
CDL Air Brakes Practice Test 3

Q1. Air braking takes more time than hydraulic braking because air:

- A. Brakes use different brake drums.
- B. Takes more time to flow through the lines than hydraulic fluid.
- C. Is always leaking through airline fittings.

Answer: B

Q2. Modern air brake systems contain three different systems. The systems are the service, parking, and _____ brake.

- a. Emergency
- b. Foot
- c. Drum

Answer: A

Q3. If your truck has dual parking control valves, you can use pressure from a separate tank to:

- A. Release the spring emergency parking brakes to move a short distance.
- B. Apply more brake pressure if the main tank is getting low.
- C. Stay parked twice as long with your service air pressure.

Answer: A

Q4. The driver must be able to see a warning before air pressure in the service air tanks falls below ____ psi.

- A. 40
- B. 60
- C. 80

Answer: B

Q5. The brake pedal in an air brake system:

- A. Controls the speed of the air compressor.
- B. Always needs to be held down halfway during normal driving.
- C. Controls the air pressure applied to the brakes.

Answer: C

Q6. If your vehicle has an alcohol evaporator, it is there to:

- A. Rid the wet tank of alcohol that condenses and sits at the bottom.
- B. Eliminate the need for daily tank draining.
- C. Reduce the risk of ice in air brake valves in cold weather.

Answer: C

Q7. All vehicles equipped with air brakes have:

- A. A hydraulic system, in case the air system falls.
- B. A supply pressure gauge.
- C. An air use gauge.

Answer: B

Q8. If you do not have automatic tank drains, how often should you drain the oil and water from the bottom of compressed air storage tanks?

- A. At the end of each day of driving?
- B. Once a week
- C. Every other week

Answer: A

Q9. To check the free play of manual slack adjusters on S-cam brakes, you should park on:

- A. Level ground with the parking brake on, then apply the service brake.
- B. Level ground, chock the wheels, and release the parking brake.
- C. Level ground and drain off air pressure before adjusting.

Answer: B

Q10. Of the choices below, the first thing to do when a low air pressure warning comes on is:

- A. Stop and safely park as soon as possible.
- B. Shift to the next higher gear
- C. Open the air supply control valve.

Answer: A

Q11. If you must make an emergency stop, brake so you:

- A. Use the full power of the brakes and lock them.

- B. Can steer and your vehicle stays in a straight line.
- C. Use the hand brake first.

Answer: B

Q12. The air compressor governor controls:

- A. When the brake chambers release pressure.
- B. Air pressure applied to the brakes.
- C. When air is pumped into the air tanks.

Answer: C

Q13. The braking power of the spring brakes:

- A. Is not affected by the condition of the services brakes.
- B. Can only be tested by highly trained brake service people.
- C. Depends on whether the service brakes are in adjustment.

Answer: C

Q14. If your vehicle has an alcohol evaporator, every day during cold weather you should:

- A. Check the alcohol level and fill the evaporator if needed.
- B. Change the Alcohol.
- C. Clean the air filter with alcohol.

Answer: A

Q15. During normal driving, spring brakes are usually held back by:

- A. Bolts or clamps.
- B. Air pressure.
- C. Spring pressure.

Answer: B

Q16. The application pressure gauge shows how much air pressure you:

- A. Have used in this trip.
- B. Have in the air tanks.
- C. Are applying to the brakes.

Answer: C

Q17. In air brake vehicles, the parking brakes should be used:

- A. As little as possible.
- B. Any time the vehicle is parked.
- C. To hold your speed when going downhill.

Answer: B

Q18. Your brakes are fading when:

- A. You have to push harder on the brake pedal to control your speed on a downgrade.
- B. The brake pedal feels spongy when you apply pressure.
- C. You release pressure on the brake pedal and speed increases.

Answer: A

Q19. Why should you drain water from compressed air tanks?

- A. The low boiling point of water reduces braking power.
- B. Water can freeze in cold weather and cause brake failure.
- C. To keep the air compressor oil clean.

Answer: B

Q20. Your vehicle has a dual air brake system. If a low air pressure warning comes on for the secondary system, you should:

- A. Bring the vehicle to a safe stop and continue only when the system is fixed.
- B. Reduce your speed, and test the remaining system while driving.
- C. Reduce your speed, and drive to the nearest garage for repairs.

Answer: A

Q21. The air loss rate for a straight truck with the engine off and the brakes on should not be more than:

- A. 1 psi in 30 seconds.
- B. 2 psi in 45 seconds.
- C. 3 psi in one minute.

Answer: C

Q22. The brake system that applies and releases the brakes when the driver uses the brake pedal is the brake system.

- A. Service
- B. Parking
- C. Drum

Answer: A

Q23. Emergency stab braking is when you:

- A. Press hard on the brake pedal and apply hand valve fully until you stop.
- B. Apply the hand valve for one second, then push hard on the pedal.
- C. Brake as hard as you can, release the brake when the wheels lock, then put on the brakes again when the wheels start rolling.

Answer: C

Q24. A straight truck air brake system should not leak at a rate of more than ___ psi per minute with the engine off and the brakes released.

- A. 6
- B. 4
- C. 2

Answer: C

Q25. Before driving a vehicle with a dual air system, allow time for the air compressor to build up a minimum of ____psi pressure in both the primary and secondary systems.

- A. 25
- B. 50
- C. 100

Answer: C

Q26. The supply pressure gauge shows how much pressure:

- A. You have used in this trip.
- B. Is in the air tanks.
- C. Is going to the brake chambers.

Answer: B

Q27. Which of the following makes total stopping distance longer for air brakes than hydraulic brakes?

- A. Brake lag.
- B. Perception distance
- C. Reaction time distance.

Answer: A

Q28. Total stopping distance for air brakes is longer than that for hydraulic brakes due to distance.

- A. Perception
- B. Reaction
- C. Brake lag

Answer: C

Q29. If the air compressor develops a leak, what keeps the air in the tank?

- A. The one-way check valve.
- B. The emergency relay valve.
- C. The tractor protection valve.

Answer: A

Q30. The most common type of foundation brake found on heavy vehicle is the:

- A. Disc brake.
- B. Wedge drum brake
- C. S-cam drum brake

Answer: C