RTAC FY 27 Defensive Driving Test – Answer Sheet
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1. Why do we pre-trip our vehicles?
    A. To ensure that our vehicles are in proper working order
    B. In order to make sure that the vehicle is safe for you to drive
    C. To create a safe atmosphere for the people we that we transport
    D. All of the above**

*** Safety is the most important reason for completing a vehicle inspection. A vehicle defect found during an inspection could prevent problems later, such as a breakdown on the road that will cost time and dollars or, even worse, a crash caused by the defect.*

Federal and state laws require that drivers inspect their vehicles. Federal and state inspectors also may inspect vehicles. If they judge the vehicle to be unsafe, they will put the vehicle "out of service" until it is repaired.

2. What is the minimum tread depth for the front tires? Rear tires?
    A. 4/22 front tires, 2/22 rear tires
    B. 2/32 front tires, 4/32 rear tires
    C. 4/32 front tires, 2/32 rear tires**
    D. Doesn't matter as long as they aren't bald
    E. None of the above.

***At least 4/32-inch tread depth is required in every major groove on front tires. A 2/32-inch tread depth is required on other tires. No fabric should show through the tread or sidewall.*

3. Pre-trip inspections and the information they provide can be used as a legal document.
    A. True **
    B. False

*** Pre-trip inspection forms (manual or electronic) are a legal document and can be used in a court of law in the event of an accident.*

4. What is the meaning of LLLC?

A. Look left, Look Right, Look left again, Communicate
B. Look ahead, Look around, Leave room, Communicate **
C. Look Ahead, Look around, Leave room, Concentrate.
D. None of the above

***Drivers should always look ahead for potential hazards that may be ahead. Look around for pedestrians, bicyclists, or other vehicles. Leave room between the vehicle and parked cars, pedestrians, bicyclist, and communicate with other drivers by using turn signals so other drivers know what you are about to do*.

5. How far should you look ahead?

A. 12 seconds
B. 4 seconds
C. 15 seconds **
D. None of the above

*** Scan the road ahead 15 seconds (1 block in town & ¼ mile on the highway) for potential hazards that may be in or by the road ahead of your vehicle. Such as a stalled vehicle, wildlife, or debris*

6. How much space between the car in front of you and your bus?

A. 3 seconds
B. 15 seconds
C. 12 seconds
D. 4 seconds **

***One good rule says you need at least one second for every 10 feet of vehicle length at speeds below 40 mph. At greater speeds, you must add one second for safety. Example, if you are driving a 40- foot vehicle, you should leave 4 seconds between you and the vehicle ahead. In a 60-foot rig, you will need 6 seconds.*

7. According to recent reports from several national safety organizations, the leading factor in most crashes and near-crashes is:

A. Alcohol and drugs.
B. Driver distractions.**
C. Speed.
D. Fatigue.

***Distractions take a driver away from the road and can delay reaction time. Staying focused on driving is essential to preventing crashes and near crashes.*

8. Which of the following are categories of distractions?

A. Visual.
B. Mental.
C. Physical.
D. Auditory.
E. All of the above.**

*** Visual distractions take your eyes off the road. Mental distractions take your mind off the road. Physical distractions take your hand off the steering wheel. Auditory distractions take your hearing off of sounds from other vehicles such as cars, trucks and trains.*

9. Distracted driving is basically caused by anything that removes the driver's concentration on actual traffic and road conditions.

A. True**
B. False

***Whenever you are driving a vehicle and your attention is not on the road, you are putting yourself, your passengers, other vehicles and pedestrians in danger. Distracted driving can result when performing any activity that may shift your full attention from driving task. Taking your eyes off the road or hands off the steering wheel presents obvious driving risks. Mental activities that take your mind away from driving are just as dangerous. Your eyes can gaze at objects in the driving scene but fail to see them because your attention is distracted elsewhere.*

10. A driver can be distracted by_____.

A. A cluttered dashboard
B. Conversation with passengers
C. Cell phone, radio, or communications device
D. Dashboard controls adjustments
E. Glare and reflection from a dirty windshield
F. All the above**

*** As previously mentioned, anything that takes your mind off the road is a distraction.*

11. How far your vehicle travels from the time your eyes see a hazard until your brain recognizes it is called.
    A. Braking Distance
    B. Perception Distance**
    C. Reaction Distance

*****The distance your vehicles travels, in ideal conditions, from the time your eyes see a hazard until your brain recognizes it, keep in mind that certain mental and physical conditions can affect your perception of distance. It can be affected greatly depending on visibility and the hazard itself. The average perception time for an alert driver is 1 ¾ seconds. At 55 mph, this accounts for 142 feet traveled.*

12. Perception Distance + Reaction Distance + Braking Distance = Total Stopping Distance which is how far your vehicle will travel before coming to a complete stop.
    A. True**
    B. False

***** The total minimum distance your vehicle has traveled, in ideal conditions, with everything considered (including perception distance, reaction distance, and braking distance) until you can bring your vehicle to a complete stop. At 55 mph, your vehicle will travel a minimum of 419 feet.*

13. Daily routine makes our actions second nature and can cause us to lose focus on details which could prevent an accident.
    A. True**
    B. False

***** Daily routines can cause us to become complacent and lose focus on important details, increasing the risk of overlooking hazards that could lead to an accident.*

14. At all intersections you should use the "Rock and Roll" technique to look around your blind spots.
    A. True**
    B. False

***** Using the "Rock and Roll" technique helps you look around blind spots for potential hazards and vehicles.*

15. Before proceeding through a stop intersection, you should look left, right and left again.
    A. True**
    B. False

*****Looking left again helps you avoid a vehicle that may be coming from the left side which would be the first point of contact in the event the vehicle is trying to "Beat the Light"*

16. When approaching a railroad crossing you must stop between _____ from the first rail.
    A. 10 and 20 feet
    B. 5 and 15 feet
    C. 15 and 50 feet**
    D. None of the above

*** Federal and state laws require that all commercial vehicles are required to stop between 15 and 50 feet from the first rail, look and listen in both directions for trains.*

17. It is legal to go around the railroad crossing gates if there isn't an approaching train and there isn't an employee of the train company or a law enforcement officer or a traffic control device present to direct traffic.
    A. True
    B. False**

*** It is illegal to go around a railroad crossing gate if there is not a railroad employee or law enforcement officer directing traffic to go around the railroad crossing. Railroad crossing gates are a traffic control device. Drivers who dis-obey a traffic control device will be ticketed.*

18. You can get rid of all blind spots by properly adjusting your mirrors.
    A. True
    B. False**

*** With the way all vehicles are made it is virtually impossible to get rid off all blind spots no matter what kind of vehicle you may drive.*

19. Someone is tailgating you – you can:
    A. Flash your brake lights.
    B. Turn on your hazard flashers.
    C. Increase your following distance to the vehicle in front of you so you will not have to make a panic stop.
    D. Both B and C**

***Flashing brake lights may cause road rage. Opening up room in front of you will help you avoid having to make sudden speed or direction changes. It also makes it easier for the tailgater to get around you.*

20. When applying the principles of defensive driving, you can avoid developing dangerous habits. You can also eliminate already-developed poor driving behaviors. When you are focused on your driving, and are prepared for other driver's mistakes, YOU, are driving defensively.

A. True**

B. False

*** A defensive driver: Pays attention to the road, anticipates potential dangers, maintains a safe following distance, adjusts speed to road and weather conditions, avoids distractions, makes safe decisions instead of aggressive ones, and takes responsibility of their own safety and the safety of others.*