

## Safety Check Questions

### Show me, Tell me

#### About the questions

You'll be asked vehicle safety questions at the start of your car driving test. These are also known as the **'show me, tell me'** questions.

The examiner will ask you:

**'show me'** question, where you have to show them how you'd carry out a check.

**'tell me'** question, where you have to explain how you'd carry out the check.

#### 'Show me' questions

- 1 Show me how you would check that the direction indicators are working.**

Applying the indicators or hazard warning switch and go round the car to check functioning of **all** indicators.

*(may need to switch ignition on, prompt not to start engine).*

- 2 Show me how you would check the reverse lights are working before starting a journey and explain how would you check reverse lights when engine is running (if you need to switch the ignition on, please don't start the engine).**

Put gear on reverse and go out and check the reverse lights (white light). Alternatively if engine is on you have to back up in front of windows, garage doors, etc and check reflections from mirrors.

*(may need to switch ignition on, prompt not to start engine).*

3

**Show me how you would check the brake lights are working on this car, (if you need to switch the ignition on, please don't start the engine).**

Operate brake pedal, make use of reflections in windows, garage doors, etc, or ask someone to help. *(may need to switch ignition on, prompt not to start engine).*

4

**Show me, or explain how you would check that the power assisted steering is working before starting a journey.**

If the steering becomes heavy the system may not be working properly.

Before starting a journey 2 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.

5

**Show me how you would check the parking brake (handbrake) for excessive wear; make sure you keep safe control of the vehicle.**

Make sure the hand break is fully secured, start the engine, put on first gear and try to move off using the clutch only. If the car moves, the hand break is not securing the car.

6

**Show me how you would check that the horn is working.**

Check is carried out by using control. *(may need to switch ignition on).*

7

**Show me how you would clean the windscreen using the windscreen washer and wipers.**

Operate control to clean the windscreen. *(may need to switch ignition on).*

8

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

Operate switch *(turn on dipped headlights and ignition if necessary)*. Check warning light is on. Explain use: **we use the fog lights when the visibility is less than 100m.**

9

**Show me how you switch your headlight from dipped to main beam and explain how you would know the main beam is on.**

Operate switch to turn on headlights on dipped beam and then pull stick towards you to turn on the main beam. When the warning light on the dashboard is green it means that the dipped lights are on. When the warning light on the dashboard is blue it means that the main beam is on.

**10 Show me how you would set the demister controls to clear all the windows effectively.**

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

## 'Tell me' questions

**11 Tell me how you would check that the brakes are working before starting a journey.**

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

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

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.

*Note: Some restraints might not be adjustable.*

**13 Tell me how you would check that the headlights and tail lights are working (no need to exit vehicle).**

Operate switch (*turn on ignition if necessary*), then walk round vehicle. As this is a 'tell me' question, there's no need to physically check the lights.

**14 Tell me how you would know if there was a problem with your anti-lock braking system.**

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

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

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

*Note: The standard tyre pressure is 30psi for the front tyres and 28psi for the rear.*

**16 Tell me how you would check the tyres to ensure that they have sufficient tread depth and that their general condition is safe to use on the road.**

No cuts and bulges, 1.6mm of tread depth across the central  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the breadth of the tyre and around the entire outer circumference.

**17** Tell me how much is the distance you have to leave between you and the parked cars while driving and before you do a manoeuvre?

We always have to keep at least 1m distance.

**18** Tell me what is the stopping distance if you are driving at 50kmph?

When driving at 50kmph the stopping distance is 23mtrs.

**19** Tell me what is the stopping distance if you are driving at 80kmph?

When driving at 80kmph the stopping distance is 53mtrs.

**20** Tell me, what should you do when it's raining

Driving slower and keep 4 seconds distance from the car in front of me, use the wipers and adjusting their speed according how hard it's raining and depends the visibility I will switch on the lights.

## 'Show me' questions (under the bonnet)

**21** Open the bonnet, identify from where you refill the oil and tell me how you would check that the engine has sufficient oil.

Identify from where you refill the engine oil.

Identify dipstick / oil level indicator, describe check of oil level against the minimum and maximum markers.

**22** Open the bonnet, identify where you would check the engine coolant level and tell me how you would check that the engine has the correct level.

Identify coolant reservoir.

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

**23** 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.

Identify reservoir, check level against high and low markings.

**24** Identify where the windscreen washer reservoir is and tell me how you would check the windscreen washer level.

Identify reservoir and explain how to check level.

Please note that the examiner might combine questions, for example...

Tell me what you know about the tyres

You should combine question 15 & 16

Show me how would you check if all the lights are working

You should combine question 1, 2, 3, 8, 9 & 13