NORTH CAROLINA TRAFFIC LAW PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

https://nctrafficlaw.examzify.com

Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

Table of Contents

Copyright 1

Table of Contents 2

Introduction 3

How to Use This Guide 4

Questions 5

Answers 8

Explanations 10

Next Steps 16

SAMPLE

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.

SAMPLE

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!

SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

1. Accidents occur most frequently at which of the following?

A. Curves

B. Hills

C. Narrow bridges

D. Intersections

2. What is the recommended distance to use your turn signal before making a turn?

A. 10 feet

B. 50 feet

C. 100 feet

D. 200 feet

3. What is the minimum amount of liability insurance required in North Carolina?

A. $10,000 for property damage only

B. $30,000 for bodily injury per person

C. $100,000 total for bodily injury

D. $30,000, $60,000, and $25,000 for different categories

4. What should you do if your car breaks down on a highway at night?

A. Raise the hood and tie a white handkerchief to the left door handle

B. Switch on the parking lights

C. Both raise the hood and switch on the parking lights

D. Neither option

5. What is the consequence for driving with a suspended license in North Carolina?

A. Additional fines and a warning

B. Additional fines, possible jail time, and extended license suspension

C. Loss of vehicle registration

D. Community service required

SAMPLE

6. When changing a flat tire, which of the following should you do?

A. Put the vehicle in neutral gear

B. Block the wheels

C. Both put the vehicle in neutral gear and block the wheels

D. Neither option

7. What are the restrictions for using a cell phone while driving in North Carolina?

A. Talking on the phone is illegal

B. Texting while driving is illegal for all drivers

C. Using a hands-free device is prohibited

D. Cell phone use is allowed for all drivers

8. How should you approach an intersection with a malfunctioning traffic signal?

A. Treat it as a four-way stop intersection; yield and proceed with caution

B. Continue through without stopping

C. Accelerate to get through quickly

D. Turn around and seek an alternate route

9. How can a driver confirm if a walking path qualifies as a crosswalk?

A. Check for painted lines or signs designating crosswalks

B. Observe the amount of pedestrian traffic in the area

C. Identify if it's marked on the driver's map

D. Look for traffic lights specifically for pedestrians

10. To reduce speed while going down a steep hill, what should you do?

A. Use a lower gear

B. Drive in a zigzag pattern

C. Both of the above

D. Neither of the above

SAMPLE

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. Accidents occur most frequently at which of the following?

A. Curves

B. Hills

C. Narrow bridges

D. Intersections

Accidents occur most frequently at intersections due to several factors that increase the complexity of driving in these areas. Intersections typically involve multiple lanes of traffic coming together from different directions, leading to potential conflicts between vehicles, cyclists, and pedestrians. Drivers must make quick decisions regarding the right of way, turning movements, and responding to signals and signs, which can lead to confusion and misjudgments. The presence of traffic lights and stop signs adds to the dynamics, but also can create situations where drivers may act unpredictably. Additionally, intersections are often where various types of vehicles such as cars, buses, and trucks interact, further increasing the likelihood of collisions. Drivers may also be distracted or rushed, contributing to accidents. With the combination of varied traffic patterns, the presence of turning vehicles, and the potential for pedestrians crossing, intersections are statistically proven to be high-risk areas for accidents. In contrast, curves, hills, and narrow bridges, while they can pose their own hazards, do not typically present the same level of interaction and decision-making complexities that characterize intersections, making them less frequent sites for accidents in comparison.

2. What is the recommended distance to use your turn signal before making a turn?

A. 10 feet

B. 50 feet

C. 100 feet

D. 200 feet

Using your turn signal at least 100 feet before making a turn is important for alerting other drivers of your intentions. This distance allows sufficient time for nearby vehicles and pedestrians to recognize your planned maneuver and adjust accordingly. It creates a safer environment by minimizing the risk of collisions as it provides a clear indication of your direction change. In many traffic regulations, including those in North Carolina, signaling well in advance enhances overall road safety and ensures that all road users can react appropriately. Therefore, a 100-foot distance is considered a standard practice that balances visibility for others with a reasonable timeframe for communication before executing a turn.

