
CDL Combination Vehicles Practice Test 1

Q1. Air lines on a combination vehicle are often colored to keep from getting them mixed up. The emergency line is:

- A. Red
- B. Black
- C. Blue
- D. Orange

Answer: A

Q2. There are two things that a driver can do to prevent a rollover. They are: Keep the cargo as close to the ground as possible, and:

- A. Make sure that the brakes are adjusted properly
- B. Keep both hands firmly on the steering wheel
- C. Reduce speed before entering turns
- D. Keep the fifth wheel free-play loose

Answer: C

Q3. If the service line disconnects while you're driving, what will happen right away?

- A. The emergency tractor brakes will come on
- B. The trailer's air tank will exhaust through the open line
- C. The emergency trailer brakes will come on
- D. Nothing is likely to happen until you try the brakes

Answer: D

Q4. How do you supply air to the air tank on the trailer?

- A. By pushing in the trailer air supply valve
- B. By pulling out the trailer air supply valve
- C. By connecting the emergency line glad hand
- D. By applying the trolley valve

Answer: A

Q5. With the engine off and the brakes released, a combination vehicle air brake system shouldn't leak more than how many psi in one minute?

- A. 1 psi
- B. 2 psi
- C. 3 psi
- D. 4 psi

Answer: C

Q6. You're hooking a tractor to a semi-trailer and have backed up but are not under it. What should you do before backing under the trailer?

- A. Hook up the electrical service cable
- B. Hook up the emergency and service air lines
- C. Connect the ground cable
- D. Nothing, back up and secure the fifth wheel to the trailer

Answer: B

Q7. The fifth wheel locking lever is not locked after the jaws close around the kingpin. This means that:

- A. The trailer will not swing on the fifth wheel
- B. You cannot set the fifth wheel for proper weight distribution
- C. The hand valve is released and you may drive away
- D. The coupling is not correct and should be corrected before driving the coupled unit

Answer: D

Q8. After pushing in the trailer supply valve, you should not move the tractor until the whole air system is:

- A. Charging
- B. At normal pressure
- C. Bled down to half the maximum pressure
- D. Between 50 and 60 psi

Answer: B

Q9. You cross the air lines when hooking up to an old trailer. What will happen?

- A. The hand valve will apply the tractor brakes instead of the trailer brakes
- B. The brake pedal will work the trailer spring brakes instead of the trailer brakes

- C. If the trailer has no spring brakes, you could drive away but you wouldn't have trailer brakes
- D. The brake lights will not come on when the brake pedal is pressed

Answer: C

Q10. How far should you crank up the front trailer supports (dollies) after coupling a semi-trailer?

- A. Raised $\frac{1}{2}$ way with the crank handle secured
- B. Raised $\frac{3}{4}$ way with the crank handle removed
- C. Fully raised with the crank handle secured
- D. Three turns off the top with the crank handle secured in its bracket

Answer: C

Q11. You're driving a combination vehicle when the trailer breaks away and pulls apart the air lines. You should expect the trailer brakes to apply and:

- A. The tractor to lose all air pressure
- B. The tractor brakes to keep working properly
- C. The trailer supply valve to stay open
- D. The tractor brakes to lock up

Answer: B

Q12. The hand valve should be used to park a combination vehicle:

- A. When you park at loading docks
- B. When you are parking for less than one hour
- C. When parking on a steep grade
- D. Never

Answer: D

Q13. Air brake equipped trailers made before 1975:

- A. Usually do not have spring brakes
- B. Are easier to stop than newer trailers because they are heavier
- C. Usually need a glad hand converter
- D. Cannot be operated on interstate highways

Answer: A

Q14. In normal driving, some drivers use the trolley (hand) valve before the brake pedal in order to prevent trailer skids. Which of these statements is true?

- A. It should never be done
- B. It results in less skidding than using the brake pedal alone
- C. It lets the driver steer with both hands
- D. It is the best way to brake in a straight line

Answer: A

Q15. When backing up under a trailer, you should line up:

- A. About 15 degrees off the line of the trailer
- B. The right mirror along the right edge of the trailer
- C. Directly in front of the trailer
- D. The edge of the tractor tires with the yellow line on the pavement

Answer: C

Q16. You're hooking up a tractor and semi-trailer, and you've connected both air lines. Before backing under the trailer, you should:

- A. Pull forward to test glad hand connections
- B. Supply air to the trailer system, then pull out the air supply knob to lock the trailer brakes
- C. Make sure that the trailer brakes are off
- D. Blow the horn twice to alert others

Answer: B

Q17. When hooking up a tractor to a trailer, you'll know the trailer is at the right height when the:

- A. Trailer dolly wheels are fully extended
- B. Kingpin is about 2-¼ inches above the fifth wheel
- C. Beginning of the kingpin is even with the top of the lower fifth wheel
- D. Coupling surface of the trailer is just below the middle of the tractor fifth wheel

Answer: D

Q18. When not pulling a trailer, why is it a good idea to lock the glad hands together or to a dummy coupler?

- A. It keeps air from escaping
- B. The brake circuit becomes a secondary air tank
- C. It keeps dirt and water out of the lines
- D. All of the above

Answer: C

Q19. How much space should be between the upper and the lower fifth wheel plates?

- A. About 1 inch
- B. About ½ inch
- C. About ¼ inch
- D. None

Answer: D

Q20. After hooking up, you should check the fifth wheel connection by:

- A. Driving away at 20 mph and pulling down the trailer hand valve
- B. Backing up with the trailer brakes released
- C. Pulling the tractor ahead sharply to release the trailer brakes
- D. Pulling the tractor ahead gently with the trailer brakes locked

Answer: D

Q21. How should you test the tractor semi-trailer connection for security?

- A. Put the tractor in gear and pull ahead with a sharp jerk.
- B. Pull gently forward in low gear against the locked trailer brakes. Then look at it carefully.
- C. Rock the trailer back and forth with the trailer brakes locked.

Answer: B

Q22. If the service air line comes apart while you are driving a combination vehicle, but the emergency line stays together, what will happen right away?

- A. The emergency tractor brakes will come on.
- B. The trailer's air tank will exhaust through the open line.
- C. Nothing is likely to happen until you try to apply the brakes.

Answer: C

Q23. Which part of the kingpin should the locking jaws close around?

- A. The shank
- B. The head
- C. The base

Answer: A

Q24. When should you use the hand valve to park a combination vehicle?

- A. To park at loading docks
- B. To park on a grade
- C. Never

Answer: C

Q25. The fifth wheel locking lever is not locked after the jaws close around the kingpin. This means that:

- A. You can set the fifth wheel for weight balance.
- B. The parking lock is off and you may drive away.
- C. The coupling is not right and should be fixed before driving the coupled unit.

Answer: C