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South Dakota Practice Questions

Q1. If a child is about to run into the street, what should you do immediately?

- A) Begin to prepare to slow down in stages.
- B) Sound a sharp blast of your horn to warn them.
- C) Flash your headlights to get attention.
- D) Drive past slowly so as not to startle the child.

Answer: B

Q2. If a vehicle is equipped with airbags, what should you still do?

- A) Rely on the airbag and skip the belt.
- B) Wear the seat belt behind your back.
- C) Always wear your seat belt.
- D) Disable the airbag to avoid injury.

Answer: C

Q3. If you are on a city street and an emergency vehicle with flashing lights is behind you, what must you do?

- A) Stay in your lane and slow down until it passes.
- B) Drive to the right edge of the road and stop.
- C) Drive to the right edge and slow down but not stop.

Answer: B

Q4. If you approach a green light but the intersection is blocked by traffic, what should you do?

- A) Enter and wait for traffic to clear while blocking the crosswalk.
- B) Partially enter the intersection to hold your right-of-way.
- C) Do not enter the intersection until you can get completely across.

Answer: C

Q5. If you've had several beers, what actually reduces the effects of alcohol?

- A) Taking a cold shower.
- B) Drinking several cups of coffee.
- C) Waiting several hours for the body to metabolize it.

Answer: C

Q6. How do stopping distances and collision severity change with vehicle speed?

- A) They decrease as speed increases.
- B) They are unaffected by speed.
- C) Both increase as vehicle speed increases.

Answer: C

Q7. If a traffic signal at an intersection turns steady yellow before you reach it, what should you do if you haven't entered the intersection?

- A) Speed up to clear the intersection before it turns red.
- B) Proceed through at the same speed.
- C) Come to a safe stop.

Answer: C

Q8. When a bicyclist is making a left turn, which lane position may they legally use?

- A) They may use the left lane when turning left.
- B) They may cut through all lanes at once.
- C) They must always wait on the side of the road.

Answer: A

Q9. If your vehicle develops a mechanical problem while driving, what is the best course of action?

- A) Signal and move into the slow lane.
- B) Keep driving until you find a service station.
- C) Put on your hazard lights and pull off the road away from traffic.
- D) Stop in your lane and put on your hazard lights.

Answer: C

Q10. What is a common effect of continuous hard braking on icy or snowy roads?

- A) It increases tire traction on ice.
- B) It helps you stop faster in slippery conditions.
- C) It often locks the front wheels
- D) It keeps your brakes from freezing.

Answer: C

Q11. In heavy fog, what lighting should you use?

- A) Low beam headlights.
- B) High beam headlights.
- C) Emergency flashers only.

Answer: A

Q12. If your vehicle is struck from the rear, which action should you avoid?

- A) Pressing your head against the headrest.
- B) Be ready to apply brakes and keep a firm grip on the wheel.
- C) Letting go of the steering wheel.

Answer: C

Q13. When driving near a large commercial vehicle, what is a safe practice?

- A) Follow closely to reduce wind drag.
- B) Drive on its right side when on curves and hills.
- C) Avoid driving alongside it for long stretches because of its large blind spots.
- D) Pass safely and promptly rather than lingering beside the truck.

Answer: C

Q14. How many alcoholic drinks are enough to impair your driving ability?

- A) Three drinks are needed to affect you.
- B) Two drinks are required before impairment.
- C) One drink can affect your driving.

Answer: C

Q15. If you are continuously being passed on both sides while driving in the center lane of an expressway, what should you do?

- A) Move to the lane on your right.
- B) Stay in the center lane.
- C) Move to the lane on your left.
- D) Slow to the minimum speed limit.

Answer: A

Q16. When you see pedestrians near the roadway, how should you respond?

- A) Sound your horn and maintain speed.
- B) Speed up to clear the area quickly.
- C) Slow down and pass with caution.

