

THE TOP 55 MOST COMMON

SCHOOL BUS QUESTIONS

Lose the fear of the unknown. Study the most common CDL school bus questions so you'll know what to expect on the big test day.

Know what
to expect





Please do not try to take these documents into the knowledge exam room to cheat with

The term “**cheat sheet**” used to mean a sheet of notes that you kept with you to cheat on an exam. Today, it has also come to mean a quick reference or ready reference of the most important or frequently used items. That’s how we intend our “cheat sheets” to be used: As quick references for you to browse to help you study for your written knowledge test.

1. What's the special danger of loading and unloading?

- ✓ Students should be told to leave any dropped objects and move to the point of safety out of danger and get the driver's attention to retrieve the object.

2. After deciding the type of evacuation that is necessary, the next step you must take is

- ✓ securing the bus.

3. If you are loading students on the route and cannot account for them

- ✓ secure the bus, take the key and check around and underneath the bus.

4. Immediately after stopping you should first

- ✓ activate alternating red lights and ensure stop arm is extended.

5. What will confirm that you are driving with anti-lock brakes?

- ✓ Yellow ABS malfunction lamp on the instrument panel will light when you start the engine.

6. When should you activate your alternating flashing amber warning lights?

- ✓ 100 to 300 feet before school bus stop.

7. What is the NEXT step after securing the bus when you have an unruly child on board?

- ✓ Stand up and speak respectfully to the offender, if a change of seating is needed, have the student move to a seat near you.

8. You should activate hazard lights within approximately how many feet before railroad crossing?

- ✓ 200 feet.

9. The CDL manual indicates the last step on picking up students at the bus stop is as follows

- ✓ make a final check to confirm all traffic stops before opening the bus door and signaling students to approach.

10. If the gate comes down as you start to cross the railroad highway crossing you should

- ✓ drive through the gate.

11. At bus stops where more than one child is unloaded, which procedure most likely prevents an unloading obstacle?

- ✓ The driver counts the students as they disembark before moving.

12. What is the value of the overhead rear-view mirror inside of the bus?

- ✓ To monitor passenger activity.

13. To be a school bus driver, individuals must pass the following written tests:

- ✓ CDL General Knowledge, Passenger Endorsement, School Bus Endorsement.

14. How should you conduct a post-trip inspection?

- ✓ You should walk through the bus and around the bus.

15. The driver who misses the child to unload at a bus stop should

- ✓ radio the dispatcher for direction and follow the local procedure.

16. The bus driver must accept responsibility for supervising and controlling students while on the bus route. Who is the person in charge?

- ✓ Bus driver.

17. If students must cross the street when they get off the bus, what should they do?

- ✓ For crossing, students should make eye contact with the bus driver and wait for the driver's signal that it is safe to proceed.

18. Before crossing any highway-rail crossings in a school bus, be sure the bus has enough containment to completely clear the railroad tracks. As a general rule, how much space is considered an

- ✓ the length of the bus plus 15 feet.

19. Anti-lock brakes

- ✓ keep your wheels from locking during hard brake application.

20. What is one of the reasons to evacuate the school bus?

- ✓ The bus is stalled on a rail road track, but there is no train in sight.

21. How far should students exit the bus and walk to?

- ✓ At least 10-15 feet away from the side of the bus.

22. What is a passive Railroad Crossing?

- ✓ Railroad Crossing that does not have any type of traffic control device.

23. Why is understanding the loading and unloading procedures so critical?

- ✓ Because more students are killed while getting on and off a school bus each year.

24. The golden rule for school buses when approaching and crossing railroad tracks is

- ✓ Stop, look, and listen.

25. What should you do when driving the school bus in high wind?

- ✓ Keep a strong grip on the steering wheel and try to anticipate gust.

26. When checking the handicap lift, the things you should look for are

- ✓ leaking, damaged, or missing parts and make sure that the lift is fully retracted and latched.

27. Check that the entry door is not damaged and

- ✓ operates smoothly and closes securely from the inside.

28. When stopping on a railroad crossing the driver must stop no closer than

- ✓ 15 feet.

29. What should you do when a school bus is stalled on a track at a railroad crossing?

- ✓ Evacuate the bus and move students away from the tracks on the angle toward the oncoming train.

30. What should you do if you have lost ABS control at one or more wheels?

- ✓ Drive normally because you still have regular brakes but have the system serviced soon.

31. How should you brake in a bus with ABS brakes?

- ✓ Apply the brakes as usual.

32. When approaching the stop within the corporate limits of a town or city, you should activate alternating flashing amber lights within how many feet before the stop?

- ✓ 200-300 or approximately 5-10 seconds or in accordance with state law.

33. School buses are one of the safest means of transportation. What two key factors contribute to this impressive safety record?

- ✓ Vehicles and Drivers.

34. You should adjust all the outside left and right side CONVEX mirrors to see

- ✓ The entire area to the rear of the mirror along the side of the bus.

35. Most states require school bus drivers to take a physical examination

- ✓ annually.

36. By law, the warning lights must only be used when approaching a

- ✓ stop to load or unload students.

37. What color are all school buses painted?

- ✓ National school bus yellow.

38. What is the standard bus evacuation procedure?

- ✓ If time allows, notify the dispatcher about evacuation location, conditions, and type of assistance needed.

39. What is a recommended procedure when unloading the students?

- ✓ Tell students to remain seated until they are told to exit.

40. In addition to checking for spare electrical fuses, three red reflective triangles and a properly charged and rated fire extinguisher, school bus drivers must also inspect the following emergency equipment:

- ✓ emergency kit, a body fluid cleanup kit.

41. The school bus driver may be the only contact person from school system some parents meet. The percentage of such parents is as high as

- ✓ 85%.

42. You should adjust all the outside left and right side CROSSOVER/CROSS VIEW mirrors to see

- ✓ The right and left front tires touching the ground.

43. The blind spot behind the bus could extend to how many feet?

- ✓ 400

44. At a railroad crossing, the bus is required to stop at the stop line. If there is no clearly marked stop line, what is the required minimum and maximum stopping distance?

- ✓ No closer than 15 feet and no further than 50 feet, where you have the best view of the tracks.

45. All mirrors should be viewed in what manner?

- ✓ In a logical sequence to ensure that a child or object is not in any of the danger zones.

46. By law, school buses must be equipped with a/an _____ lights overhead warning system as a method of controlling traffic at a school bus stop.

- ✓ 8

47. During loading and unloading students you should check your mirrors

- ✓ continuously.

48. During loading or unloading procedure the students should cross the road in front of the bus within _____ feet.

- ✓ 10

49. Out of all spaces around your bus the most important one is

- ✓ to the front.

50. What is the safest way to stop unruly behavior on the bus?

- ✓ Pull off the road in a safe location, secure the bus, stand up, and tell the students what behavior you expect of them.

51. Why is the proper adjustment and use of all mirrors so vital to the safe operation of the school bus?

- ✓ In order to observe the danger zones around the bus and look for the students, traffic, and other objects in this area.

52. The most dangerous time during the school bus ride is

- ✓ When loading and unloading students.

53. The properly adjusted outside left and right side CONVEX mirrors allow visibility in what area?

- ✓ Front of the rear tires touching the ground, the entire side of the bus up to the mirror mounts, and at least one traffic lane on either side of the bus.

54. What is the most important reason for doing a school bus inspection?

- ✓ For safety required by Federal, State and Local laws.

55. A battery box check is important. The battery must be secure, connection must be tight, and cell caps must be present. In addition these items should be checked

- ✓ battery connections should not show signs of excessive corrosion, and the battery box and cover or door should not be damaged and should be secure.