

Show Me, Tell Me Questions and Answers



Vehicle Safety Checks “Show Me, Tell Me”

After you have successfully completed the eyesight test and shown the examiner to the vehicle they will ask you one “Tell Me” question. Later in the test they will ask you a “Show Me” question whilst you are driving and you must carry out the request whilst the car is on the move. One or both questions answered incorrectly will result in a driving fault. A serious or dangerous fault can also occur with the “Show Me” element, should you be deemed unsafe whilst operating the ancillary controls.

“Tell Me” Questions and Answers

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

A: Brakes should not feel spongy or slack. Brakes should be tested as you set off. The vehicle should not putt to one side.

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

A: Manufacturer’s Guide, use a reliable pressure gauge, check and adjust the pressures when the tyres are cold. Don’t forget the spare tyre if present and remember to refit the valve caps.

3. Tell me how you make sure your head restraint is correctly adjusted so that it provides the best protection in the event of a collision.

A: The head restraint should be adjusted so the rigid part of the head restraint is at least as high as the eye or the top of the ears and as close to the back of the head as is comfortable. N.B. Some restraints might not be adjustable.

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

A: Explain how you would operate the switch with the engine running and then walk around the vehicle. (As this is a tell me question there is no need to physically check the lights)

5. 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.

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

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

A: Warning light should illuminate on the dashboard if there is a fault with the anti-lock braking system,

7. Tell me how you would check that the power assisted steering is working before starting a journey.

A: If the steering becomes heavy the system may not be working properly. Before starting your journey 2 simple checks can be made: Gentle pressure on the steering wheel maintained whilst the engine is starting, 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 indication that the power assistance is functioning.

8. Tell me how you would check that the direction indicators are working.

A: Explain how you would operate the Hazard Warning Switch with the engine running and then walk around the vehicle. (As this is a tell me question there is no need to physically check the lights.)

9. Tell me how you would check that the brake lights are working on this car.

A: Explain how you would operate the brake pedal, make use of reflections in windows, doors etc. or ask someone to help. (As this is a tell me question there is no need to physically check the lights.)

10. Tell me how you would switch on the rear fog light and explain when you would use it.

A: Explain that when the engine is running you will need to have your dipped beam headlights turned on before being able to operate the fog light switch. Explain that they would only be used when visibility drops below 100m. (As this is a tell me question there is no need to physically operate the switches.)

11. Tell me how you switch your headlights from dipped beam to main beam and explain how you would know the main beam is on whilst inside the car.

A: Explain that when the engine is running you will need to have your dipped beam headlights turned on before being able to operate the lever to turn on the main beam. Explain that you will know that your main beam lights are turned on as the blue light will show on the dashboard. (As this is a tell me question there is no need to physically operate the switches.)

12. Open the bonnet and tell me how you would check the engine oil level and tell me how you would check that the engine has sufficient oil.

A: Identify the dipstick to the examiner. Describe how you would clean the dipstick and reinsert it back into it’s container, pull it back out and check for the oil mark between the maximum and minimum lines and then return the dipstick to its container. This must be

done whilst the engine is cold. (As this is a tell me question there is no need to physically check the oil.)

13. Open the bonnet and tell me how you would check the engine coolant level and tell me how you would check that the engine has the correct level.

A: Identify the reservoir and the low/high markings. If more engine coolant is required, top up as necessary but this must only be done whilst the engine is cold.

14. Open the bonnet and tell me how you would check that you have a safe level of hydraulic brake fluid.

A: Identify the reservoir and check the level against the high/low level markings.

“Show Me” Questions and Answers

“When it is safe to do so.....”

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

A: Operate the control by pushing forwards on the wiper stalk and let go. It will automatically stop wiping.

2. Show me how you would clean the front windscreen using the front windscreen washers and wipers.

A: Operate the control by pulling the stalk towards you and let go. It will automatically stop wiping.

3. Show me how you would switch on your dipped beam headlights.

A: Flip the switch up to the top option. (When told to turn it off return it to either the auto or off setting. Make sure you don't knock the level into full beam whilst carrying out this instruction)

4. Show me how you would set the rear demister.

A: Press the rear demister button. (In my current vehicle, this is the button closest to the front passenger. Turn it off when told to do so.)

5. Show me how you would operate the horn.

A: Operate the horn.

6. Show me how you would demist the front windscreen.

A: Ensure the front demister button is turned on and then adjust the fan to maximum (In my current vehicle this is 6 clicks of the switch. When told to do so return the fan setting back to level 1 – this is 6 clicks of the switch from full.)

7. Show me how you would open and close a side window.

A: Operate the controls to open and close any of the side windows. (Remember push down to open, pull up to close.)