

Irish Driving Test – Mock Q&A Sheet

Section 1 – Technical Checks (“Show Me / Tell Me”)

Before driving, you’ll usually be asked to **identify or demonstrate** basic safety/technical checks. Examples include:

Q1. How would you check the engine oil level?

Stop engine, pull out dipstick, wipe clean, reinsert, remove again and check oil is between min and max marks.

Q2. How would you check the engine coolant?

Look at the coolant reservoir. The level should be between min and max marks.

Q3. How would you check the brake fluid?

Locate brake fluid reservoir, check it’s between min and max marks.

Q4. How would you check windscreen washer fluid?

Check reservoir under bonnet and top up when low.

Q5. How would you check that the horn is working?

Press the horn button; it should sound.

Q6. How would you check that the lights and indicators are working?

Switch them on, walk around the car to check, or ask someone to assist.

Q7. How would you check the tyres are safe and legal?

At least 1.6mm tread depth, no cuts/bulges, and correct pressure.

Q8. How would you check power steering is working?

Start the engine, gently turn the steering wheel – it should feel light and easy.

Section 2 – Rules of the Road

The tester will also ask questions from the **Rules of the Road** and road safety knowledge, often before driving off. These can include:

Q9. What does a broken white line mean?

It divides lanes. You may cross it if safe to overtake.

Q10. What does a continuous white line mean?

You must not cross or straddle it, except in certain situations (e.g., to avoid an obstruction).

Q11. What does a stop sign mean?

You must stop completely at the stop line, even if the road looks clear.

Q12. What does a yield sign mean?

Give way to traffic on the major road. Proceed only when safe.

Q13. What does a flashing amber light mean at traffic lights?

Proceed only if the crossing is clear; give way to pedestrians.

Q14. What is the legal minimum tread depth of tyres?

1.6mm.

Q15. What is the maximum permitted blood alcohol level for learner or novice drivers?

20mg (effectively zero tolerance).

Q16. What does a yellow box junction mean?

Do not enter unless your exit is clear (except when turning right, provided you don't block traffic).

Q17. What should you do if you see a pedestrian waiting at a zebra crossing?

Stop and allow them to cross.

Section 3 – Road Safety & General Knowledge

These are broader, practical safety questions:

Q18. What is the “two-second rule”?

Keep at least 2 seconds behind the vehicle in front; double to 4 seconds in wet weather.

Q19. What would you do if dazzled by oncoming headlights?

Look to the left verge/kerb, slow down if necessary.

Q20. What should you do if your brakes fail?

Pump the brake pedal, use gears and handbrake to slow, steer to safety.

Q21. What would you do if your car goes into a skid?

Ease off accelerator/brake, steer gently in the direction of the skid.

Q22. When should you use hazard warning lights?

If your vehicle breaks down or is causing a temporary obstruction.

Q23. What checks should you make before a long journey?

Oil, coolant, brake fluid, tyres, fuel, lights, windscreen washer.

Q24. What does “being fit to drive” mean?

You are not under the influence of drink, drugs, fatigue, or illness; fully alert and focused.

Q25. When is it unsafe to overtake?

At bends, junctions, brows of hills, continuous white lines, or where you can't see far enough ahead.