SAMPLE

3. What is the minimum amount of liability insurance required in North Carolina?

A. $10,000 for property damage only

B. $30,000 for bodily injury per person

C. $100,000 total for bodily injury

D. $30,000, $60,000, and $25,000 for different categories

In North Carolina, the minimum liability insurance required for drivers includes specific coverage amounts that address both bodily injury and property damage. The correct answer reflects the requirement of $30,000 for bodily injury per person, $60,000 for total bodily injury per accident, and $25,000 for property damage. This structure is designed to ensure that drivers have adequate financial protection in the event of an accident, covering medical expenses for injured individuals and property damage liability. Having these minimums in place helps protect other drivers, pedestrians, and property owners from financial losses caused by accidents involving insured vehicles. The combination of these coverage limits is government-mandated to encourage responsible driving behavior and to ensure that drivers are capable of fulfilling their financial obligations in case of an accident. The other options do not reflect the comprehensive requirements outlined by North Carolina's traffic laws, emphasizing the necessity for drivers to be adequately insured according to these specific thresholds. By knowing these requirements, drivers can ensure they are compliant with state laws and protect themselves against potential liabilities on the road.

4. What should you do if your car breaks down on a highway at night?

A. Raise the hood and tie a white handkerchief to the left door handle

B. Switch on the parking lights

C. Both raise the hood and switch on the parking lights

D. Neither option

When a vehicle breaks down on a highway at night, it is crucial to ensure safety and increase visibility to other drivers. Raising the hood of the vehicle signals to other drivers that there is an issue with the car, while tying a white handkerchief to the left door handle can serve as a visual signal for assistance. This is a commonly recognized method for indicating that a vehicle is in distress. Additionally, switching on the parking lights enhances the visibility of the vehicle, alerting other drivers to its presence, which is especially important at night when it might be harder to see the vehicle. The combination of these two actions helps to create a safer environment by notifying both passing drivers of the breakdown and providing a clearer indication for those who may want to assist. By utilizing both methods, the driver maximizes their visibility and signals for help effectively, making "raise the hood and switch on the parking lights" the proper course of action.

SAMPLE

5. What is the consequence for driving with a suspended license in North Carolina?

A. Additional fines and a warning

B. Additional fines, possible jail time, and extended license suspension

C. Loss of vehicle registration

D. Community service required

Driving with a suspended license in North Carolina carries serious consequences, which include not just additional fines but also the possibility of jail time and an extended period of license suspension. When a person is caught driving while their license is suspended, it is viewed as a significant violation of traffic laws, reflecting a disregard for legal driving privileges. This can lead to a range of penalties that escalate based on the nature of the offense, previous violations, and other factors. In North Carolina, the penalties are designed to reinforce the seriousness of maintaining a valid driver's license and to promote roadway safety. Therefore, along with monetary fines that serve as a deterrent, the potential for jail time acknowledges the breach of the legal agreement required to operate a motor vehicle. Extended suspension periods are also implemented as a corrective measure, ensuring that the driver has time to meet the necessary legal obligations before being allowed to drive again. The mention of loss of vehicle registration, community service, or merely receiving a warning does not accurately reflect the legal ramifications associated with driving with a suspended license in this state. The outlined consequences emphasize the state's commitment to enforcing traffic laws rigorously.

6. When changing a flat tire, which of the following should you do?

A. Put the vehicle in neutral gear

B. Block the wheels

C. Both put the vehicle in neutral gear and block the wheels

D. Neither option

When changing a flat tire, a critical safety step is to block the wheels. Blocking the wheels ensures that the vehicle remains stable and does not roll unexpectedly, which can lead to serious injuries. This is especially important if the vehicle is on an incline, as failing to block the wheels could result in the car moving and potentially causing harm to the person changing the tire. While putting the vehicle in neutral gear might seem like a necessary action, it actually poses a risk because it could allow the vehicle to roll if the parking brake is not engaged. Therefore, focusing on blocking the wheels helps to create a secure environment for the tire change process. Prioritizing safety when dealing with vehicle maintenance is crucial, and blocking the wheels is a fundamental practice that reinforces this safety. This is why the correct answer highlights the importance of ensuring the vehicle does not roll while the tire is being changed.

