that drivers can completely cross the tracks without stopping. This is vital because if a vehicle is stopped on the tracks, it becomes a high-risk situation should a train approach. Trains can come unexpectedly and travel at high speeds, and a vehicle that is stopped on tracks can lead to a catastrophic collision. Moreover, many railroad crossings have signals or signs alerting drivers of oncoming trains. If a driver is unsure about being able to clear the tracks completely, they should not attempt to cross until it is safe to proceed. This awareness and timing can prevent accidents and save lives, making it the correct emphasis when considering safety at railroad crossings. Other factors, such as traffic on the left, weather conditions, and local speed limits, while certainly important for overall driving safety, are secondary considerations at railroad crossings when compared to the imperative need to clear the tracks safely and completely.

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6. Why is planning routes vital for commercial drivers?

A. To avoid tolls

B. To ensure fuel efficiency

C. To reduce rollover risks

D. To find the fastest routes

Planning routes is vital for commercial drivers primarily because it helps reduce rollover risks. Proper route planning takes into account the road conditions, inclines, turns, and overall terrain that the driver will encounter, which are crucial factors in maintaining vehicle stability. By selecting safer routes that avoid sharp turns, steep grades, or poorly maintained roads, drivers can minimize the chances of upsetting the vehicle, which is particularly important for larger trucks that have a higher center of gravity and are more prone to rollovers. While avoiding tolls, ensuring fuel efficiency, and finding the fastest routes are all relevant considerations for route planning, they do not directly address the safety aspect as significantly as rollover risk reduction does. Prioritizing safety through careful route selection ultimately helps protect the driver, the vehicle, and other road users, reinforcing the importance of comprehensively understanding route planning in the context of commercial driving.

7. When does "on-duty" time count for drivers?

A. As soon as they start their shift

B. Until the truck goes into motion

C. When they begin loading the truck

D. As soon as they log in to their ELD

"On-duty" time for drivers is defined as the hours when they are working or available to work, which includes various activities related to their driving duties. Specifically, it begins as soon as a driver starts their shift and encompasses all time spent in readiness to operate the vehicle, including vehicle inspections, loading and unloading freight, and other necessary preparatory tasks. When considering the correct answer, it's important to understand that "on-duty" time counts as soon as the driver begins any work-related activity. Therefore, the answer that states it counts until the truck goes into motion captures the concept of "on-duty" time accurately since it reflects the regulation that encompasses the time spent preparing for imminent driving tasks. In contrast, if a response suggests that on-duty time begins strictly from the moment the driver logs into their electronic logging device (ELD) or when they begin loading the truck, it misses the broader range of activities included in the on-duty definition. The correct understanding reinforces the idea that "on-duty" time encompasses a driver's readiness and responsibilities before the vehicle is actually in motion. This definition underlines the importance of accounting for all preparatory duties that occur before driving, ensuring compliance with hours of service regulations.

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8. What is a general guideline for handling tight curves?

A. Accelerate through the curve

B. Keep your hands at the 10 and 2 position

C. Begin braking before entering the curve

D. Change lanes quickly

The correct approach for handling tight curves is to begin braking before entering the curve. This method ensures that you reduce your speed and maintain control of the vehicle as you navigate the turn. Starting to brake before reaching the curve allows for a smoother and safer transition into the turn, minimizing the risk of losing traction or skidding. It's crucial to assess the curve in advance and adjust your speed accordingly, as entering a curve too quickly can lead to an inability to steer properly or even roll over, especially in larger vehicles like those covered by Class A CDL training. Maintaining proper control and speed is essential in tight curves, and early braking is a fundamental skill in defensive driving that contributes to overall safety. This practice allows drivers to smoothly navigate the curve while being prepared for any required steering adjustments.

9. How can longer routes with more highway miles impact fuel economy?

A. They typically worsen fuel economy

B. They do not influence fuel economy

C. They may result in better fuel economy

D. They require more frequent stops for fuel

Longer routes with more highway miles can often lead to better fuel economy due to several factors that favor consistent driving conditions typically found on highways. On highways, vehicles tend to maintain a more constant speed with fewer stops and starts compared to city driving, which can lead to increased fuel efficiency. When a truck is on the highway, it has the opportunity to reach its optimal cruising speed. This steady-state operation minimizes fuel consumption per mile traveled, in contrast to frequent traffic lights, congestion, and stop-and-go movements common in urban areas that can lead to increased fuel usage due to acceleration and deceleration. Moreover, highway driving usually involves less load on the engine compared to driving in varied terrain or situations that require frequent changes in speed, which can strain the engine and reduce efficiency. Keeping a steady speed on the highway allows for smoother engine operation and can optimize fuel consumption, leading to better overall fuel economy for longer routes with more highway miles.

10. True or False: What you eat has much effect on how drowsy you feel while driving.

A. True

B. False

C. Only heavy meals affect drowsiness

D. Only sugary foods affect drowsiness

The assertion that what you eat does not significantly affect how drowsy you feel while driving is misleading. In reality, diet can have a considerable impact on energy levels and alertness. Certain foods can lead to fluctuations in blood sugar and insulin levels, which may contribute to feelings of drowsiness or fatigue. For instance, heavy meals often require more energy for digestion, leading to a drop in alertness, while sugary foods can cause a quick spike in energy followed by a crash. This means that the body's response to food can indeed affect a driver's drowsiness, challenging the notion that diet is irrelevant in this context. Understanding the influences of various types of foods on energy and alertness is essential for safe driving. The best practice for drivers is to be aware of how their nutritional choices can affect their state of alertness behind the wheel.

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Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

https://eldtclassacdl.examzify.com

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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