



### THE DSA SHOW ME TELL ME TEST – QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The DSA Show me, tell me questions test your knowledge on basic car maintenance and safety. At the start of the practical driving test the show me, tell me questions will begin. The driving test examiner will ask you two questions, one show me question and one tell me question. Answer any of these two questions incorrectly and you will gain one driving test fault. There are 19 different questions, which can be asked, in 18 different combinations. Below you will find all the show me, tell me questions and answers.

**Q1. Open the bonnet, identify where you would check the engine coolant level and tell me how you would check the engine has the correct level.**

*A. Identify the coolant tank and check the min/max markings. If the coolant is below the min mark then more coolant will need to be added. To do this, unscrew the cap and pour in coolant until the max mark is reached. Only unscrew the cap if the engine is cold.*

**Q2. Open the bonnet, identify where the brake fluid reservoir is and tell me how you would check that you have a safe level of hydraulic brake fluid.**

*A. Identify the brake fluid reservoir and check the fluid level against the min/max levels.*

**Q3. Show me/explain how you would check that the power assisted steering is working before starting a journey.**

*A. Before starting a journey apply gentle pressure on the steering wheel, whilst the engine is started, should result in slight but noticeable movement as the system begins to operate. If the steering is light this means the steering is ok, but if it is heavy the steering may be faulty.*

**Q4. Show me how you would check that the brake lights are working on this car. (I can assist you with this if you wish.) If you need to switch the ignition on, please don't start the engine.**

*A. Turn the ignition on. Apply the brake pedal, and make use of reflections in garage doors, windows etc to see if the brake lights come on or ask someone to help. (The examiner is allowed check for you.)*

**Q5. Open the bonnet identify, where you would check the engine oil level and tell me how you would check that the engine has enough oil.**

*A. Identify the dipstick, pull it out and check the oil level against the minimum and maximum markings.*

**Q6. Show me how you would check that the horn is working.**

*A. Press the horn and listen (turn on ignition if necessary).*

**Q7. Identify where the windscreen washer reservoir is and tell me how you would check the windscreen washer level.**

*A. Identify the windscreen washer level reservoir and explain how to check the level. Your car manual will give you further details.*

**Q8. Tell me how you would check that the brakes are working before starting a journey.**

*A. As you move off check the brakes. They should not feel spongy and the car should not pull to one side.*

**Q9. Show me how you would check that the headlights and tail lights are working.**

*A. Turn on lights (turn ignition if necessary), walk around car and check that the lights are on.*



**Q10. Show me how you would check that the direction indicators are working correctly.**

**A.** *Activate the hazard warning lights and walk around the car to see if all the indicators are working correctly.*

**Q11. Tell me where you would find the information for the recommended tyre pressures for this car and how tyre pressures should be checked.**

**A.** *Information will be found using the car manufacturer's manual. Check the tyre pressures by using a reliable pressure gauge when the tyres are cold.*

**Q12. Tell me how you would check the tyres to show that they have sufficient tread depth and that their general condition is safe to use on the road.**

**A.** *A safe tyre will have no cuts or bulges. The tread depth should be at least a minimum of 1.6mm across the central 3/4s of the breadth of the tyre and around the entire outer circumference.*

**Q13. Show me how you would check the parking brake for excessive wear.**

**A.** *Demonstrate by applying the parking brake, so that when it is fully applied it secures itself and there is not a lot of working travel.*

**Q14. Show me how you clean the windscreen using the windscreen washer and wipers.**

**A.** *Operate the control to wash and wipe the windscreen. (You may need to switch the ignition on, but don't start the engine.)*

**Q15. Show me how you would set the demister controls to clear all the windows effectively. This should include both front and rear screens.**

**A.** *Set all relevant controls, including fan, temperature, air directions/source and heated screen to clear windscreen and windows. (Engine does not have to be started for this demonstration.)*

**Q16. Show me how you would switch on the rear fog light(s) and explain when you would use it/them. (There is no need to exit vehicle.)**

**A.** *Operate switch; turn on dipped headlights (and ignition, if necessary, but without starting the engine) Check warning light is on. Explain when to use the fog lights.*

**Q17. Show me how you would switch your headlights from dipped to main beam and explain how you would know the main beam is on whilst you are inside the car.**

**A.** *Operate the switch (with ignition or engine on if necessary); check to see if main beam warning light is on.*

**Q18. Tell me how you would check to make sure your head restraint is correctly adjusted so it provides the best protection in the event of a crash.**

**A.** *The head restraint should be adjusted so the rigid part of the head restraint is at least as high as the eye or top of the ears, and as close to the back of the head as is comfortable. N.B: Some head restraints might not be adjustable.*

**Q19. Tell me how you would know if there was a problem with your anti-lock braking system.**

**A.** *A warning light should illuminate on your dashboard to show you there is a fault with the anti-lock braking system.*

Please note, you will need to know how to answer every question , regardless of which combination it falls in.