SAMPLE

7. What are the restrictions for using a cell phone while driving in North Carolina?

A. Talking on the phone is illegal

B. Texting while driving is illegal for all drivers

C. Using a hands-free device is prohibited

D. Cell phone use is allowed for all drivers

In North Carolina, texting while driving is specifically illegal for all drivers. This law aims to reduce distractions that can lead to accidents, recognizing that texting diverts attention from the road and increases the risk of collisions. The legislation reflects the understanding that reading and composing text messages takes a driver's focus away from their primary task of operating the vehicle safely. While talking on a cell phone is not outright illegal in North Carolina, there are restrictions for certain drivers, such as novice drivers and those under age 18, who are prohibited from using any mobile device while driving. The law allows for hands-free devices, making it possible for drivers to engage in phone conversations without physically holding their phones, thus reducing distraction. Therefore, the correct choice highlights the specific and serious nature of the offense of texting while driving, underscoring its legal implications for all drivers in the state.

8. How should you approach an intersection with a malfunctioning traffic signal?

A. Treat it as a four-way stop intersection; yield and proceed with caution

B. Continue through without stopping

C. Accelerate to get through quickly

D. Turn around and seek an alternate route

When approaching an intersection with a malfunctioning traffic signal, treating it as a four-way stop intersection is the correct approach. This means that all vehicles must stop and yield to any vehicles or pedestrians that have already entered the intersection. When drivers encounter a malfunctioning traffic signal, the expectation is to ensure safety by assessing the situation like a stop sign. This procedure is in place to mitigate the risks of accidents that can occur when signals do not convey the right information about who has the right of way. Yielding and proceeding with caution allows drivers to navigate the intersection safely while taking into account the presence of other vehicles and pedestrians. Other choices might lead to dangerous situations; simply continuing through without stopping could cause collisions since other drivers may not be stopping either. Accelerating to get through quickly increases the chance of an accident, as other vehicles may misinterpret the situation and enter the intersection simultaneously. Turning around and seeking an alternate route may not always be practical or safe and could create confusion and hazards for other drivers. Therefore, treating the intersection as a four-way stop is the most responsible and safest action to take.

SAMPLE

9. How can a driver confirm if a walking path qualifies as a crosswalk?

A. Check for painted lines or signs designating crosswalks

B. Observe the amount of pedestrian traffic in the area

C. Identify if it's marked on the driver's map

D. Look for traffic lights specifically for pedestrians

A crosswalk is typically defined by specific visual cues that indicate where pedestrians are expected to cross the road. The presence of painted lines or signs that designate a crosswalk is a clear, standard indication that this area is intended for pedestrian use. This demarcation not only alerts drivers to the designated crossing points but also provides pedestrians with a clear pathway to follow, enhancing safety for both groups. While pedestrian traffic can provide informal cues as to where people cross, it does not specifically confirm a crosswalk's official status. Similarly, identifying markings on a driver's map might not accurately reflect on-the-ground conditions, and traffic lights designed for pedestrians indicate control rather than the existence of crosswalks. Thus, checking for painted lines or signage is the most reliable method to confirm whether a walking path qualifies as a crosswalk.

10. To reduce speed while going down a steep hill, what should you do?

A. Use a lower gear

B. Drive in a zigzag pattern

C. Both of the above

D. Neither of the above

Using a lower gear while going down a steep hill is the most effective way to reduce speed and maintain better control of the vehicle. When you shift to a lower gear, the engine helps to slow down the vehicle through engine braking, which minimizes the reliance on the brake system. This is crucial because excessive use of the brakes can lead to overheating and brake failure, especially on long descents. Lower gear provides additional resistance that helps control speed, enhancing safety. Driving in a zigzag pattern is not an effective or safe method to control speed. In fact, it can create instability and increase the risk of losing control of the vehicle. Overall, selecting a lower gear is a fundamental driving technique for handling steep hills safely and efficiently.

SAMPLE

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://nctrafficlaw.examzify.com

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

SAMPLE