

## 36. The Driving test

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**The examiner:** The examiner's job is to watch you drive and complete a report on your performance. Sometimes the examiner's supervisor will sit in the back of the car - this is to regulate standards and ensure that everyone gets a fair test.

Driving test examiners do not try to trick you or to catch you out; in fact, they will be as helpful as possible, if you are unsure about any instruction, ask for clarification. Examiners sit quietly and do not talk unnecessarily because this could be a distraction for you.

**The test:** The test starts in the waiting room. The examiner will come out and ask you to sign a form; he/she will check your theory test certificate and your driving licence - you then have an opportunity to request that your instructor sits in the car during the test - this can be useful whether you pass or fail.

The examiner will ask you to "lead the way to your car please" and then check your eyesight and ask a 'Tell me' question. He/she will note the make and registration number and will check that it complies with the regulations before getting into the car. You will be asked to "Drive in your normal manner. Follow the road ahead unless road signs or markings indicate otherwise or unless I ask you to turn right or left" This simply means that you should drive normally, as you have been taught, following all the relevant rules. At some point during the test you will also be asked to drive independently without directions.

The examiner's language will be formal, but polite. For example: "Take the first road on the left, please", "I would like you to turn your car around in the road to face the opposite direction", if you are unsure about any instruction, ask for it to be repeated.

Your test will last for about 40 minutes and include a wide range of different roads and some of the manoeuvres covered during your lessons. The route will include dual-carriageways where possible. You will drive for 20 minutes following road signs or sat-nav directions and the examiner will ask a 'Show me' question while the car is on the move.

At the end of the test the examiner will tell you the result and briefly discuss the test.

When you pass, you will be able to apply for a full licence. Whether you pass or fail you will be given a report form showing the mistakes that you made during the drive; this will help both you and your instructor to improve your future driving performance.

Keep calm and concentrate



### Lesson Notes:

