

PART FIVE - PRACTICAL DRIVING ABILITY

Approved Examination Centre Guidance Notes - Practical Driving Ability

Please read these instructions carefully.

1. The duration of this practical driving ability examination will be one hour; this will include time for the eyesight test, vehicle familiarisation and a settling down period. In addition to the on-road driving element of the examination, the candidate will be required to perform one of two off-road exercises – either a reversing manoeuvre or an uncoupling and recoupling exercise. The examiner will choose which exercise is to be performed. This part of the test will take place outside of the hour set aside for the driving element. The content and format of this examination will be similar to that required by the Driving Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) for the LGV Driving Test. The marking sheet used in this examination can be found in Appendix A5.
2. It is the approved examination centre's responsibility to provide the candidate with a suitable route. The centre should ensure that the candidate is appropriately familiarised with the route to ensure that the drive is completed successfully. A copy of the route should also be made available to the NRI examiner for reference purposes. It should not be expected that the NRI examiner will provide directions to the candidate.
3. The candidate or approved examination centre will be required to provide a safe and suitable test vehicle for the examination. The vehicle used for the purpose of the examination must be an LGV category vehicle and must have valid insurance for both driver and examiner. Additionally, the vehicle must have a current road fund licence and a valid MOT certificate. A copy of the insurance certificate, the MOT certificate and the road fund licence must be carried in the vehicle whilst it is being driven on the public highway.
4. The candidate will be required to sign and date examination documentation (Appendix A12) to confirm the above. The candidate will also need to provide the examiner with an appropriate and current driving licence prior to the start of the examination.
5. The candidate may be required to undertake an eyesight test. They must be able to read, in good daylight, a motor vehicle registration mark for the new style number plates at a distance of 20 metres, (or the old style number plates at a distance of 20.5 metres), with the aid of glasses or contact lenses if worn.

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Approved Examination Centre Guidance Notes - Practical Driving Ability (continued)

6. The candidate will refer this examination if any Serious or Dangerous faults are recorded.
7. If the candidate accrues more than 6 driving faults, a referral will be recorded.
8. If the candidate accrues more than 3 driving faults against one element, a Serious fault will be recorded and the candidate will be referred.
9. Prior to the start of the driving examination, the examiner will brief the candidate on the test format and content.
10. The examiner is not permitted to discuss the findings of the test at any time during or after the examination.
11. The examiner will provide the candidate with an opportunity to ask questions before the examination begins.