Answer: C

Q17. Accumulating how many points on your license within 12 months can result in suspension in South Dakota?

- A) Ten points.
- B) Eight points.
- C) Fifteen points.

Answer: C

Q18. When backing up a vehicle, what is the correct practice?

- A) Use your side mirrors only.
- B) Look through the rear window while backing up.
- C) Rely only on your rearview mirror.
- D) Press the accelerator as needed to move quickly.

Answer: B

Q19. What do double solid yellow lane markings mean?

- A) The lane to the right may pass.
- B) Both directions may pass when clear.
- C) Neither direction may pass.

Answer: C

Q20. When should you adjust your rearview and side mirrors?

- A) After you start moving the vehicle.
- B) Only when you need them while driving.
- C) Before you begin driving.

Answer: C

Q21. When are you allowed to drive on the shoulder of the road?

- A) Whenever you need to pass another vehicle.
- B) When the car in front of you is turning.
- C) When the car in front of you is driving too slowly.
- D) Only when directed to do so by an official.

Answer: D

Q22. Truck blind spots are located:

- A) On the immediate left of the cab and directly behind the truck.
- B) On both sides of the truck and directly behind it.
- C) Directly behind the truck only.

Answer: A

Q23. If your wheels drop off the pavement edge, what is the correct way to re-enter the roadway?

- A) Stop and wait for help.
- B) Turn back onto the roadway immediately.
- C) Slow down
 - keep control
 - and gently steer back onto the pavement when it is safe.

Answer: C

Q24. When a school bus has red flashing lights, when may vehicles proceed?

- A) As soon as all students are off the bus.
- B) When the stop arm is retracted but the bus remains stopped.
- C) Only after the bus's red lights stop flashing and the stop arm is retracted.

Answer: C

Q25. What is the purpose of broken yellow lines on streets and highways?

- A) Indicate no passing zones.
- B) Separate lanes moving in the same direction.
- C) Separate lanes of traffic moving in opposite directions and allow passing.

Answer: C

Q26. Who may legally use designated handicap parking spaces?

- A) Anyone if all other spaces are full.
- B) People who feel unwell even without a placard.
- C) Delivery drivers unloading packages temporarily.
- D) Only drivers with the appropriate license plate or hang tag.

Answer: D

Q27. Why is using a cell phone while driving a distraction?

- A) It occupies the driver's hands
 - eyes
 - and mind.
- B) It causes the driver to worry about call costs.
- C) It draws other drivers' attention away from the road.

Answer: A

Q28. Why is driving at night generally more hazardous than daytime driving?

- A) The road is always more slippery at night.
- B) Your reaction time is always slower at night.
- C) You cannot see as far ahead at night.

Answer: C

Q29. How dangerous is backing your vehicle?

- A) Dangerous only if you have a helper guiding you.
- B) Only dangerous in large vehicles.
- C) Always dangerous.

Answer: C

Q30. Which statement about alcohol and driving is true?

- A) If you can walk in a straight line
- B) Alcohol impairs judgment
- C) Being under the legal BAC limit means you are not impaired.
- D) Alcohol only affects coordination

Answer: B

Q31. When should you yield your legal right-of-way?

- A) Never; always use your legal right-of-way.
- B) Only when a police officer tells you to.
- C) Often
- D) Whenever it helps prevent a collision.

Answer: D

Q32. What important action should you take before making a turn?

- A) Increase your speed to complete the turn faster.
- B) Always move to the left lane before turning.
- C) Check traffic in all directions.

Answer: C

Q33. Before changing lanes or passing, what steps should you take?

A) Check mirrors

- look over your shoulder for blind spots
- and signal before changing lanes or passing.

B) Honk to warn drivers instead of signaling.

C) Rely solely on your mirrors and omit a head check.

D) Signal only after you start to move into the other lane.

Answer: A

Q34. When must you yield to a pedestrian using a white cane or guide dog?

A) Only when the guide dog is actively leading them across the street.

B) Only if a crossing guard is present.

C) At all times.

Answer: C

Q35. Where should a driver direct their attention while driving?

A) Stare straight ahead at all times.

B) Focus only on the middle of the road.

C) Look only at the instrument panel.

D) Scan ahead

- to the sides
- and use your mirrors regularly.

Answer: D

Q36. When a car with bright headlights approaches you at night, how should you respond?

- A) Stop until the other driver passes.
- B) Flash your high beams at them.
- C) Glance toward the right edge of your lane to avoid being blinded.
- D) Look directly at their headlights to judge distance.

Answer: C

Q37. Which of the following is true about crosswalks?

- A) They are always unmarked.
- B) They are always indicated by pavement markings.
- C) They may be either marked with paint or unmarked and both are legal crosswalks.

Answer: C

Q38. Where are high beam headlights appropriate to use?

- A) Both of the above.
- B) Whenever there may be pedestrians anywhere around.
- C) On unfamiliar roads or where there are no oncoming vehicles

Answer: C

Q39. If the intersection ahead is blocked by traffic but your light is green, what should you do?

- A) Stay out of the intersection until traffic clears.
- B) Follow other vehicles into the intersection so you don't delay.
- C) Turn left to find an alternate route immediately.

Answer: A

Q40. When driving in fog, which lights should you use?

- A) Low beam headlights.
- B) High beam headlights.
- C) Four-way flashers only.

Answer: A

Q41. When should you allow extra following distance behind another vehicle?

- A) When following a small passenger car.
- B) When following a station wagon only.
- C) When following a vehicle that cannot see behind it

Answer: C

Q42. At a yield sign, what must drivers be prepared to do?

- A) Yield only to vehicles on the right.
- B) Slow but never stop.
- C) Yield the right-of-way to cross traffic close enough to cause conflict.

Answer: C

Q43. If someone is tailgating you on a two-lane road and there's no lane to move into, what should you do?

- A) Slow down gradually to encourage the tailgater to pass.
- B) Speed up to increase distance from them.
- C) Apply your brakes sharply to warn them.

Answer: A

Q44. If the roadway ahead is flooded, what is the correct action?

- A) Drive only in the center of the roadway.
- B) Slam on the brakes and cross quickly.
- C) Turn around and find another route; do not drive through flooded areas.

Answer: C

Q45. Give the right-of-way to any pedestrian who is:

- A) Only in any crosswalk or intersection.
- B) Wearing bright clothing.
- C) Crossing any street (in marked or unmarked crosswalks).
- D) Only in a marked crosswalk.

Answer: C

Q46. When another driver is tailgating you, what should you do regarding the space in front of your vehicle?

- A) Brake sharply to teach them a lesson.
- B) Speed up to put distance between you and the tailgater.
- C) Flash your brakes to warn the tailgater.
- D) Create extra space ahead of your vehicle to reduce sudden braking risk.

Answer: D

Q47. What is a good way to avoid skidding on slick surfaces?

- A) Slow down before entering curves and intersections.
- B) Speed up before entering a curve and slow down exiting it.
- C) Shift into a lower gear after starting down a steep hill.

Answer: A

Q48. At a railroad crossing you must:

- A) Proceed without stopping if you don't see a train immediately.
- B) Only look for a single train approaching.
- C) Drive faster to clear the tracks quickly.
- D) Watch for vehicles required to stop at all railroad crossings and for multiple trains.

Answer: D

Q49. Which statement is true about driving too slowly?

- A) Driving too slowly on certain highways can be dangerous.
- B) The speed you drive has no effect on safety.
- C) Driving too slowly is never unsafe.

Answer: A

Q50. What can happen if you take a prescription drug and drink alcohol?

- A) It will improve alertness.
- B) It will likely have no effect.
- C) It can make you unfit to drive.
- D) It can increase impairment and make driving dangerous.

Answer: C